

THE STATE PORT PILOT

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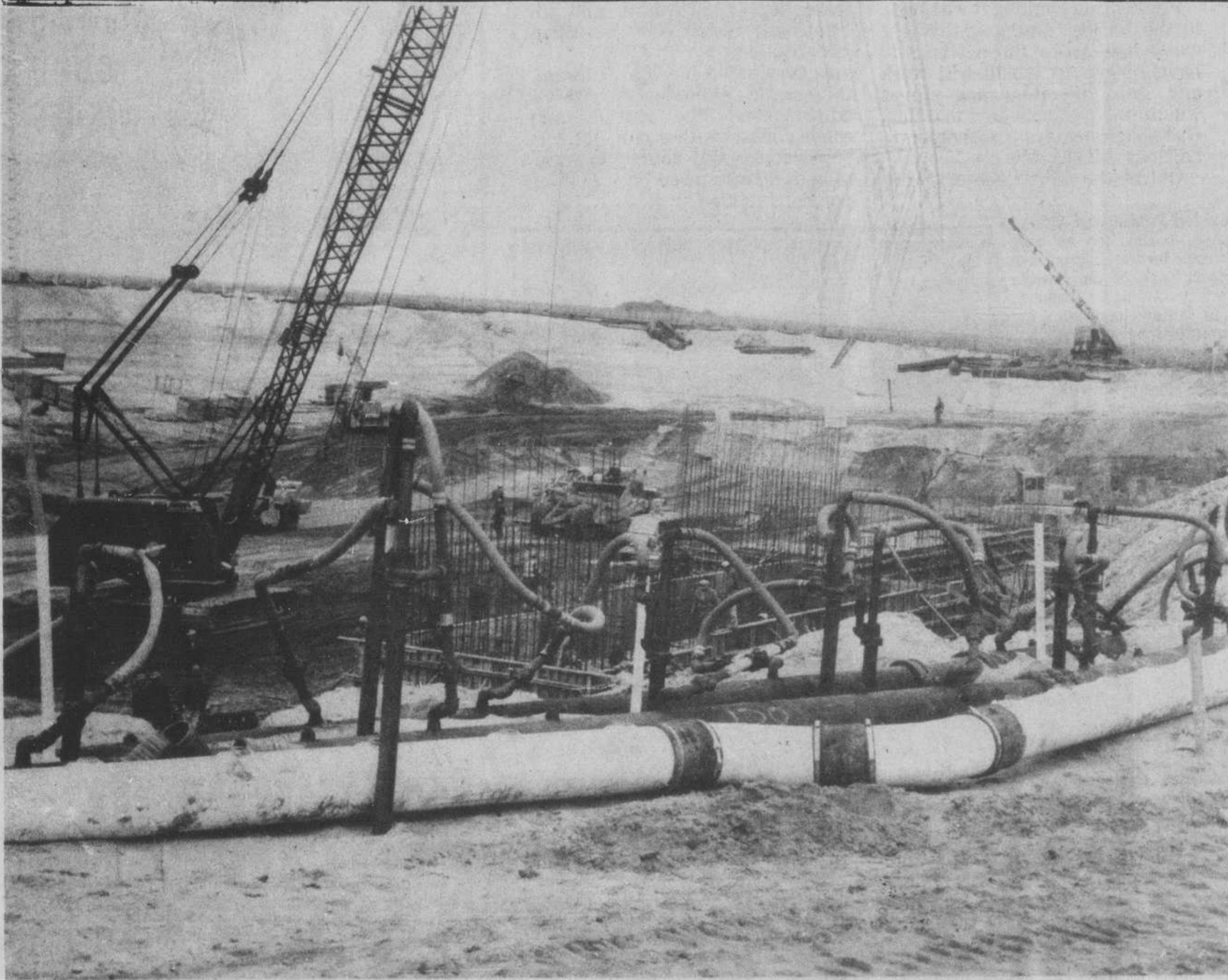
12 PAGES TODAY

SOUTHPORT, NORTH CAROLINA

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EXCAVATION FAR BELOW the water table at Caswell Beach is underway as part of the CP&L nuclear power plant project here. Cooling water will be channeled through the plant near Southport and through a discharge canal under the In-

tracoastal Waterway to Caswell, where water will be pumped approximately 2,000 feet out to sea for final discharge. This construction is part of a pumping station and will utilize 15-foot diameter pipes to convey the water.

\$58,000 In November

Tax Income Down Slightly, Still High

Sales and use tax collections in Brunswick County during November totalled \$58,202, the lowest share since July but still far above the collection of a year ago.

The August collection fell short of the \$60,000 level by only \$31, while the September and October figures topped \$65,000. Collections last December totalled only \$27,886.

The November collection of the local-option tax will be added to the October collection and the December total yet to be collected to be distributed sometime after the first of February. Distributions of the one-percent tax are made on a quarterly basis by the N.C. Department of Revenue, which withholds a small percentage of the collection as its fee.

The local-option tax, which is effective in 79 of the state's 100 counties, was approved by the board of commissioners last fall without a vote of the people. It is considered a major influence in the reduction of the county property tax rate from \$1.90 to \$1.42 per hundred dollar valuation.

The first collection — in October, 1971 — was \$20,630, but after the first of this year the totals began to increase steadily.

In January, the collection was \$35,750; then dropped slightly in February to \$34,532 before climbing again to \$36,965 in March, \$42,224 in April, \$47,199 in

May and \$55,737 in June, before dropping in July to \$47,724.

Major reason for the increase is Brown & Root Construction, builders of the CP&L nuclear power plant near Southport. The tax is designated "sales and use", sales being the materials and goods sold here and use the materials bought elsewhere and brought here. The tax is applicable to goods otherwise subject to the state's three-percent tax.

The collections are distributed to the county and Brunswick's nine municipalities on the basis the property tax each pays. The recent distribution of funds for the quarter ending September 30 showed the county receiving \$146,793; with the municipalities getting the balance of the \$172,714 allotment. Long Beach received the most (\$9,562) while Bolivia got only \$98.65.

Offices, Banks To Close For Holiday

A long Christmas holiday will be observed by city, county and state offices and financial institutions this year, with some employees leaving work on Thursday and not returning until next Wednesday.

In Southport, Waccamaw Bank and Trust Company and Security Savings and Loan Association will be closed Monday (Christmas Day) and Tuesday, while First-Citizens Bank will also be closed on Friday.

City and county offices will be closed for three days (Friday, Monday and Tuesday) while state offices will observe the shorter holiday, closing only on Monday and Tuesday. The post office here will be closed on Monday.

County schools already have closed and won't reopen until Tuesday, Jan. 2. Brown & Root Construction workers will be off Thursday and won't be expected back on the job until next Wednesday.

The State Port Pilot, being printed one day early this week, will be published at the regular time (Wednesday) next week. The staff of The Pilot wishes everyone the happiest of Christmases and a safe prosperous New Year.

River Road House Fire

Fire destroyed the dwelling situated on the corner of the old River Road and the Jabbertown Road Friday night.

In another of their miraculous displays of firefighting skill, members of the Southport Volunteer Fire Department who answered the midnight call managed to confine the flames to the building, the roof of which never caved in and the walls of which were left standing. However, the structure was rated a total loss.

The house recently was purchased from Mrs. Helen Rhodes by Donald Willetts. It was unoccupied at the time of the fire.

COG Water, Sewer Plan Okayed; Southport, Shallotte To Get Help

Cape Fear Council of Governments Chairman Clyde Elliott of Chadbourn has announced that the Council's Water and Sewer Facilities Plan has been certified by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.

The certification means that all municipal and county governments in Brunswick, Columbus, New Hanover, and Pender counties are now eligible for Water and Sewer Facilities Construction Grants from HUD," said Elliott. As of October 1, 1972, no water and sewer facilities grants from HUD are

possible unless a certified regional water and sewer plan exists.

TOWNS CERTIFIED
Of immediate interest in the certification are the towns of Southport and Shallotte. These Brunswick County communities had submitted applications for grants which could not be funded until the regional plan was certified.

"At a recent conference with HUD officials in Greensboro we were informed that the Southport and Shallotte projects have been approved in accordance with our plan, and both may

be funded this fiscal year," said Elliott.

Southport expects a \$252,000 HUD grant to assist in a water and sewer system expansion project costing approximately \$700,000.

The Shallotte grant would be for \$20,000 of a total cost of

\$40,000 to develop new wells to increase its water supply capability.

"MOST IMPORTANT"
COG's Environmental Pollution Control Committee Chairman, Robert W. Sawyer of Wrightsville Beach, said of

(Continued On Page 8)

Towns Receive Checks

Brunswick County towns have received their first revenue sharing checks, with the final 1972 installment expected about the middle of next month. The county reported last week that its \$184,780 share has been placed in a 90-day savings account at six percent interest.

Southport has received \$18,826; Long Beach \$6,311; Yaupon Beach \$4,275; Shallotte \$3,180; Bolivia \$2,368; Boiling Spring Lakes \$3,136; Holden Beach \$1,741; Sunset Beach \$1,383; and Ocean Isle Beach \$998.

Board Studies Plan For Mental Health Services

The Brunswick County Board of Commissioners is studying a proposal that would bring a comprehensive mental health program to the county at a local-share cost of \$12,289 — about \$2,000 more than currently budgeted for the program.

Brunswick County Health Director Richard Walker and John Wilson, director of the Southeastern Mental Health Center, presented the proposed new mental health

plan. "I think what we have is a matter of providing essential services only. We're keeping people out of Cherry Hospital and that's all," Wilson told the board.

He said he felt the new program would keep people from having to go to the hospital at all. He told the board he did not know the exact mental health needs of the county, but estimated 2,400 persons in the county

may need help. Approximately 80 persons are receiving help through the center now.

Total budget costs for the new plan would be \$37,281. Of that total, Wilson proposed the county share would be \$12,289.

Fees from services would provide another \$2,000 as would Medicaid. State and federal funds would be expected to contribute \$20,992.

The program would include a part time administrator from the Southeastern Mental Health Center which also serves New Hanover and Pender counties.

Adult services would include direct patient services with treatment goals determined to each individual. People would be directed to individual, group or family therapy.

Consultation and education services would be provided as a preventive mental health measure. Professional staff would consult with law enforcement, court officials, Social Services Departments, civic groups, etc. to assist others in recognizing early signs of emotional illness and dealing with it effectively.

The program would also

(Continued On Page 2)

Knox Victory Upheld

Republican Arthur Knox has been declared winner in the Brunswick County Register of Deeds race, edging incumbent Durwood Clark by ten votes — 4,247 to 4,237. Clark had appealed to the county Board of Elections for a recount (1-1 vote, no decision) and then to the State Board of Elections, which last Wednesday denied the request.

Clark had alleged no fraud in connection with Knox's apparent win, rather basing his appeal on the possibility of human error in counting the votes on election night.

As of this (Tuesday) morning, county Board of Elections Chairman Hubert Bellamy said, the local board has not been notified by the State Board of Elections concerning Knox's win. According to State Board Secretary Alex Brock, the Republican cannot be certified by the local board without the official notification.



THE TALLEST, STRAIGHTEST Christmas "tree" in Southport is located on the waterfront and is not a living tree at all. It is the weather tower, the spire of which makes a perfect base for the multi-colored lights. The "tree", shown here as part of a

waterfront scene by Boyce Spencer, is clearly visible to passing ships and conveys to all a Merry Christmas from the City of Southport.