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Title:

Speech by Dr John Cornwall representing the premier at Adelaide Children's Hospital

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9.10.75.

2754

SIR CLARENCE RIEGER, MEMBERS OF THE BOARD, MR. GIBBS, DR. McCOY,
PARLIAMENTARY COLLEAGUES, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN :

FIRSTLY, MAY I APOLOGISE ON BEHALF OF THE PREMIER AND TREASURER,
MR. DUNSTAN, WHO IS ATTENDING OFFICIAL ENGAGEMENTS IN MOUNT GAMBIER
AND MILLICENT TODAY. HE DID ASK ME, HOWEVER, TO CONVEY HIS
APPRECIATION OF THE HOSPITAL'S WORK AND TO ASSURE YOU OF THE SOUTH
AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT'S CONTINUED STRONG SUPPORT FOR THE ADELAIDE
CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL.

WE ALL KNOW WHAT A MARVELLOUS JOB THE HOSPITAL DOES, ALTHOUGH WHEN
ANYONE CONSIDERS HOSPITALS THEY TEND TO AUTOMATICALLY THINK OF THE
DEDICATED MEDICAL AND NURSING STAFF WITHOUT REALISING THE TREMENDOUS

.2

AMOUNT OF ADMINISTRATIVE WORK NECESSARY FOR SUCH A LARGE ORGANISATION
TO FUNCTION. AND WITHOUT IN ANY WAY LESSENING THE VITAL ROLE - AND
DEDICATION - OF THE MEDICAL AND NURSING STAFF UNDER THE CHARGE OF
DR. McCOY AND MISS JAMES, IT GIVES ME REAL PLEASURE TO MOVE THIS
VOTE OF THANKS TO THE BOARD OF MANAGEMENT.

THE ADELAIDE CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL IS NOT ONLY A CENTRE OF LIFESAVING
SKILLS - IT IS A VERY LARGE UNDERTAKING WHICH REQUIRES A GREAT DEAL
OF TIME AND DEVOTION ON THE PART OF THE BOARD MEMBERS. IN MONEY
TERMS ALONE, IT IS A VERY COMPLEX ORGANISATION. AS SIR CLARENCE
POINTS OUT IN THE BOARD'S ANNUAL REPORT, THE HOSPITAL HAD A TOTAL
INCOME LAST FINANCIAL YEAR OF \$13.31 MILLIONS, AND TOTAL OUTLAYS
OF \$13.28 MILLIONS. APART FROM ANYTHING ELSE, THE SMALL SURPLUS
REFLECTS SOME UNUSUALLY FINE BUDGETING, FOR WHICH I THINK WE ALL

FEEL THE BOARD SHOULD BE CONGRATULATED.

IN 1970-71, THE HOSPITAL RECEIVED AND SPENT \$5.5 MILLIONS, AND WITHIN FOUR YEARS THAT HAS ALMOST TREBLED TO THE \$13 MILLIONS OF LAST YEAR. AS WELL, YOU HAVE ALREADY STARTED AN EXPANSION PROGRAMME WHICH ON 1974 BUILDING PRICES WILL COST \$18.5 MILLIONS, AND BY THE TIME THE THIRD STAGE IS COMPLETED - HOPEFULLY IN SIX YEARS TIME - THAT COST WILL BE VASTLY DIFFERENT.

THE STATE GOVERNMENT REALISES THE IMPORTANCE OF THE ADELAIDE CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL, AND LAST YEAR CONTRIBUTED \$9.15 MILLIONS (ABOUT 70%) OF THE HOSPITAL'S REVENUE. THIS INCLUDED A SUPPLEMENTARY GRANT OF \$1.73 MILLIONS LATER IN THE YEAR TO COVER THE UNEXPECTEDLY LARGE NUMBER OF WAGE AND SALARY INCREASES, A FACTOR WHICH HAS AN EVEN GREATER IMPACT ON AN ORGANISATION SUCH AS A HOSPITAL WHICH, OF ITS NATURE, IS FAIRLY LABOUR INTENSIVE.

AS WELL, THE GOVERNMENT HAS PROVIDED ALMOST \$600,000 FOR THE CONSULTANTS' FEES FOR THE BUILDING DEVELOPMENT, AND NO DOUBT AS THE PROJECT GATHERS PACE, WILL CONTRIBUTE MUCH LARGER SUMS MORE FREQUENTLY.

BUT NO MATTER HOW MUCH THE GOVERNMENT DOES, IT IS A VERY DEMANDING AND COMPLEX TASK WHICH CONTINUALLY FACES THE BOARD OF MANAGEMENT. THEY PERFORM THEIR ONEROUS TASK WILLINGLY AND VOLUNTARILY, CONCERNED ONLY WITH THE WELFARE OF THE HOSPITAL, ITS STAFF AND, MOST IMPORTANTLY, THE CHILDREN WHO ARE BROUGHT HERE FOR TREATMENT.

I HAVE VERY MUCH PLEASURE IN MOVING A VOTE OF THANKS TO THE BOARD OF MANAGEMENT.

THANK YOU.

SPEECH BY DR. JOHN CORNWALL M.L.C. (REPRESENTING THE PREMIER) AT THE ADELAIDE CHILDRENS' HOSPITAL. 9.10.75.

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