

HDH annual meet

Has money, needs beds

by Murray Moore

There was some good news and some bad news delivered at the annual meeting of the Corporation of Huronia District Hospital Monday night.

The good news was that the hospital ended the year slightly more than \$30,000 under budget. This compares with a \$10,033 deficit the previous year.

The other news came in the form of an opinion from the hospital's chief of staff, Dr. Hollister King.

King said he could see the possibility under present circumstances where the only way for a patient to be admitted would be if his doctor put him in the emergency receiving area. A patient placed there might have to wait several days for a bed in a regular ward, he said.

Patients

King explained the hospital has 35 beds for active patients. However 13 are occupied by chronic cases, and eight more beds are occupied for more than three weeks at a time. Left for active medical cases are only 15 beds.

Waiting in the emergency area would be at least unpleasant, said King. In addition, a doctor, knowing a patient going into hospital might have to spend time outside a regular ward, might hesitate to take a step he would otherwise make, he said.

Dr. King said the only place available for a new patient could be the intensive care unit.

Hospital Administrator Ted Pritchard said the combined deficit of hospitals serving Toronto is in excess of \$50 million, by way of example of how hard pressed Ontario hospitals are by budget restraints.

The hospital had to hire an outside consultant, he said, to prove to the Ministry of Health that Huronia District Hospital is run ef-

ficiently, and that there is no room for savings, in order to qualify for grants.

Expenses amounted

to more than \$5.5 million, said the administrator. Eighty per cent of the expenditure went towards salaries

and wages, leaving the hospital, he said, with little room to manoeuvre.

Demand

The surge of demand in the last year for gold and silver gave a boost to the hospital's budget. When silver was selling for record amounts, the hospital received \$16,000 for used x-ray film, up from \$1,500 the previous year.

More patients were treated, and more operations were done, but the hospital was forced to run on less money, Pritchard said.

Another saving came from the fact that less was spent on snow removal last winter, because less snow than usual fell.

And the hospital is not ahead if it is thrifty and comes in under budget, Pritchard said, because the ministry of health will take back whatever surplus is left at the end of a year.

Important workshop scheduled for Oct. 23

A workshop on how to start your own small business will be held Oct. 23 at Midland Secondary School for anyone interested in important considerations to be reviewed before starting a business.

Registration is limited, so that anyone wanting to join the session should register immediately by calling Sharon Clark at 728-6072.

Fee is \$10 and includes an audio-visual presentation and necessary texts.

Arranged by the management services department of the Federal Business Development Bank, the workshop is co-sponsored by Midland Chamber of Commerce. The workshop is a two-and-a-half hour presentation and begins at 7 p.m. sharp.

Obituary

The death occurred Sept. 13, 1980 of William Albert Cooper of 19 Robert Street W., Apt. 2 Penetanguishene.

Ministerial Association

The local ministerial association exists to foster mutual support and understanding among local clergy and to encourage the sharing of goals and activities in local churches.

Mr. Cooper died at his residence, following a sudden illness.

He was in his 76th year.

Mr. Cooper was born in Birminghamshire, England, lived most of his life in Orillia, Ont. and spent the last 19 years in Penetanguishene.

He was predeceased by his first wife Janet Leslie, his second wife, Jean McLeod and his

sister Doris Mackey.

A retired employee of the Mental Health Centre in Midland, he had been farm foreman there for 10 years prior to retiring.

Mr. Cooper is survived by one son, Les Cooper of Orillia, a brother, George Cooper of Galt and three sisters: Mae Peters and Flo Gilmore of Hamilton and Lillian Marcey of Galt. He is



Thanks a lot

Mae Newburn, Midland Minor Hockey V.P. is obviously pleased to receive a \$500 cheque from Bell Canada representative Pete Abram. The cheque is Bell's donation to the Bell

Canada Rep team, now in its second year of participation in the Georgian Bay League. The money will pay for two sweaters for each member of the team.

William A. Cooper

also survived by two grandchildren.

Mr. Cooper's funeral

was held Sept. 16, 1980 at Wallace Funeral Home in Hamilton, Ont. with

interment later at White Chapel Memorial Garden, Hamilton.

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