

Regional district to spend \$1.7 million on Victoria buildings

The Capital Regional Board has agreed to purchase the heritage building it has rented for the past five years. Purchase price is \$737,000.

The three-storey brick building was built in 1896 by Simon Leiser, an importer and wholesale grocer. In later years it was used as a furniture warehouse, and is now designated as a heritage building.

The old building was in a part of the city which had gradually deteriorated over the years. It was acquired by the Victoria Environ-

mental Enhancement Foundation, which gave the building a new life through an extensive renovation.

The Capital Regional Board, which used to be located in Bastion Square, moved into the Simon Leiser building in the spring of 1973. It purchased an adjoining building at 534 Yates Street for \$140,000 in November 1977, and the board plans to consolidate the two into a single office building.

Total cost of acquiring and renovating the buildings is estimated at \$1.7 million, and the

Capital Regional District will have some surplus space in the finished building which it hopes to rent to another agency.

In announcing the purchase and plans for expansion, Regional Board chairman Jim Campbell said there will be considerable benefits to the community.

Funds derived by the Victoria Environmental Enhancement Foundation from the sale of its building are to be invested in other property which will benefit the public, he said.

Also, there will be a considerable saving over the years in the form of reduced costs per square foot of office space, as a result of a better allocation of space.

Auxiliary bakes a cake



Marking National Hospital Day

BY ELSIE MACDONALD
National Hospital Day, May 12, was observed this year by Lady Minto Hospital Auxiliary in a smaller and more unique way than in previous years.

For many years a formal "open house" was held. This has become less desirable now that the hospital is larger and busier.

To mark Hospital Day in 1978 a large decorated cake was presented to the entire staff, to be shared at coffee breaks. The cake, made and iced by Mrs. Daisy Gear, was appropriately decorated. The design featured a nurse's cap, stethoscope, hypodermic needle, an assortment of pills, and the words "Thank You for Caring".

A warm vote of thanks was given to Mrs. Gear by Hospital Auxiliary members at their recent meeting.

Mrs. Nora Chester reported the sale of handwork done by Extended Care residents raised the sum of \$84. This will be applied to the purchase of handicraft materials. Mrs. Chester said that only four or five of the residents are physically

able to participate in the occupational therapy program.

NEW SIGN

Mrs. Mary Yellowlees reporting for the Thrift Shop, said a new and attractive sign will soon be ready to hang outside the Shop.

Delegates to the recent Provincial Auxiliary conference, president Mrs. Vera Petapiece and treasurer Mrs. Lillian Martin, gave interesting reports.

There are now 89 male members of hospital auxiliaries throughout the province. There has been an encouraging increase in the number of youth workers, at present known as Candy Strippers because of the design of their uniform material. A new name for the young volunteers is under consideration.

Reports from hospital auxiliaries all over British Columbia show Lady Minto to be well to the front in the area of small hospitals. The local group raised more than \$26,000 last year and marked up 1,300 volunteer work hours, shared by almost all of the Auxiliary's 95 members.

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Duplicate Bridge

Legion duplicate bridge club winners at Ganges on May 30 were 1. Aage Villadsen and Gordon Hutton; 2. Hilda Orchard and Annie McConnell; 3. Mary K. Thomas and Shirley Love.

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