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Title:

Speech at the unveiling of the foundation plaque in the new Samuel Way Building at the
Adelaide Children's Hospital

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SPEECH BY THE PREMIER, HON. DON DUNSTAN, G.C., M.P., AT THE UNVEILING OF THE FOUNDATION PLAQUE IN THE NEW SAMUEL WAY BUILDING AT THE ADELAIDE CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL.
17-11-67.

MR. CHAIRMAN, ETC. :

I AM DELIGHTED TO BE WITH YOU TODAY TO PERFORM THE HONORED FUNCTION OF UNVEILING THE FOUNDATION PLAQUE IN THIS NEW SAMUEL WAY BUILDING AT THE ADELAIDE CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL. THE LATE SIR SAMUEL WAY WAS A DISTINGUISHED SOUTH AUSTRALIAN CITIZEN. DURING HIS LIFETIME HE CONTRIBUTED MUCH OF VALUE TO THE STATE OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA. ONE OF HIS PARTICULAR INTERESTS WAS THE ADELAIDE CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL OF WHICH HE WAS PRESIDENT FROM THE INCEPTION OF THE HOSPITAL IN 1876 UNTIL HIS DEATH IN 1915. THAT PERIOD OF SERVICE WAS AN OUTSTANDING CONTRIBUTION TO A PUBLIC INSTITUTION OF GREAT IMPORTANCE TO THE STATE.

IN 1878, THE FIRST BUILDING OF THE ADELAIDE CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL WAS ERECTED ON THE SITE UPON WHICH THIS NEW BUILDING IS

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NOW BEING ERECTED. THE FOUNDATION STONE OF THAT ORIGINAL BUILDING WAS LAID BY SIR SAMUEL WAY ON 20TH JUNE OF THAT YEAR. IT IS THEREFORE MOST APPROPRIATE THAT THIS NEW BUILDING SHOULD BE NAMED THE SAMUEL WAY BUILDING. THE MEDICAL CARE AND TREATMENT OF THE CHILDREN OF THE COMMUNITY IS A MATTER OF PRIME IMPORTANCE. MY GOVERNMENT RECOGNISES THE NEED THAT THE ADELAIDE CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL MUST HAVE AVAILABLE TO IT AT ALL TIMES, PROPER ACCOMMODATION, EQUIPMENT AND STAFF, TO ENSURE THAT THE CHILDREN OF OUR COMMUNITY HAVE THE BEST AVAILABLE TREATMENT IN TIMES OF SICKNESS AND INJURY. I AND MY COLLEAGUES IN THE GOVERNMENT ARE PROUD OF OUR RECORD OF FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TO THE ADELAIDE CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL. IN THE FINANCIAL YEAR 1965-66, THE GOVERNMENT PAID TO THE HOSPITAL \$1,790,000 MADE UP OF A MAINTENANCE GRANT OF \$1,780,000 AND A CAPITAL GRANT OF \$10,000. DURING 1966-67, THE TOTAL GOVERNMENT PAYMENT TO THE HOSPITAL WAS \$2,458,267 - A SIGNIFICANT INCREASE OVER THE PREVIOUS YEAR. THIS TOTAL COMPRISED \$1,935,000 FOR

MAINTENANCE PURPOSES AND CAPITAL EXPENDITURE OF \$523,267. FOR THE CURRENT FINANCIAL YEAR, THE GOVERNMENT ESTIMATES PROVIDE FOR A PAYMENT OF \$2,789,000. IT IS ESTIMATED THAT THIS AMOUNT WILL COMPRISE \$2,189,000 FOR MAINTENANCE PURPOSES AND \$600,000 FOR CAPITAL EXPENDITURE.

I HAVE MENTIONED PREVIOUSLY THAT THE GOVERNMENT REGARDS THE SUCCESSFUL OPERATION OF THE ADELAIDE CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL AS A MATTER OF PRIME IMPORTANCE TO THE COMMUNITY. THE GOVERNMENT ALSO BELIEVES THAT THE COMMUNITY WISHES TO SHARE IN THE RESPONSIBILITY OF MAINTAINING THE HOSPITAL AT A HIGH STANDARD. I PUBLICLY ACKNOWLEDGE TODAY THE APPRECIATION OF THE GOVERNMENT FOR THE SUPPORT AND ASSISTANCE THAT THE GENERAL PUBLIC PROVIDE TO AID THE WORK OF THE ADELAIDE CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL. THE CONTINUED FINANCIAL SUPPORT FROM THE GENERAL PUBLIC, AIDED BY FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FROM THE GOVERNMENT TO THE EXTENT I HAVE MENTIONED, WILL ENABLE THE ADELAIDE CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL TO CONTINUE ITS PROUD RECORD OF

SERVICE TO OUR CHILDREN.

I UNDERSTAND THAT THE COST OF THIS NEW BUILDING IS OF THE ORDER OF \$1,800,000. THIS FIGURE CONTRASTS WITH THE COST OF THE ORIGINAL BUILDING ON THIS SITE IN 1879, ERECTED AT A COST OF £6,000 OR \$12,000.

IN ORDER TO ENABLE A HOSPITAL TO FUNCTION EFFICIENTLY, MUCH MORE IS NEEDED THAN HOSPITAL WARDS AND BEDS AND EQUIPMENT. PROVISION MUST BE MADE TO ACCOMMODATE THE NECESSARY STAFF AND THIS NEW BUILDING WILL PROVIDE SUITABLE ACCOMMODATION FOR A NURSES HOME. NURSES IN TRAINING REQUIRE CONTINUAL EDUCATION IN THEIR PROFESSION AND THE BUILDING WILL ALSO PROVIDE ACCOMMODATION FOR A TUTORIAL DEPARTMENT, WHICH WILL PROVIDE ACCOMMODATION FOR LECTURES AND OTHER NECESSARY INSTRUCTION. IT WILL ALSO PROVIDE A WARD FOR THE CARE AND ATTENTION OF NURSES IN TIME OF SICKNESS.

MR. CHAIRMAN :

BEFORE UNVEILING THIS PLAQUE, I EXPRESS APPRECIATION TO THE MEMBERS OF YOUR BOARD AND ALL MEMBERS OF THE STAFF OF THE ADELAIDE CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL FOR THE MANNER IN WHICH THEY CARRY OUT THEIR DUTIES. THEIR SUCCESS IS RECOGNIZED THROUGHOUT THE WHOLE STATE, AND IT IS FITTING THAT I PLACE ON RECORD TODAY, THE APPRECIATION NOT ONLY OF THE GOVERNMENT BUT I BELIEVE ALL CITIZENS OF THE STATE.

IT IS WITH PLEASURE THAT I NOW UNVEIL THE FOUNDATION PLAQUE OF THIS NEW SAMUEL WAY BUILDING.
