

REACTOR ON TOW.

With eleven heat-exchangers already on the site, Bradwell Nuclear Power Station prepared to receive the twelfth - the final one. The last stage of the journey was the hardest, as they nosed and inched the 200-ton mass along the mile-and-a-half, from the Blackwater Estuary. Experience with the previous eleven was invaluable, but in several places it was a tight squeeze. Fancy that coming into your front bedroom instead of the morning tea.

20 feet in diameter, more than 90 feet long, the reactor-vessel was manufactured on the Tees, then towed by sea, 280 miles to the Essex coast.

The heat-exchanger is part of the reactor, which develops heat to generate steam. Electricity is then produced by the usual power-station method. The first Bradwell reactor will become active next year; the new era is under way.