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Fairbanks Daily News Miner, 1974 Alaska Progress Edition, April 1974

Anchorage Daily News, Monday, May 13, 1974

Port materiel falls off barge in Cook Inlet

By SALLY W. JONES
Daily News Staff Writer

Part of the Port of Anchorage was lying at the bottom of Cook Inlet Sunday, after a barge delivering port building materials apparently lost part of its load.

E. Erwin Davis, port director, said Sunday the load went overboard late last week at the Kennedy Entrance of Cook Inlet. It was part of a shipment to begin construction on a third port cargo terminal.

The barge carrying the load, Davis said, was under contract to the General and Swalling Construction Companies, the joint venture that was awarded the port construction contract by the city last fall.

DAVIS SAID AN inventory of what was lost will be conducted by a contractors' representative in Seattle, who was enroute to Alaska Friday.

The load contained 7,000 feet of steel piling for the port, wood, and other building materials, Erwin said. He said original investigation into the incident indicates "a substantial amount" of the load was lost in the inlet.

The building supplies were part of a tandem, two-barge shipment from Seattle, Davis said. The shipment was split in Yakutat, and a barge carrying pile driving crane equipment arrived in Anchorage for the port project last week.

THE BARGE company returned to Yakutat to pick up the other half of the load and lost it as the barge entered Cook Inlet. The barge was towed to Homer, where it will remain until contractors determine how much of the building materials can be salvaged, Davis said.

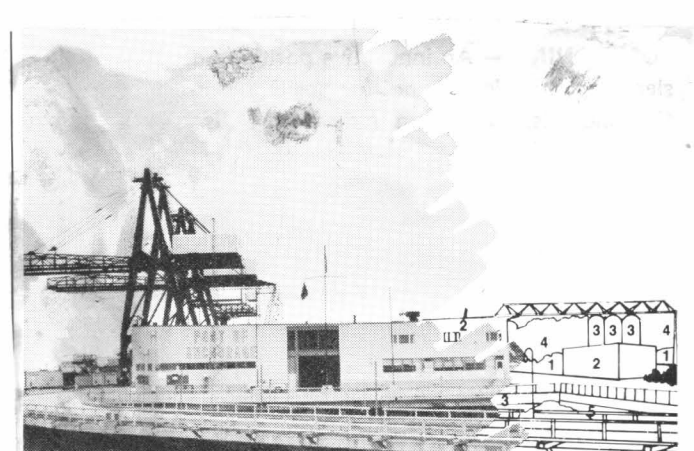
Davis said loss of the cargo last week probably will delay the new terminal's construction. A second barge, carrying the other half of needed building materials, is enroute to Anchorage now from Seattle, Davis said. He said the delay may last only until those pilings and other materials arrive.

"But we don't want to lose that steel piling in the inlet," Davis said. "Steel is the hardest of building materials to obtain now."

THE PORT construction that was to have begun this week is part of a \$5.5 million contract for the first phase of the new terminal. The contract provides for finishing about half the length of the new terminal this year. With the remainder to be completed in 1975, at a cost of about \$6 million.

The new terminal will allow Anchorage to increase its cargo capacity by about 50 per cent, Davis said. Last year, the port handled 2.12 million tons of cargo.

The third terminal, when completed, will accommodate deep draft cargo vessels. The half that is to be built this year will be opened for barges when it is completed, Davis said.



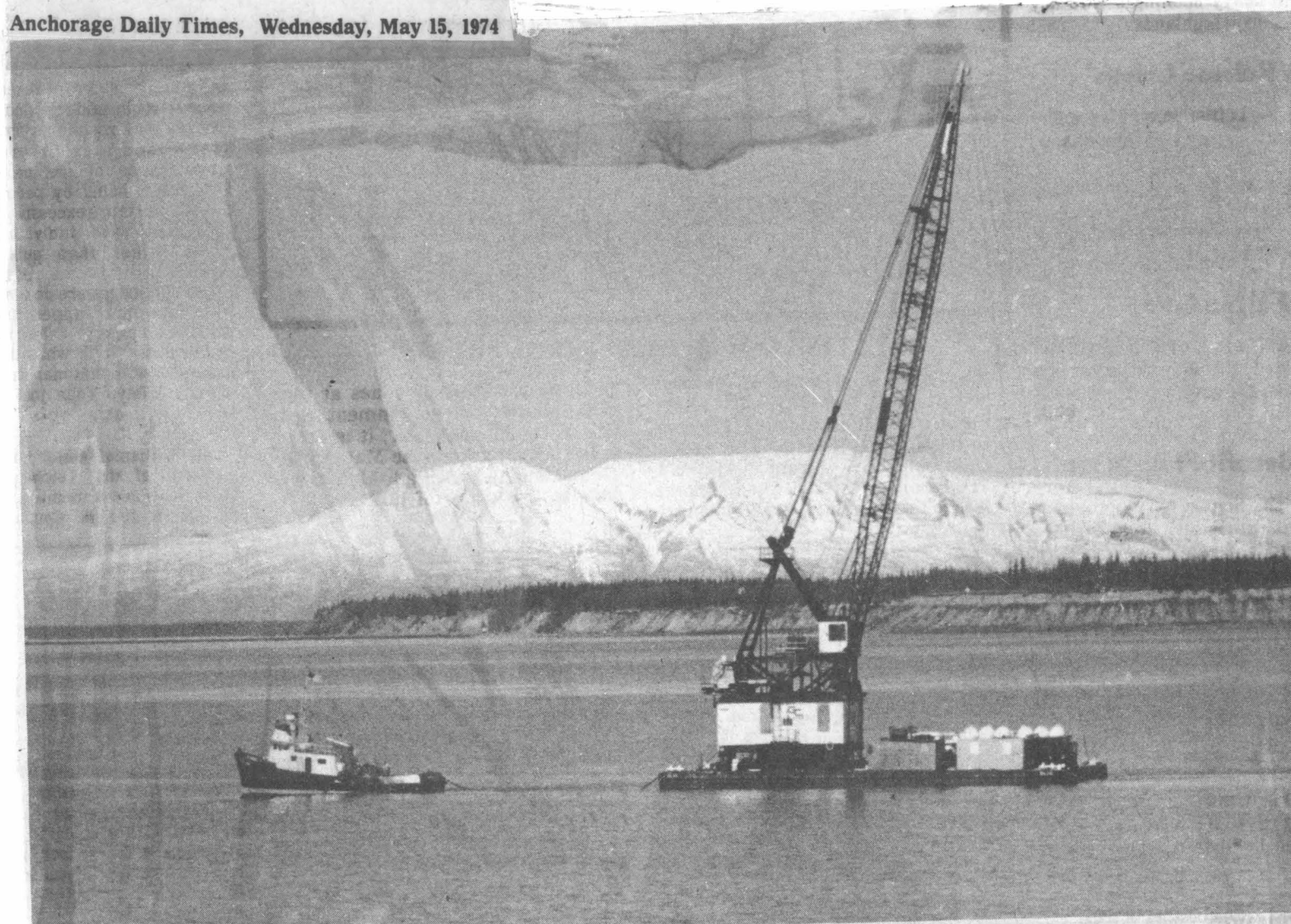
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THE OIL AND GAS JOURNAL — MAY 6, 1974

Anchorage Daily Times, Wednesday, May 15, 1974



TALL CRANE SAILS NORTH FOR DOCK CONSTRUCTION

This 190-foot high crane, permanently attached to a floating barge, sits at the far end of the Port of Anchorage, after being towed from Seattle in an upright position. It would be in use driving steel piling for the city's dock expansion program except for last week's barge mishap in which building materials went to the bottom of Cook Inlet. The crane, property of General Construction Co. of Seattle, will be used in the General-Swalling Construction Co. joint venture project at the dock. Port officials said it is unusual to make a long voyage with a big crane having its boom in an upright position. Heavy counterweights insure its stability.

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Anchorage Times 5/16/74

Weather Hampers Barge Recovery

Special To The Times

HOMER — Bad weather today was apparently hampering efforts to right the barge Annalee, which overturned last week at the mouth of Cook Inlet while en route to Anchorage with a load of materials needed for construction of an addition to the Anchorage city dock.

The crane-equipped barge, Barnacle, property of Christianson Construction Co. of Anchorage, is standing by to attempt to bring the barge upright again. A 52-foot tug, the Knik Wind, part of the barge's cargo which fell into Mud Bay near the Homer Spit during towing operations, has been brought to the surface and pumped out.

PORT MATERIALS SINK WITH BARGE

Loss of a bargeload of building materials in heavy seas last Tuesday night in the Homer area will delay start of construction of a Port of Anchorage cargo terminal "only a few days."

With another barge of materials en route, project engineer Tom Anderson said he expects work on the General Swalling Construction Com-

pany joint venture project can get under way by the middle of next week.

The load, lost when the barge rolled over while coming into the Kennedy Entrance to Cook Inlet about 60 miles from Homer, was insured, he said. The load, being carried by Cook Inlet Tug and Barge Co., included 7,000 feet of steel piling plus wood and other materials.

At this point, he said, it seems doubtful whether recovery of the materials will be feasible.

Jack Anderson, barge company president, was on his way to Homer this morning to survey the problem. He said divers would inspect the barge and later probably would be sent to the scene of the accident, where materials are lying in about 300 feet of water. He said the tug captain was experienced in inlet waters.

The supplies were part of a tandem, two-barge shipment from Seattle which was split in Cape Spencer, with part of the materials arriving here last week.

4 Anchorage Daily Times, Friday, May 17, 1974

Steel Piling Is Located In Japan

A supply of steel piling, vital to dock construction at the Anchorage port, has been located in Japan, and the city is working to secure necessary clearances to bring it here, E. Erwin Davis, port director, said today.

If clearances can be obtained, the steel could reach here by mid-June, Davis said. Construction, which was to have started this week, was delayed when a Cook Inlet Tug and Barge Company barge overturned in rough water last week at the mouth of Cook Inlet near Homer, with the steel sliding into the sea. Experts do not believe that it will be feasible to attempt to recover it.

Some steel on a second barge is to arrive here by the middle of next week, and hopefully construction can start then, according to a spokesman for the contractor, General and Swalling construction companies, involved in a joint venture on the project.

Anchorage Times - May 16, 1974

City seeking new pilings for port

By SALLY W. JONES
Daily News Staff Writer

City officials are attempting to clear the way for obtaining replacement steel pilings for the Port of Anchorage's new terminal.

Substantial amounts of the first shipment of pilings fell overboard last week when the barge carrying the steel listed at the entrance of Cook Inlet.

Mayor George Sullivan said late Tuesday the city has offered its services to the port terminal's contractor in an effort to cut red tape in obtaining a new steel supply.

SULLIVAN TOLD the City Council Alaska's Congressional delegation may be asked to help in the effort to get replacement steel from Japanese or Outside sources.

E. Erwin Davis, port director, said Wednesday the city considers the port project one of national priority.

"We'll be handling significant (cargo shipping) movements for the trans-Alaska Pipeline project," Davis said. Davis said Sunday 7,000 linear feet

of steel piling pipe was on the load that fell into the inlet. He said the steel piling is in high demand nationwide.

HE SAID THE city has no standing to obtain the pilings itself, because the material remains the property of the contractor for the new third terminal, the joint venture General-Swalling Construction Companies.

The city has been informed by the contractor that salvaging the material may not be possible. The Daily News was unable to reach contractors' representatives Wednesday to determine the chances for salvage or the exact inventory of what was lost in the inlet.

The new terminal will bring to three the number that will be available for deep draft vessel cargo delivery. It is scheduled to be completed by late 1975, and the work this year will complete about half the project.

THE CITY in 1970 estimated the port would be receiving 2.9 million tons of cargo by 1975. Last year, Davis said, the city handled 2.2 million tons of cargo.

Anchorage Daily Times, Tuesday, May 14, 1974



OVERTURNED BARGE MAY BE RIGHTED TODAY

The Annalee, a barge loaded with materials for construction of an addition to the Anchorage city dock, lies in Mud Bay near Homer Spit waiting for the Barnacle, a crane equipped barge, to turn her upright again. The piling-laden barge turned over near the mouth of the Cook Inlet in heavy

seas last week. Standing by are the Pacific Wind, which was towing the barge when it overturned, and the David Foss, which towed the 100-ton crane mounted on the Barnacle to the site. Story on Page 2.