



HOSPITAL EXTENSIONS TAKING SHAPE

Work on the £421,000 extensions to Gosford District Hospital, scheduled for completion at the end of this year, is progressing well.

The extensions, which will include a ward block, kitchen and boiler house and laundry are being built on the western side of the main hospital building.

Aided by perfect weather so far, the builders are confident the extensions will be completed on schedule.

The picture above shows the foundations for the boiler room on

the right hand bottom side.

In the middle is the steel fabrication work for the workshops (ground floor) and laundry block.

The kitchen block can be seen in the left of the photograph.

The picture clearly illustrates the split-level structural work of the extensions.

Construction on the three-storeys high ward block (obscured by the

laundry block in this picture) is continuing at a high rate.

Included in the block will be a complete casualty section with two operating theatres and a five-bed holding ward.

Doctors' consulting rooms, a dispensary and sisters' station will be provided.

When completed the two floors, level with the present building, will each hold 31 beds.

The kitchen block will in-

clude a nurses' dining room, a cool room and all modern cooking facilities.

The extensions will mean an increase in capacity at the hospital from 65 to 130 beds and an increase of about 100 in staff.

More than £300,000 will be needed annually to

maintain the extensions.

The State Government will meet half this amount. The balance will be obtained from patients' fees.

The Minister for Health (Mr. W. F. Sheahan) laid the foundation stone for the extensions on February 20.

—Rodney Curtis photo.