

# While the City Sleeps, the Dredging Operation Continues on the Docks

## Dredges Operating 204 Hours Each Week

By JUDE WANNISKI  
Daily News Staff Writer

While the city works and while the city sleeps, 28 men labor around the clock at the job of the waters of Cook inlet.

As part of the operation in

## Ike Names Replacement For Strauss

WASHINGTON (UPI) — President Eisenhower today nominated Under Secretary of Commerce Frederick Henry Mueller to be Secretary of Commerce.

Mueller succeeds Lewis L. Strauss, former Atomic Energy Commission chairman who resigned after his nomination was rejected by the Senate.

The new appointee, who is 65 years old, was a Grand Rapids, Mich., furniture manufacturer before he became assistant secretary of commerce for domestic affairs in 1956. He was named under secretary last Nov. 3.

During World War II, Mueller served as president and general manager of Grand Rapids Industries, a group of wood products manufacturers who pooled their facilities to make troop-carrying gliders and other aircraft equipment needed in the war.

Mueller is an Episcopalian, a 32nd degree Mason, a Shriner, a member of Tau Beta Pi national honorary engineering fraternity and of the Congressional country club.

He plays golf and bridge and is a certified private pilot. He was one of the organizers of the Civil Air Patrol and once a group commander.

Mueller is also a former district governor of Rotary International and is a director-on-leave of People's National Bank of Grand Rapids.

## Three Theft Cases Solved

Several breaking and entering cases in the area of Mile 22, Glenn highway, were solved this weekend by state police. The culprits were several juvenile brothers aged 11, 13, 14 and 15 years.

The youths admitted three thefts, in which they took everything from an old coin collection to a set of old boots. They also admitted breaking into an airplane at Mirror lake and taking rations, life preservers, candy and emergency gear.

The plane owner, Kenneth V. Westensburger, reported the theft June 24. The coins were nearly all recovered, except for some pennies used by the boys for buying candy. Owner of the coin collection is Mrs. Dolores Whaley of Mile 21 1/4, Glenn highway.

Jurisdiction in the case has been referred to the Board of Juvenile Institutions.

pressured up to high land. Then it swings off into new, uncut grounds.

The pressure through the 16 inch pipeline is enough to send the conglomerate from 35 feet below water to 37 feet above water, or along 4,000 feet in pipe without any trouble.

There is trouble though, and it comes when the pipe takes a boulder into its maw and somewhere along the line has it lodge against the inside walls.

While the crew swarms down on the troublesome section, the whole operation ceases with everyone riveting their attention on getting the boulder out.

The other operation stoppage comes when the auger bit has eaten away everything it can reach. Then a new section of pipe must be added. Otherwise the dredging continues for 204 hours a week, with a shut-down on Sunday to clean and repair the equipment.

The crew works in eight hour shifts, and since the dredging goes on without a halt, they even have to eat on the job. Both the dredge and crew were brought up to Anchorage for the job, which will be completed in September.

The engineers, who are supervising the job were brought from New York, with the operations chief a man who crustily shuns grey flannel suits and would seem to fit in with the ruggedest of Alaska terrain.

Jerry Reinhardt, a short,

sturdy, youthful man of about 60, is in charge of the pier construction and keeps a practiced eye on the progress of the dredging work and the carpenters strike. Both affect the operation.

Sitting in his operations shack under a cloud of pipe tobacco smoke and a battered and crushed cotton hat, Reinhardt brushes

back his heavy mustache with a weathered forefinger and launches into smiling attacks on the deficiencies of the locale.

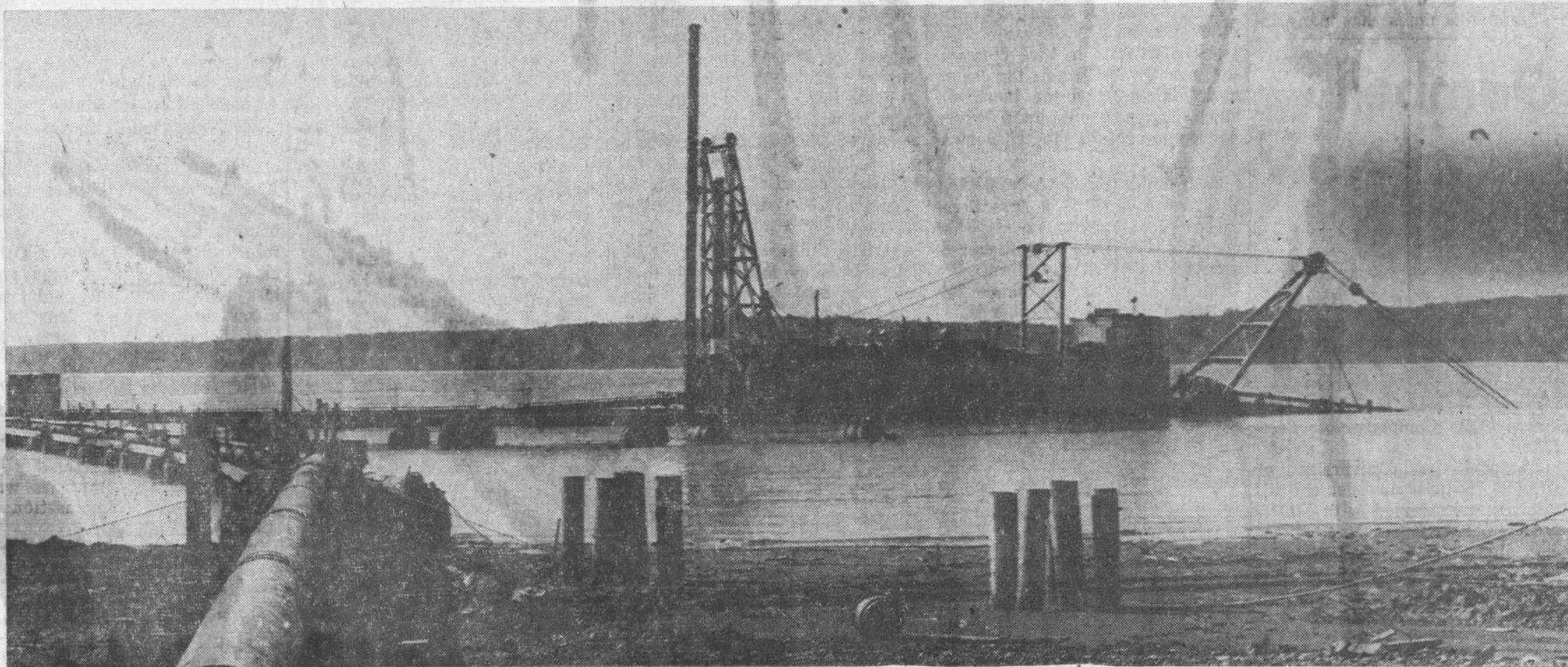
Asked where his last job had been, he replied with flickering youth in his eyes and smile, "Paris, France, my boy . . . and let me tell you, there is one helluva difference between Paris, France and Anchorage, Alaska."

What was he doing in Paris, France? Scooting back and forth to French Equatorial Africa where his engineering firm was building a railroad not far from Albert Schweitzer's hospital. Reinhardt cryptically remarked, "The Frenchmen say he built his hospital in the healthiest part of Africa."

On the carpenter's strike, he stated that "we're losing a whole construction season with this strike. That pier out there is only 10 per cent finished and now it'll take another summer's work to get it completed, and will cost a lot more to build."

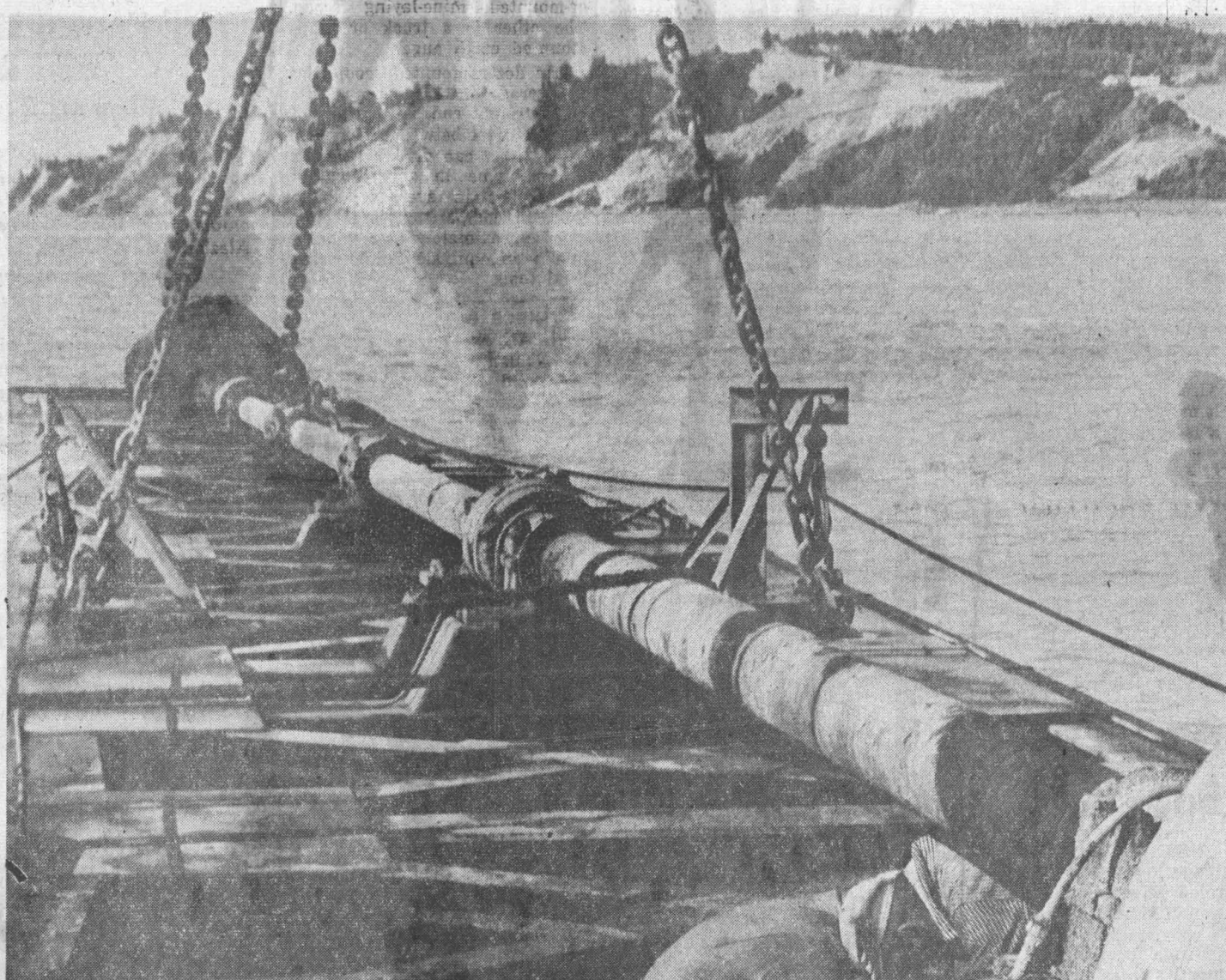
And so, as the city sleeps, the carpenters rest and the moose plod deeper into the woods, Reinhardt and his crew rework the labors of nature.

On the local fauna, he noted that the pier and dredging operation has disposed the seagulls and moose that lived in and



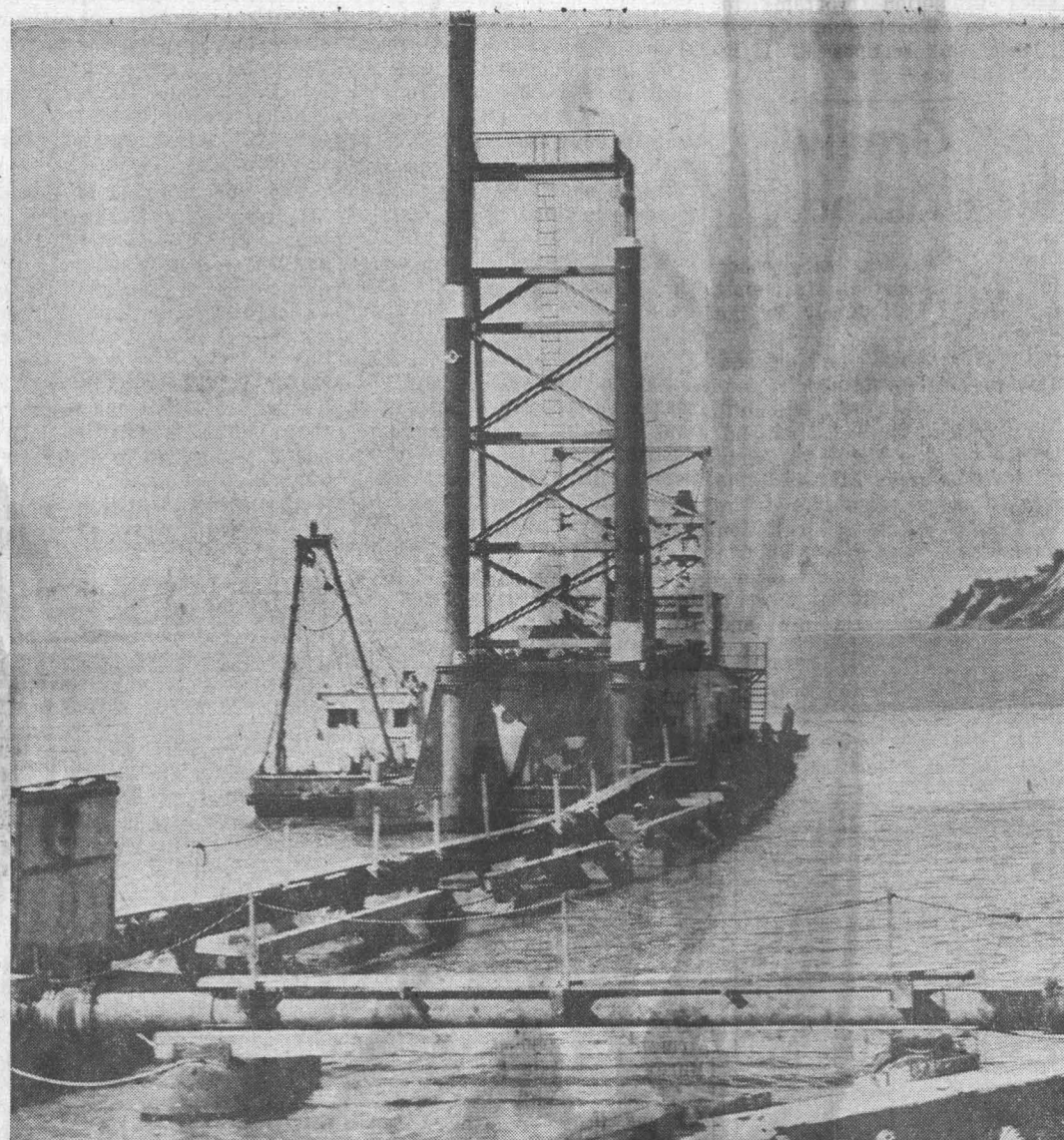
THE DREDGE floats offshore in the Cook inlet waters. Its forward derrick supports the cables that hold the cutting tool, a massive auger bit that chews up the ocean floor. The pipeline runs across the barge, bobs along barrel

floats and extends to high land where it spews out silt, gravel and small boulders.



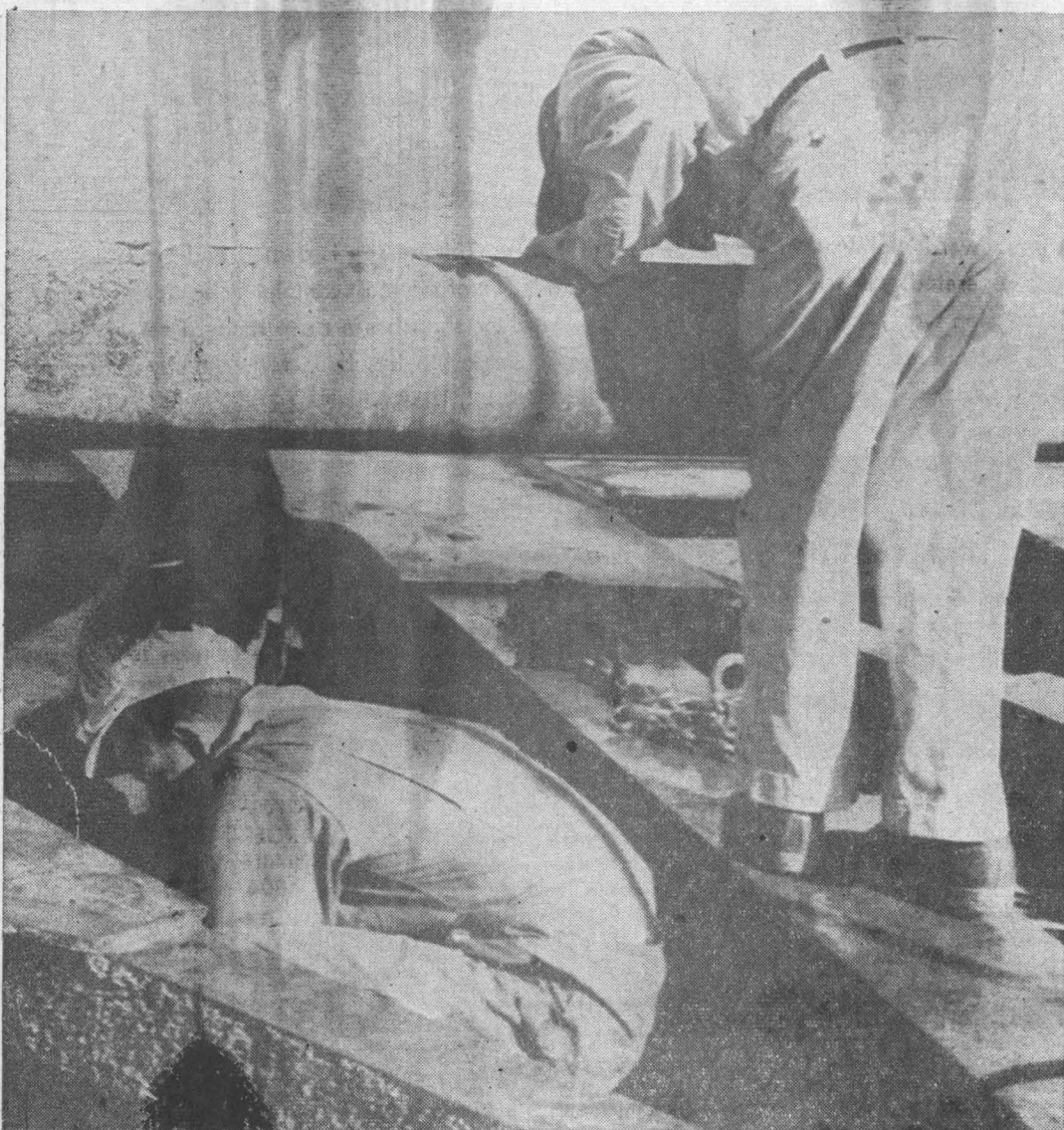
DERRICK CHAINS strain to support the ponderous pipe and auger bit which will be lowered into the water to cut a passage trench, 35 feet deep, in the ocean floor. This will

allow the free travel of giant freighters and liners into the Anchorage pier which is being constructed.



GIANT SINKING PINS at the back of the dredging boat allow it to be swung in a half circle to let the cutting tool reach a broad

expanse. To swing out to sea, the left pin is lowered and the right, raised. In the picture, it will swing to shore.



A BOULDER has become lodged in one section of the pipe. After the dredge is halted, the auger descends on the pipe, wrenches the

clogged section open and forces out the obstruction.



AT THE END OF THE PIPE the waters and conglomerate of Cook inlet's harbor floor are spewed out into the swampy back land. The water runs back

to the bay, the sand and gravel remain to provide a firm, level area suitable for parking, warehouses or other commercial interests.