

EPWORTH BULLETIN

MAY, 1981.

BOARD REPORT

Significant decisions were taken at recent meetings of the Board to cement the future direction of the Hospital and contribute immensely to guaranteeing high standards of care for our patients. After long and careful deliberation, the Board has decided to proceed with Open Heart Surgery and was encouraged to do so by the pressing need within the community, the overwhelming support for the project by a wide section of the medical profession and the firmly held belief that an efficient unit of high standing can be established.

The Board also resolved to proceed with the engagement of full time resident medical staff which is a major innovation for a private hospital.

The establishment of an Epworth Medical Foundation to facilitate development and research projects at Epworth is under consideration. A special committee involving Board Members and experts from the community has been formed to study the feasibility of this project.

EPWORTH MEDICAL/SURGICAL GROUPS

Following the adoption of new regulations for the Medical Advisory Council, the Board has formally acknowledged the existence of a number of active medical/surgical groups in the Hospital. The new regulations provide each group to nominate a representative to the Medical Advisory Council, which advises the Board on matters of medical policy. The groups for Orthopaedic Surgery, Plastic Surgery, Gastroenterology, Cardiovascular, and Neurology and Neurosurgery have met recently and it is encouraging to see the amount of interest and the large attendance at these meetings. Each of the groups meets a number of times during the year to consider matters relating to their speciality.



Courtesy of St.Pip's cartoon strip by Neil.

CORONARY CARE UNIT

It is pleasing to report that a contract to renovate Ward 3 A to become the Coronary Care Unit has been let, and we anticipate completion of the project by the 22nd June 1981.

EPWORTH MEDICAL CENTRE

If the interest which has been expressed in consulting rooms in the Epworth Medical Centre is any indication, many doctors now recognise the progressive moves which Epworth is making. All medical suites in the Centre have now been let, almost twelve months before budget. In response to increasing demand, consideration is being given to the construction of a third floor on the Centre.

ON-GOING RENOVATIONS

Plans are being prepared by the Hospital's architect, Eggleston, MacDonald & Secomb, for a new Children's Ward on level 1 East and the establishment of a first rate Gastroenterology Unit in Ward 3 East B. Following the completion of planning, work will commence on these projects as soon as funds become available.



Courtesy St. Pip's cartoon strip by Neil.

THE FUTURE OF EPWORTH

During recent weeks there has been some publicity in the press about a number of private hospitals, including one hospital which was led to terminate some of its staff. It is pleasing to note that Epworth continues to improve its occupancy and that the hospital continues to do well in terms of its anticipated increase in workload. This has resulted in an increase in additional staff appointed to the hospital and further appointments will be made as additional wards fill up and also the new theatre area is completed.

All members of staff can help in promoting the hospital by the attention and care they show to patients, doctors and other visitors using the hospital, and also by the support they can provide to other staff. Epworth is very proud of its staff and believes that they are one of its greatest assets in providing the high quality of care for which the Hospital is known.

BOARD PROFILE : CLARRIE ARMSTRONG

Frederick Clarence Armstrong was appointed a member of the Epworth Board of Management in 1975. He is Chairman of the Grounds, Buildings and Services Committee.

In 1929 Mr. Armstrong started his career as an articled pupil in the architecture profession.

He first became involved in hospital planning in 1940 and in 1950 joined the Hospitals and Charities Commission. He resigned from the Commission in 1977 as Chief Architect.

He is a Fellow of the Royal Australian Institute of Architects and a Fellow of the Royal Institute of British Architects.

Clarrie has been heavily involved with the Methodist Church, both in church building throughout Victoria and as a committee member and as president, on a number of welfare associations. Over several years he has been involved in planning matters at Epworth, including the design of the chapel.

Clarrie and his wife live at Mitcham, and Clarrie has involved himself in local community activities. He holds the positions of - Member and Vice-President of Maroondah Social Health Centre since foundation, Committee Member for the Eastern Suburbs Geriatric Centre, Committee member of Ringwood-Croydon Advisory Service and involvement with the local Ringwood Uniting Church.

He believes that the Christian faith is something to be lived and service plays a great part in this. Rewards for community efforts have been ample, with the friendship and help he has received from all people.

Clarrie is semi-retired and now finds time for some travelling with his wife. They have a keen interest in their five children's careers and the developing stages of their ten grandchildren.

ACCESS TO THE BANK

The corridor has now been opened up from the entrance door at Level 1 East directly through to the Bank and then through to the lifts. To avoid delays to patients, visitors and staff using the lift, if you are going from either Level 3 or Level 2 to the bank, would you please use the stairs via 3E or 2E. To ease congestion in the lifts, staff are reminded that at any time when they are travelling only one or two floors the stairs must be used in preference to the lifts.

THE LAST OF THE RELOCATIONS!!!!THE MAINTENANCE MEN MAKE THEIR MOVE.

The Maintenance Workshop and Assistant Chief Engineer's Office have been relocated to the basement at the southern end of the Cato Wing. It was reported that the maintenance department proudly shows off its new surrounds, complete with bright lights and freshly painted walls. This move paved the way for the demolition of the remainder of the old laundry and workshop.

AUXILIARY NEWS

The Epworth Hospital Auxiliary has planned a series of monthly stalls for 1981. These stalls are held on the last Friday of each month from 9.30 - 1.30.

The next stall is Friday 22nd May.

Perhaps you have some potted plants to spare, a jar or two of pickles or marmalade, or goods for the white elephant or works stall? The Auxiliary warmly welcomes all donations. These goods can be left with the Promotions Officer, Marg Heenan, on Ext. 240.

Your support for these stalls helps raise funds for the renovation of the Nurses' Home. The Auxiliary would dearly love to hear from new members - do you know anyone who would be interested? If so, they can contact Mrs. Jean Newnham, President on 459 9119 or Marg Heenan.

\$216.00 was raised from the April stall. Congratulations ladies, and a warm thanks to all the staff and friends who supported the function.



Courtesy of St. Pip's cartoon strip by Neil.

AROUND THE CORRIDORS - VOLUNTEER'S NEWS

In some hospitals, they're pinkies, at Epworth it's blue - but not that blue! With their smiling faces and time for a little extra care and a friendly chat ... no matter what the colour, they are cherished people. These are our special people who devote some of their time to helping others - volunteers. On Mondays it is Joan and Jenny with their beautiful displays of home grown flowers. On Tuesdays Elizabeth helps out. She is looking for a partner to help on that day. Eileen, the volunteers' co-ordinator, and Beryl, are around the wards on Wednesday.

There are a number of volunteers who spend time each month assisting in the area of most need. Some days they arrange patients' flowers, other times they assist with clerical work or take the sweets trolley around the wards. These members are Olga, Janice, Neen, Thelma, Lee and Margaret. We also welcome Jean and Pelin who will commence volunteer duties within the next two weeks.

The hospital's coffee shop is due to be opened shortly, as a service to patients and staff. It is hoped that a volunteer team will be available to work in the coffee shop.

Does anyone know of people who would be interested in joining the friendly, caring team? All enquiries should be directed to Marg Heenan, Promotions Officer on Ext. 240.

NEW STAFF

Eleven new people have joined the staff at the hospital. A warm welcome is extended to them from all at Epworth. The new staff are -

Candace Bill	Sister - Theatre
Louise Boyd	Sister - Ward
Suzanne Day	School of Nursing
Michela Giannone	Food Services
Annette Grumley	R.N.A.
Edward Hallewas	Engineering
Julie Hutchinson	Sister - Ward
Catherine Kennedy	School of Nursing
Margaret McCarthy	Domestic Services
Vera Sinclair	Food Services
Rosemary Williams	Charge Sister - Theatre

