



**CEREMONY** — Mother Mary Genevieve, O.P., president of Dominican hospital board, turns shovel of dirt a ceremony for new Dominican Santa Cruz Hospital. About 300 persons attended the ceremony, which was held at the hospital's 17-acre site along Paul Sweet road in Santa Cruz.

## Rites Open Work On Hospital

**SANTA CRUZ** — Ground was broken Monday for the new Dominican Santa Cruz Hospital, which by far will be the largest hospital in Santa Cruz County.

About 300 persons attended a groundbreaking ceremony at the hospital's 17-acre site just off Santa Cruz - Watsonville freeway near the Paul Sweet road overpass.

Work on the \$5,000,000 facility will start within 20 days of

### FEAR BED SURPLUS

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## Doctors Protesting Hospital Growth

**SANTA CRUZ** — Santa Cruz County Supervisors apparently intend to ignore the County Medical Society's request that County General Hospital's \$3,000,000 expansion project be delayed for at least a year.

Directors of the medical society, in a letter to supervisors, say a "surplus" of hospital beds may result when the new medicare program goes into effect.

The supervisors have taken no official action on the letter, but have indicated they don't agree with the society's prediction.

Bids for the project will be called on Wednesday. The supervisors have made no attempt to call off the bid opening.

Dr. Daniel M. Seftel, society president, said in a letter to the supervisors that the expansion project "would be unnecessary, wasteful, unwise and perhaps illegal."

Supervisors' Chairman Thomas Black has said he doesn't think the medical society's letter expresses the feeling of the

pitals when the medicare program is in full operation.

Under the federal medicare program, persons 65 years or older qualify for free hospital benefits. The state also has a medicare program, under which county indigents will receive hospital benefits and will be permitted to choose the hospital, private or otherwise.

Dr. Seftel contends most patients will go to a private hospital, leaving the county hospital with a surplus of beds.

The supervisors flatly deny this. They say more beds probably will be needed because persons who previously couldn't afford medical attention will now be in a position to obtain it.

They are referring mostly to persons over 65, not just county indigents.

The medical society had asked for a one-year delay in the hospital project, until

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About 300 persons attended a groundbreaking ceremony at the hospital's 17-acre site just off Santa Cruz - Watsonville freeway near the Paul Sweet road overpass.

Work on the \$5,000,000 facility will start within 30 days, officials said. The hospital will have 150 beds at first. Another wing, containing 100 beds, will be constructed later.

The hospital is being erected by the Dominican Order of Nuns, operators of Sisters Hospital and Santa Cruz Hospital here.

The new hospital will replace the existing two hospitals. However, plans call for continued use of Santa Cruz Hospital as a convalescent-type facility, a spokesman for the hospital said.

Honored guests for the ceremony were the Rt. Rev. Monsignor James G. Dowling, vicar general of Monterey - Fresno Diocese, and Mother Mary Genevieve, O.P., president of the hospital board, who started the plan for a new hospital.

Joseph R. Alcantara, chairman of the hospital's fund-raising campaign, also gave a short address.

The ceremony climaxed a year-long fund raising drive. Federal grants and money from the sale of Sisters Hospital will be used for the project.

The sprawling, one - story hospital was designed by Raymond Zambrano of the firm of Rex Whitaker Allen & Associates of San Francisco.

The hospital complex will include a chapel, seating 80 persons, and living quarters, located in a separate wing, for nuns, who will work at the hospital.

The chapel will be for persons of all faiths, hospital officials said.

the supervisors that the expansion project "would be unnecessary, wasteful, unwise and perhaps illegal."

Supervisors' Chairman Thomas Black has said he doesn't think the medical society's letter expresses the feeling of the majority of physicians in the county.

Dr. Seftel contends that the county hospital would be in competition with private hos-



CHARLES S. GUBSER  
... Hits 'leftwingers'

## Gubser's Candidacy Official

Candidacy of Rep. Charles S. Gubser (R-Gilroy) for an eighth two-year term in the House of Representatives became official yesterday, as he took out nominating petitions here.

The 50-year-old lawmaker represents Santa Clara County's 10th District.

Born in Gilroy, he attended Santa Clara University.

They are referring mostly to persons over 65, not just county indigents.

The medical society had asked for a one-year delay in the hospital project, until it can be determined what effect medicare will have locally.

The supervisors, however, say architectural plans for the project have been prepared and federal aid to build the project has been approved.

The project calls for a 65-bed building to replace the county's old, two-story hospital at 1080 Emeline Ave. The existing building, which has been declared substandard, would be torn down. Kitchen and laundry facilities will also be built.

## AFTER TAX GOES UP

# Aptos Fire Vote Fight

APTOS — A red hot contest has shaped up for a vacancy on the Board of Commissioners of Aptos Fire Protection District, which recently underwent a tax hike from 18 cents to 59 cents per \$100 assessed valuation.

It will be the first election of a commissioner in 12 years.

Commissioners in past years faced no opposition at the polls and the existing three members that make up the commission all were appointed to their posts.

The three candidates in the race are Walter Jordan, a retired public utilities company official; Reginald Dewar, Aptos

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