

EXPRESS
23/8/67

"HEALTHY" PROGRESS

TOP DOCTOR PRAISES GOSFORD HOSPITAL



Board Chairman . . .
Cr. R. VAUGHAN

Gosford District Hospital is making "healthy" progress according to Dr. Edgar Thompson, one of Australia's top medical men.

Dr. Thompson, who is General Secretary of the Australian Medical Association and a benefactor of Gosford District Hospital, was guest speaker at the hospital's annual meeting on Monday night.

The doctor is one of the Nation's top pathologists and has an extensive list of letters after his name denoting his brilliance in the medical profession.

Dr. Thompson is well-known for his astute management of Royal Prince Alfred Hospital, Sydney, where he was General Superintendent for eight years.

Hospital Board Chairman,

Cr. Bob Vaughan, introduced the doctor to the 50 persons at the annual meeting held in the nurses' quarters assembly area.

Dr. Thompson said Gosford District Hospital was making a healthy progress.

He is pleased to see that the hospital has a pathology department, which he described as the "heart" of any hospital.

DUTIES OF HOSPITALS

Other points made by the doctor were:

● The primary object of any hospital is to treat the sick and, if possible, to make them better.

● A hospital should not be allowed to grow too large and become unwieldy.

● Research, on any level, is important in hospitals. Two of the greatest theses were produced by general practitioners.

● It is unwise to make a class distinction between teaching and non-teaching hospitals.

● Not enough use is being made of teaching facilities. Doctors must learn both the academic side and practice of medicine.

● The regionalisation of hospitals is a good idea.

● Integration of general practitioners into hospitals is of extreme importance. It's a shame that general practition-

ers are starting to disappear.

● An accreditation scheme, similar to that existing in Canada, would prove beneficial to Australian hospitals.

● A tragedy of major Australian hospitals is the "dreadful jealousy" existing. Hospitals should develop individual specialties and allow an interchange of patients, if necessary.

Dr. Thompson concluded his remarks with the comment that if all hospitals developed along the same lines as Gosford's they will have no worries.

Mr. Reg Eddy moved the vote-of-thanks to the guest speaker.

He said the addition of a guest speaker to the agenda of the hospital's annual meeting was a most pleasing success.

PROFIT

Board Chairman Vaughan opened the meeting by asking for the observance of silence as a mark of respect for the late Mr. Harry Craft, formerly a Board member, who died since last annual meeting.

Cr. Vaughan described the late Mr. Craft as "the doyen of Gosford's charity workers."

In his report Cr. Vaughan described the financial position of the hospital as "most satisfactory."

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1000 pints of blood

An Ettalong family man on Monday gave Gosford District Hospital blood bank its 1000th pint of blood.

He is Mr. Mick Hepple, who is married with one daughter, named Debra, who is 13.

Mick told the "Express" that he formerly gave blood in Sydney and this was his second donation to the Gosford blood bank.

He has been giving blood for six years.

Sister Day, in charge of the blood bank, said that the hospital now has considerably more than 1000 donors.

This supply is sufficient to meet the hospital's needs and leaves a reserve that can be distributed to Sydney hospitals.

GOSFORD'S "FIRST"

The Sister said that Gosford Hospital was the first in New South Wales to send country blood to the city.

This is possible because of the quick transport to Sydney available by train.

She attributes the bank's success to solid support from Apexians, other district service clubs and the donors themselves.

The Apexians did much of the early work in gaining donors after the blood bank opened on January 19.

MORE WANTED
Although the response

has been very good from local blood donors, more are still needed.

Sister Day hopes to eventually gain 2000 donors.

Blood is a vital necessity in hospital's today.

It is a living tissue and its function is to carry nourishment to all other tissues of the body.

It carries the necessities of life — oxygen, water and food to all the cells of the body.