

The increase from 1946 to 1954 in actual number of beds set up was 4,089 or 30.1 p.c. (see Table 7, below). The percentage occupancy of these beds varied erratically during the 1938-54 period but the 1954 figure of 92.2 was the highest since 1941. A comparison of the tuberculous admission rate per hundred thousand population with a similar rate for bed complement shows that whereas the former began declining in 1950 and has dropped steadily since then, the latter continued to climb until 1951 when it reached an alltime high of 131.5 and exceeded the tuberculous admission rate by almost 34 per hundred thousand population. In 1954 beds exceeded tuberculous admissions by just over 27 per hundred thousand.

There is statistical evidence that beds for tuberculous patients are being occupied for longer periods in recent years (see Table 7) and in the period 1944-54 the average stay of tuberculous patients who were finally discharged rose by slightly more than 50 days. An even more significant increase was evident in the average stay of tuberculous patients who died in tuberculosis institutions; in the same period their average stay increased by 150 days. It should be noted that the lengthening stays of tuberculous discharges and of those who died increased 20.3 p.c. and 43.5 p.c. respectively since 1944 and were most pronounced since 1950. From that year to 1954 the average stay of tuberculous discharges rose 16.4 p.c. and of tuberculous deaths 30.6 p.c.

The increases in average stay of discharges and deaths have followed the introduction of the antibiotics streptomycin, PAS, and isoniazid. The use of streptomycin was first reported in 1947 when 0.01 p.c. of the patients received this treatment; in 1954 the figure stood at 80.7 p.c. In 1949, PAS was first reported and 0.1 p.c. of the patients received it; in 1954 the percentage rose to 74.0. Isoniazid was first reported in 1952 as being given to 4.5 p.c. of the tuberculous patients; two years later the figure had risen to 49.7 p.c.

In recent years there has been greatly increased activity in case-finding programs. From 1944 to 1954 an increase of 353.2 p.c. occurred in the number of examinations made by X-ray surveys although small declines were reported for 1952 and 1953. In terms of examinations per thousand population, the rate of 44.7 in 1944 rose to 145.8 in 1951, declined to 130.7 in 1953 and rose again to 134.4 in 1954. In the same period a 70.4 p.c. increase was reported in the number of cases of tuberculosis newly diagnosed by clinics and dispensaries.

The treatment of tuberculous patients and the services and facilities provided have required increasing staff and increasing expenditures. The increase in sanatoria personnel during the 1938-54 period amounted to 190.5 p.c. and number of personnel per 100 patients rose from 42.2 to 78.4. Expenditure in non-federal sanatoria increased 464.9 p.c. from \$5,700,000 in 1938 to \$32,200,000 in 1953, while the cost per patient-day increased by 171.7 p.c. from \$2.30 to \$6.25 (see Table 4, p. 253).

7.—Bed Complement, Occupancy and Stay of Tuberculous Discharges, and Deaths in Tuberculosis Institutions 1938-54

Year	Bed Complement	Percentage Occupancy	Average Days' Stay of—	
			Discharges	Deaths
	No.	p.c.	No.	No.
1938	8,825	91.0	..	..
1939	10,160	92.3	..	..
1940	10,459	91.9	..	..
1941	10,911	92.7	..	..
1942	11,245	91.6	..	..
1943	11,319	91.9	..	..
1944	11,576	90.2	320.5	346.4
1945	12,105	90.2	316.4	359.3
1946	13,594	86.7	286.6	344.8
1947	14,355	84.5	298.2	355.9
1948	14,512	91.3	289.8	347.8
1949	15,825	91.3	311.8	389.9
1950	17,790	86.9	331.3	380.7
1951	18,407	89.1	300.9	459.3
1952	18,501	90.8	336.7	412.9
1953	18,977	91.5	361.5	425.9
1954	17,683	92.2	371.9	497.1