

# Drive Begins For New \$5-Million SC Hospital

Hospitals - Dominican Hospital

A campaign to raise \$1 million in contributions and pledges as the first step in financing a new \$5 million hospital begins this week.

The modern institution will be called Dominican Santa Cruz hospital and is to replace the dated Sisters hospital on West Cliff drive and the Santa Cruz hospital on Soquel drive.

Its proposed 150 beds will nearly double that of the two present Catholic buildings and it will bring to the Santa Cruz area facilities for modern medical treatment which now are available only in San Francisco and San Jose.

Joseph R. Alcantara, campaign general chairman, said a site has been selected on 17 acres presently occupied by Coates Nursery just north of Soquel avenue interchange on Paul Sweet road, near the California Highway patrol office.

This is just outside the city limits.

The two present hospitals eventually will be sold with the stipulation that they not be used as hospitals.

Headquarters for the fund campaign is on the mezzanine floor of the Hotel Palomar. The phone number is 426-7171.

Rex Whitaker Allen, whose firm specializes in hospital architecture, has been selected to design the three-level structure.

Sisters hospital with 28 beds and Santa Cruz with 51 beds are now operating in buildings constructed 42 and 36 years ago, said Alcantara.

"The Sisters have made

many essential improvements but it would be unwise economy and virtually impossible to bring these hospital plants up to the advanced and exacting requirements of modern medical and surgical science," he said.

Both hospitals are, of course, non-profit institutions.

Sixty per cent of the patients who have used the two hospitals in the past have been non-Catholics.

The Dominican Sisters who devote their lives to medical welfare without material remunerations, plan the new hospital as a community health center with facilities equal to those in the metropolitan areas.

For example it will have a 15-bed psychiatric department; an eight-bed intensive care unit where critically ill can be under 24-hour observation by especially trained nurses.

The hospital will have an eight-bed recovery room in the surgical suite.

A large physical therapy department will add another service in the program.

Alcantara said that the Santa Cruz hospital admitted a total of 2945 patients during 1964 for a 79 per cent occupancy.

Sisters admitted 1404 or 78.5 per cent of bed capacity. Health authorities regard 60 to 65 per cent bed occupancy as maximum for acute, general hospitals and hospitals operating above this percentage are considered to be dangerously overcrowded, according to the president of the lay advisory board.

There will be a chapel in the new institution seating 50 for use of persons of all religious faiths, as a place for prayer or meditation.

Contributions of all amounts are welcomed for the new hospital.

A Founders' Club has been organized and headed by Attorney J. Frank Murphy, Sr. A contribution of \$10,000 or more to the hospital will assure membership.

The campaign committee is composed of the following, besides the two mentioned above:

Stephen S. Barat, vice-chairman and chairman of industrial division.

Franklin Robertson, vice-chairman, industrial division.

Eugene Prolo, vice chairman, advance gifts division and Founders' club.

Alfred O. Haber, chairman, business and professional division.

George Penniman, chairman, clubs and organizations division.

James H. Hammond, chairman, public relations division.

Ralph V. Bargetto, chairman, service area.

Mrs. Charles M. Brunjes, president, hospital auxiliary Dominican Santa Cruz-Sisters.

Roy C. Johnson, chairman, finance and auditing division.

Sister M. Georganne, O. P. and Sister M. Carolyn, O. P., representatives of Sisters of St. Dominic.

Chairmen spots still to be secured: medical staff division, women's activities division, employees division and church cooperation committee.