

# Ready for disaster

Gosford District Hospital has set up a "disaster plan" to handle any major emergencies that might occur on the Central Coast.

Purpose of the plan is to provide victims of a major accident with the maximum care with the minimum of delay.

Outlining provisions of the plan, the hospital's medical superintendent, Dr. I. J. Walters, said the plan would swing into action in the event of such major disasters as an accident involving a tourist bus, the crash of a passenger aircraft, a shipwreck, or a large railway accident.

## *Alert*

Under the new plan, the hospital's switchboard operator would alert the medical superintendent, the matron, the honorary medical staff, the hospital's own doctors, and the hospital blood bank.

Specialised departments of the hospital, such as X-ray, pathology, pharmacy and physiotherapy would immediately be called to stand-by.

Dr. Walters said that adoption of the plan did not mean that the hospital had previously been unprepared.