

Hill worry to township

SYDNEY, Friday. — A "walking hill" is threatening to push the little township of Boolaroo, near Newcastle, off the map.

The town's 1500 residents have been watching the steep hillside "creeping" towards their homes since the flood rains in June.

They said to-day that part of the hill began moving soon after the floods loosened soil on the hillside.

The hill had rumbled like thunder and big cracks, some of them more than a foot wide, had opened in the ground.

The vile stench from the crevices made living in homes near the cliff almost unbearable. The nearest houses are about 400 yards away.

Reservoir threat

The creep has opened up cracks within 20 yards of a million-gallon water reservoir on the hill.

The Newcastle District Water Board has instructed its engineers to choose another spot to which the reservoir can be shifted if the creep continues.

Meanwhile they are keeping the tank only half full and maintaining a 24-hour watch on it to see that an earth movement does not burst it.

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Geologists will be asked to go from Sydney this week-end to investigate the creep.

Kempsey sagging

KEMPSEY, Friday. — The ground under Kempsey's main shopping area is sagging as a result of last week-end's flood.

Shopkeepers fear movement of the ground may do heavy damage to £1 million worth of buildings.