

# State Agencies Dispute Tahoe Pollution Claim

BIJOU, Lake Tahoe — The state department of public health and the state fish and game department have disputed charges that construction of the \$150,000,000 Tahoe Keys housing development is polluting Lake Tahoe.

Experts from the two departments, in refuting charges made by some Lake Tahoe property owners, gave their views before the regional water pollution control board at a public hearing here yesterday.

## No Health Hazard

A formal health department report to the board says: "No public health hazard exists."

The fish and game department findings are: "No hazard exists to fish and wild life."

Both reports were announced by Jack Leggett, executive officer of the board, before nearly 100 owners of property in the Lake Tahoe area.

Of 39 complaints of water pollution or discoloration, Leggett said only seven are from Lake Tahoe area residents.

Speaking for the complainants, Attorney Max Hosiet of Tahoe Valley charged that dredging for the Tahoe Keys project has stirred up silt and waste, "discoloring the lake and endangering esthetic values."

## Denies Blame

George Turner, Tahoe Keys project manager, declared construction "is not contributing to the discoloring of the water and has not since August when the water in the area being dredged was impounded behind levees.

"We are as interested in maintaining the clarity of Lake Tahoe as anyone. Our engineers are working on the problem, not only in our own interest but in the interest of the entire lake."

No decision was made by the board. C. A. Scholl, of Boron, Kern County, president, announced a series of technical studies now under way will be evaluated before standards are set for builders.