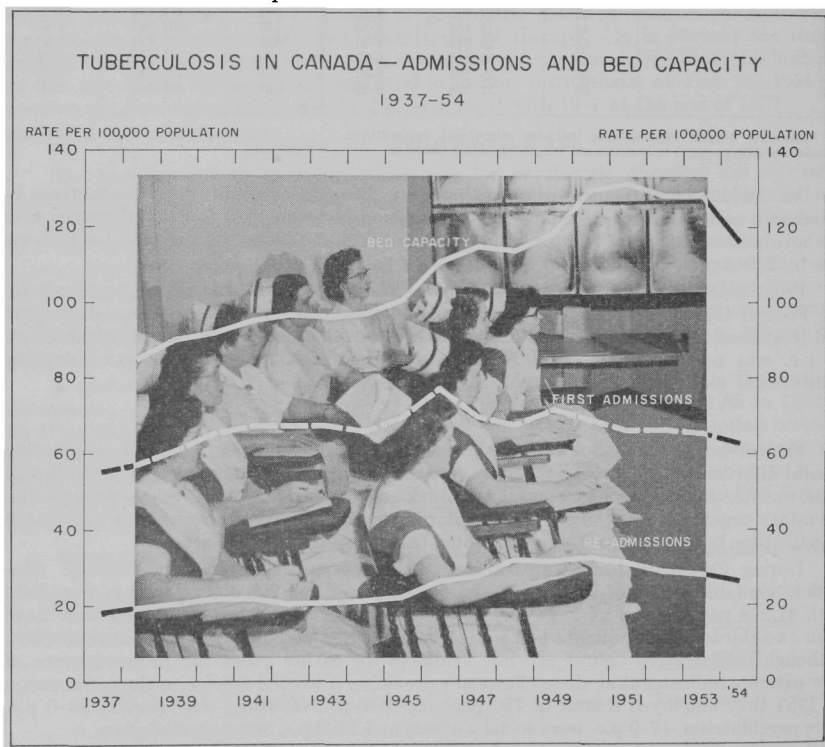


TUBERCULOSIS*

During the past two decades great progress has been made in the fight against tuberculosis in Canada but though improved treatment methods, extended facilities and strengthened control measures have produced significant results the disease still remains a major public health problem.

At the end of 1954 one hundred out of every hundred thousand Canadians were patients in tuberculosis sanatoria or units of general hospitals. In 1938 the rate stood at 78—the lowest on record—but increased each year until 1952 when it reached a peak of 111. The 1954 rate, the lowest in seven years, also reflects the reversal of a rising trend in the absolute number of patients in tuberculosis hospitals. The trend began in 1938 and the 1954 total of 15,220, which was 5.2 p.c. lower than that for the preceding year, was the first decrease ever reported.



ADMISSIONS TO SANATORIA

During the period 1938-54 total tuberculous and non-tuberculous admissions to Canadian tuberculosis institutions increased 66.2 p.c.; first admissions increased 59.2 p.c. and re-admissions increased 88.6 p.c. The increases in the actual number of admissions are partly accounted for by the 36.4 p.c. increase in the Canadian population during the same period but, when the numbers are converted into rates and the effect of the population increase thereby eliminated, the increase in the rate of admissions is also found to be significant. The total rate for tuberculous and non-tuberculous admissions rose from

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