

# Paulley To Turn Sod

Labor Minister A. R. (Russ) Paulley will turn the first sod Saturday to start construction of the new \$8 million Concordia Hospital in East Kildonan.

The sod turning ceremony, which is to be preceded by several brief speeches by Mr. Paulley and other provincial officials, will highlight a half-hour ceremony at the site of the new 132-bed hospital at Birds Hill Road and Concordia Avenue.

Within a few days of the ceremony, work crews are expected to move on to the site and begin laying the preliminary foundations of the new building.

The new facility, when completed in early 1974, will replace the existing 51-year-old Concordia Hospital building at 400 Desalaberry Street in the Elwood district of Winnipeg.

The present building was constructed in about 1920 and was used as the Winnipeg Sanatorium until 1932 when it was taken over by the Mennonite Society of Manitoba and converted into the Concordia Hospital.

Hospital officials say that, although the new building will allow for 132 beds, it is being constructed "in a manner that will allow future expansion when the need becomes obvious."

The weekend ground-breaking ceremony will get under way at 2 p.m. at the nearby Bethania Nursing Home, 1045 Concordia Avenue, and will be moved outside to the new hospital site at about 2:15 p.m.