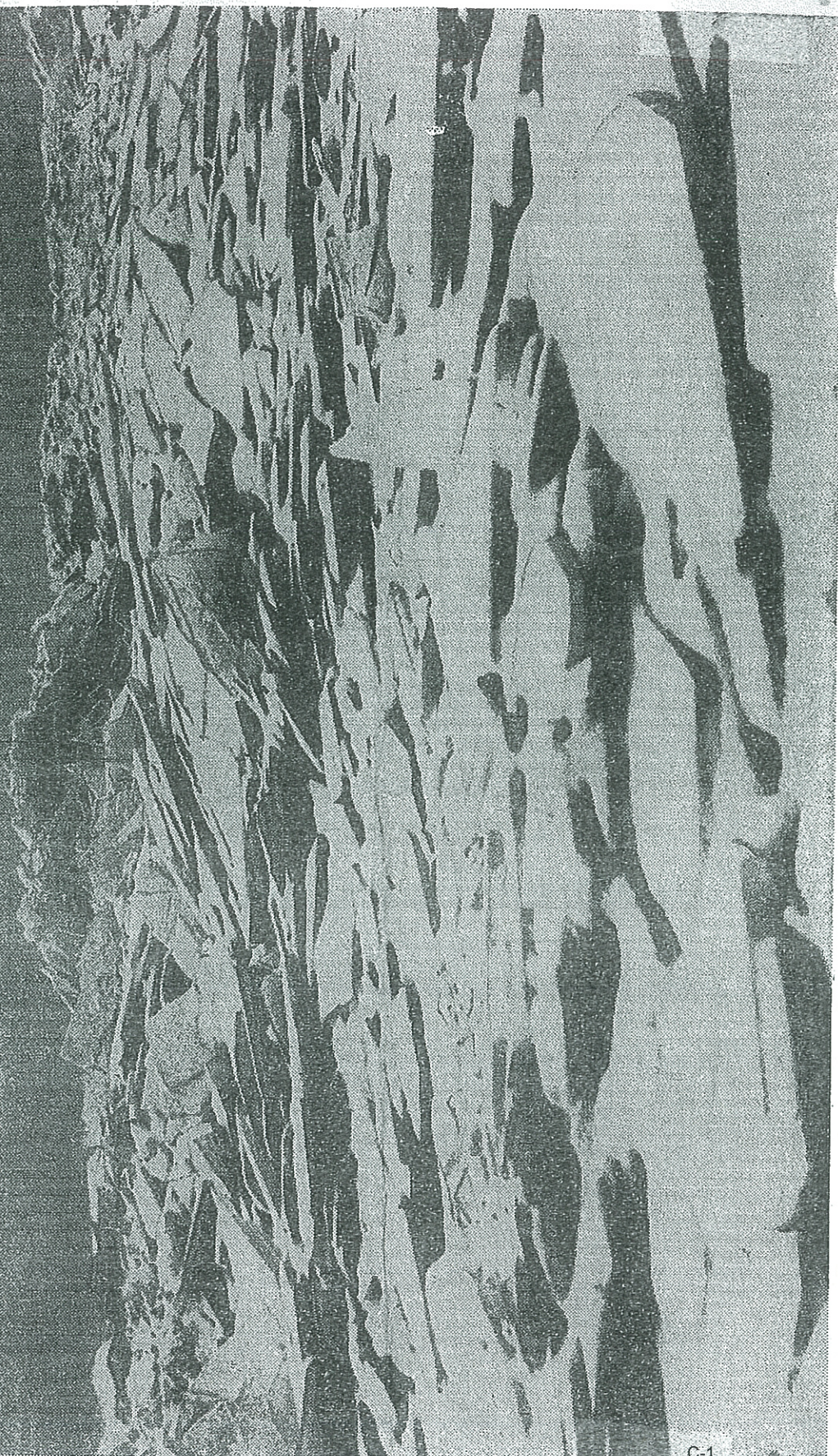


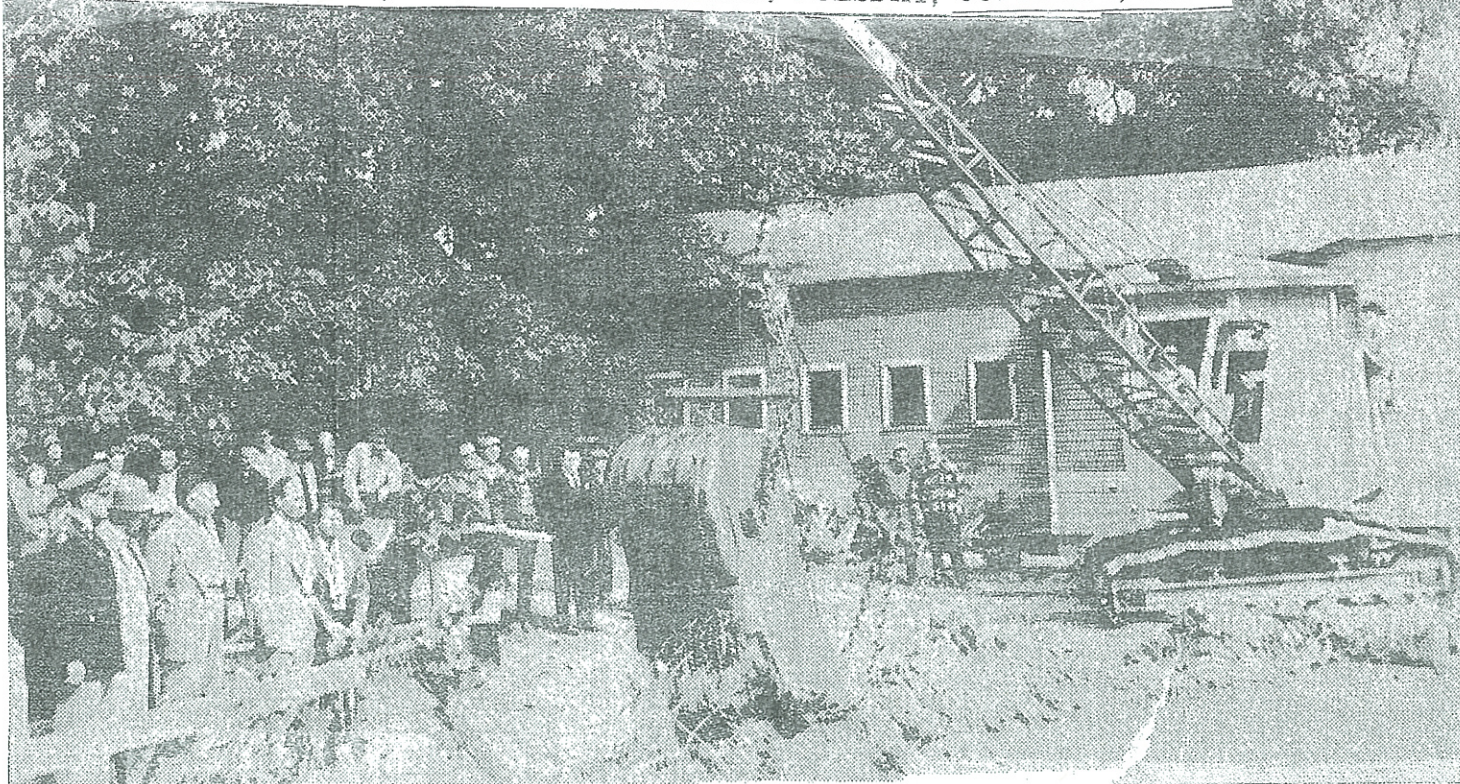
## OFF ESTRAL BEACH

Along Michigan's southeastern shore the brunt of winter has fallen heaviest on communities below Detroit, where the river widens. In a hollow behind a dike thrown up by Army engineers after the great flood of March, 1952, Estral Beach and its 400 year-around families live through the winter and first days of spring in constant apprehension of a new deluge. Here, in a scene of lowering skies and broken ice, the menace is darkly dramatized.

*Detroit News Photograph by Erik Stylander*







—Evening News Photo

**ESTRAL BEACH DIKE STARTED** — As visiting officials (lower left) look on, a power shovel breaks ground for the \$158,000 dike at Estral Beach. The dike, financed by the U. S. Army Corps of Engineers, will be completed in 90 days. It is being built by the Cosgrove Construction Co. of Marysville. Among those witnessing ground-breaking ceremonies were Army, state and village officials.

## Construction of Dike Begins at Estral Beach

With one huge bite, a power shovel completed the ground-breaking ceremony for the long-awaited dike at Estral Beach yesterday and after visiting dignitaries each said a few words the project was under way.

As outlined by Richard A. Cosgrove, owner of the construction company contracting the job, the project will include the building of 3,600 feet of clay diking with a rip-rap facing along the lake front of the village and another 3,600 feet of clay diking around the sides and back. The clay will be brought in from a plot of ground recently purchased by the Cosgrove firm.

Witnessing the ground-breaking ceremony yesterday were Joe Vasicek, president of the village council, who was credited by both U.S. Army engineers and other governmental officials with being the sparkplug behind the project; Lt. Col. William Lucke, executive officer of the Detroit district of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers; Joe LaSpisa, engineer in charge of the Army's Toledo office and supervisor of the Estral Beach project; Bert Robb, executive director of the State Waterways Commission; Cosgrove, and a number of village residents.

### 45 To Be Employed

The project, costing \$158,000, will be completed in 90 days according to the contract but Cosgrove said yesterday much depended on the weather. He said about 45 men will be employed on the job and will use about 20 trucks in addition to other heavy equipment. The wall will rise to an elevation of 578.5 feet and will slope on both sides, permitting landscaping on the land side of the dike.

According to estimates from the Army engineers, the wall will protect the village from any recurrence of the floods which routed nearly 100 families from their homes March 22.

### Lake Continues Dangerous

As yet no positive predictions on the lake level next spring have been made but yesterday Robb said his investigations indicated continued high water. He said the hot summer and long dry period were of great help in reducing the lake levels but then pointed out that the levels still are higher now than they were at this time last year. This would indicate continued danger, he said.

After the ground-breaking ceremony, Vasicek, Col. Lucke, Robb and LaSpisa all spoke briefly, urging residents to co-operate with the contractor to insure completion of the job with a minimum of delay.

## Engineers To Visit Two Beach Areas

Portions of the Lake Erie shore line in Monroe County will be inspected tomorrow by the Beach Erosion Board of the U. S. Army Corps of Engineers.

The survey will be taken to determine the amount of damage done to the shore line by the high lake level, according to Col. John D. Bristol, district engineer. The inspection party will be made up of four senior officers of the Corps of Engineers and three state engineers.

They will inspect the Estral Beach area and the area around Luna Pier. Local and state representatives will accompany the inspection party to point out areas of local interest.