Hospital unit to be built

A geriatric hospital unit and 20 aged units will be built at Woy Woy.

The decision to build followed a conference between representatives of the Gosford District Hospital Board, the Minister for Health (Mr. A. H. Jllico) and the chairman of the Hospitals Commission (Mr. Seley).

The unit would be built in the form of a wing at the Gosford District Hospital, in Ocean Beach Road, Woy Woy. The proposal is the sequel to the original scheme to build a public hospital at Woy Woy.

Raised $25,000

The Woy Woy Hospital Committee raised $25,000 for the building of a hospital and these funds will now be applied for the new project. This situation arose because insufficient money was available to proceed with the public hospital at Woy Woy. Between members of the Woy Woy Memorial Hospital Committee and Hospital Board members, it was agreed to support the scheme which the Minister ultimately endorsed.

Govt. subsidy

The Frail Aged Units will be built with Commonwealth subsidy, and the Hospitals Commission will provide the Geriatric Ward at Woy Woy, under the control of Gosford District Hospital.

The plan also provides for the building of a 20-bed rehabilitation section at Gosford District Hospital.

20 Aged Units

In his report to the Minister, Mr. Neville Boyce pointed out that patients coming to the Frail Aged Unit would need very little nursing care but could benefit from the Rehabilitation services at Gosford.

The patients would be able to drive by their own or under supervision of the Director of Commonwealth and the Government would provide these services.

This would attract much Commonwealth subsidy.

It was realised that with Commonwealth -style bedding, the beds would be available for patients requiring nursing attention.

Geriatric Ward

The Geriatric Ward at Woy Woy would house patients requiring pre-operative rehabilitation at Gosford District Hospital. The sick aged patients would be placed in this 20-bed unit.

In his report, Mr. Boyce said the 20-bed rehabilitation unit to be built at Gosford would provide facilities for day patients, including occupational therapy, speech therapy, ability to live life, physiotherapy and a gymnasium.

The patients to be placed in this 20-bed unit would be those requiring assessment and who would show a dramatic recovery with extensive treatment.

Daily service

The day hospital service would be for patients to attend during the day in order to receive active treatment and care for

20 Aged Units

The 20 Aged Units would provide facilities for day patients, including occupational therapy, speech therapy, ability to live life, physiotherapy and a gymnasium.

Home treatment

Mr. Boyce pointed out that patients generally preferred treatment in the familiar surroundings of their homes.

The time was right for the facility and a logical extension of the hospital service, he said.

"It is in the logical answer, and a logical extension of the hospital service," he said.

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