NEW ERA FOR DISTRICT MEDICAL
HEALTH SERVICES

Additions to the Gosford District Hospital to be opened on
Saturday by Health Minister, Mr. H. Jago, mark the beginning of a
new era for medical health services on the Central Coast.

Major building works and furnishings, costing $1,200,000 have
transformed the hospital from a small 65-bed hospital into a 130-bed
hospital with many essential features not previously available.

This was stated this morning by the Hospital Board chairman
Mr. R. G. Mathews.

Overall, the additions, repre-
sent the first steps in the de-
velopment of a "modern" hos-
pital, Mr. Mathews said.

He added: "A modern hos-
pital cannot be measured in
terms of beds only, rather it
provides for its in-patients and
is measured by the services it
and out-patients.

"Because of the new addi-
tions, out-patients clinics will become available for the first
time, as will pathology and a
blood bank".

Mr. Mathews said a Medi-
cal Superintendent would be
appointed to the staff in the
next few months, and Resi-
dent Medical Officers would
be attached to the hospital for
the first time during the
coming year.

It is 24 years since the first
section of the hospital opened
as a result of the energetic
and public spirited efforts of
a group of local people. In
the meantime, the hospital has
had a number of small addi-
tions, and now the present ad-
dition is the largest of them
all.

A further addition is to be
undertaken this year, con-
sisting of a four storey ex-
dension to the Nurses Home
for accommodation, together
with a training school, at an
estimated cost of $400,000

Base Hospital

Following this, the building
of a large ward block will
bring the hospital to Base
Hospital standards with a
total of 250 beds.

It is estimated this last stage
will cost approximately $1m.

To enable Base Hospital re-
call for the services of high-
ly qualified nursing teams.

A Central Sterilising De-
partment with a trained staff,
together with specialised
equipment, will have to be
provided, and it will be neces-
sary for the Department to be
established in such a man-
ner that it will be able to serve
the requirements of other hos-
pitals, yet to be built in the
Central Coast area.

An out patients service wing
equipped to meet the require-
ments of the area is also in-
cluded in the plans to bring
the hospital to base standards.

Because of the increasing
complexity of the services to
developed, it is imperative
that the Board and the Hospi-
tals Commission be assured
that they will be used to capa-
city when provided, otherwise
much of the high capital ex-
penditure and maintenance
charges will not be justified,
Mr. Mathews added.

Mr. Mathews said: "The

Minister to
Open Hospital
Extensions
Saturday