

DISTRICT NURSING ASS'N

SEVEN NURSES MAKE 30,380 CALLS A YEAR

Without the service provided by the District Nurses between 50 and 80 people in this area would need hospitalisation, which of necessity would have to be in most cases outside the district.

Mr. Kevin Boyce, Secretary of Gosford District Hospital, made this statement at the Seventh Annual General Meeting of the Woy Woy Area District Nursing Association held in the Ettalong C.W.A. Rooms last Wednesday night.

Mr. Boyce said the seven District Nurses attached to Gosford District Hospital averaged 30,380 calls during each year. At present they had 350 patients on their books.

On behalf of the Hospital's Board of Directors, Mr. Boyce thanked the Woy Woy Association for its excellent contribution of \$1700 to the Hospital last year.

Woy Woy district has two District Nurses, Sisters Pat Fagan and Edna Warnecke. The Woy Woy Area Nursing Association is responsible for changing one of the Nurses' cars each year and in addition provides many necessary items of medical equipment for their patients.

Matron I. Inskip of Gosford District Hospital and the Hospital's newly appointed Medical Superintendent, Dr. Ian Walters, were present at the Association's well attended meeting last Wednesday. Other district representatives included Cr. Ida Hoskin, Mr. Tom Hill, President of the Ettalong War Memorial Club, Mr. George Freeman of Rotary, Mrs. M. Minetti

and Mrs. M. Dunbar, secretary and treasurer respectively of Everglades Women's Bowling Club, Mr. Ron Britten of Woy Woy Lions Club, Mrs. Mona Manning, president of Ettalong B.P.W. Club, and Mrs. Mary Jackson and Mrs. Joyce Carroll, president and immediate past president respectively of Inner Wheel.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Mrs. Gloria Fergusson was elected president of the Association for the coming year. Last year's president, Mrs. Kath Geddes refused nomination for the position due to ill health.

Other officers elected were as follows: Vice-presidents, Mrs. Pat Gregory and Mrs. Dot Anderson; secretary, Miss Geraldine Hall; treasurer, Mrs. D. Gerard; social organiser, Mrs. Glad Miles, and publicity officer, Mrs. Lorna McNeil.

Matron Inskip is again patron of the Association and Mr. Stanton of the Commercial Bank, auditor.

The Social Committee for the coming year will be: Glad Miles (chairman), Nell Cullip, Dot Brand, Betty Vander Van, Betty Jarvis, Bess Green, Lena Jensen, Lydia Whetton, Dorothy Williams, Mary Carney, Daphne Huband, Joyce Britten, Phyll Newlands, and Dulcie Clarke.

Mr. Kevin Boyce who chaired the meeting for the election of officers was accorded a vote of thanks moved by Mrs. Dulcie Clarke.

Mrs. D. Gerard moved a vote of thanks to Mr. Stanton for auditing the Association's books again this year.

REPORTS

Reports of the past year's activities presented by executive officers during the meeting indicated a record year for the Woy Woy Nursing Association.

Last year's senior vice-president, Mrs. Gloria Fergusson, welcomed guests to the meeting and presented both her own and Mrs. Kath Geddes' reports of the year's work.

Mrs. Geddes, who through illness was not able to attend the meeting, wrote that the past year had been a great success due to the enthusiasm and harmony in which members had worked. The Association had improved its financial stability each year since its inception seven years ago, she stated.

Continuing, Mrs. Geddes wrote: "I have not been able to pull my weight this year due to my two bouts of sickness but owing to good organisation and the splendid work of your senior vice-president, Mrs. Gloria Fergusson, you can look back on this last year with every satisfaction."

"During the year our second garden fete, by the courtesy of Dr. and Mrs. Fox, was held and repeated the success of our first year. Mrs. Brand's barbecue was a most pleasant and rewarding evening and we have to thank both Mr. and Mrs. Brand for the work they put into it. The Ladies' Bowling Association of Everglades and Woy Woy both held afternoons

the continual support from the Ettalong Old Age Pensioners' Association all shows that there is now an established awareness of the need for the District Nursing Service, and of the splendid work done by our two Sisters. For their help and interest we are very grateful.

"Our thanks go to member Mrs. Enid Evers for the trouble she went to in getting made and presenting us with two "Walkers".

"We have increased our membership considerably during the past year.

"I wish to thank very sincerely my two officers, Mrs. Gerard, treasurer, and Miss Hall, our secretary, for their work and support. We should also acknowledge with gratitude that large band of unseen and unknown supporters who consistently work for us. My thanks go to our Social Chairman and her Committee, and I think a special mention should be made of Bess Green who has always seen that our meetings ended on a happy note with a 'Cuppa'.

"It is with regret that I have had to refuse nomination for any office, but the past seven years I have served on your Committee have been rewarding and I value the friendships that have been formed. I look forward to being a 'back bencher'."

As acting president, Mrs. Fergusson presented a report of activities since the president's illness. Monies, she said, were raised by means of a guessing competition for a camera donated by member Val Young and her husband, by a Baby Show in October

with more than 260 entries, and by a competition for a room heater donated by Miss Jess Brown of Ettalong.

Mrs. Fergusson warmly thanked both the Everglades Women's Bowling Club who held a street stall for Association funds, and the Woy Woy Women's Bowling Club for a Gala Day to aid the Association. Regarding the second function Mrs. Fergusson said she could not let the opportunity pass without mentioning the valuable work done by member, Mrs. Bess Green for this event.

In December the Association held the Christmas party for patients. "This party", said Mrs. Fergusson, "is provided and catered for by all members. It is the members' gift to patients instead of a Christmas party for ourselves".

"At this juncture", she continued, "I want to sincerely thank the service clubs of the district for the wonderful assistance they gave us in transporting patients to this evening. Also the B.P.W. Club and Inner Wheel Club for gifts for Santa to give patients, and Inner Wheel members for visiting lonely patients, and Mr. Newman Silverthorne who supplies our "artists" with musical accompaniment at our parties".

Mrs. Fergusson thanked Matron Inskip and Mr. Boyce of Gosford Hospital for their co-operation at all times and the two District Nurses, Sisters Fagan and Warnecke, for their attendance at meetings and their keen interest in Association activities.

DEDICATED NURSES

"We are most fortunate", she said, "to have two capable and dedicated nurses in this area, and anyone who knows of any patient they attend will, no doubt, agree with me that both these sisters are very much loved by their patients".

Continuing, Mrs. Fergusson said: "I would ask the representative of all clubs present to convey to their members the sincere thanks of this Association for their help whenever we have asked for it. Without the support of these people our District Nursing Service could not be nearly as well equipped as it is today."

While acknowledging that all members of these clubs did their share Mrs. Fergusson said she wished to pay particular thanks to Rotary president Arch Newlands, Lions vice-president Ron Britten, Apexian Bill Anderson junior and Rotarians Bill Anderson senior and George Freeman and also Mr. Andy Carney, Mr. Mervyn Cullip and Mr. Arthur Morante.

The Association was also grateful, she added, to the Ettalong C.W.A. for the use of their hall free of charge for the monthly meetings.

In conclusion Mrs. Fergusson extended grateful thanks to her secretary, Miss G. Hall and treasurer Mrs. D. Gerard for their help and encouragement and all members for their loyal support and team-

The Social Committee's report was submitted by Mrs. Nell Cullip who outlined various social and money making activities during the year.

The housele afternoons each month had resulted in record takings and the Committee were grateful to the Station Officer at Ettalong Ambulance Station for his assistance, she said. Mrs. Cullip announced that the next housele day would be on August 10.

Coming events included a social night at the Ettalong Memorial Club that Friday and a hoy afternoon on Thursday, August 18, at Miss Whetton's home, 1 Pacific Avenue, Ettalong.

During the evening Sister Pat Fagan, on behalf of the Woy Woy Nursing Association, presented an attractive indoor planter trough complete with plants to Matron Inskip for the new wing of Gosford District Hospital.

At the conclusion of the meeting a delicious supper was served by Association members to their guests.

£1 APPEAL

Mrs. Bess Green has announced that she will commence collections for the Association's £1 Appeal this week. Donation boxes will also be placed in the usual locations throughout the district.

The next meeting of the Woy Woy Area District Nursing Association will be held in the Ettalong C.W.A.