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STATE OF COLORADO

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WELFARE
State Capitol Annex
Denver, Colorado

June 18, 1946

Mr. Earl M. Kouns, Director,
and Members of the Board of the
Colorado State Department of Public Welfare.

Gentlemen:

It gives me pleasure to submit to you a statistical report for the year ending December 31, 1945, and a brief summary of the tuberculosis program from its inception, July 1, 1937, until December 31, 1945.

These reports, being of a statistical nature, do not and cannot reveal some of the most essential attributes of this program. At the present time, we are placing cases in eleven (11) institutions that have been approved by the State Welfare Board. This, in itself, is of distinct advantage, for the following reasons:

1. In most instances, it permits patients to be hospitalized nearer their homes than if we had just one sanatorium;

2. It also makes possible the transfer of patients from one sanatorium to another, if they fail to make adjustments to sanatorium life, and, if, after a proper study is made, it is determined that a change to another sanatorium is definitely indicated.

Nos. 1 and 2 have some disadvantages, but I think the desirability and advantages far exceed the disadvantages. Our experience has shown that patients will accept hospitalization near their homes more readily than going even a hundred miles, and I am convinced that patients have accepted hospitalization for this reason who otherwise would have postponed or not accepted hospitalization at all. It makes it possible also for the relatives and the County Departments to have more frequent and closer contacts with the patients.

Four of the institutions are general hospitals which maintain and operate a sanatorium in connection with the general hospital. I think this makes an excellent type of institution for all cases of tuberculosis, and more especially for those patients giving birth to infants. The facilities of the general hospital, the services of the nursing and medical staff are at all times available as an accessory in handling such cases, and the newly born infant is taken to the nursery for proper feeding and care, and proper rules of hygiene are maintained.

For the major part of the time that this program has been operating, the problem of medical, nursing and dental services, also skilled and unskilled labor, has become increasingly difficult, because of the advancing prices of labor, provisions and supplies, and because so many doctors and nurses joined the armed forces. These institutions have not complained but have tried to render all the services that was within their power to give.

**Colo. State Department
Public Welfare Library**

When the Initiated Act was passed, it provided as follows:

SECTION 9: EXTENT AND MANNER OF ASSISTANCE. Recipients shall be admitted to and treated in such sanatoria, and therein or otherwise receive such treatment for tuberculosis, and be discharged, as the Director in each case shall determine and in accordance with the rules and regulations which shall insure uniform and impartial handling of cases of substantially similar nature; the amount of assistance to each recipient for hospitalization shall not exceed two dollars and fifty cents (\$2.50) per day, to be paid monthly out of the Tuberculosis Fund of the county of the recipient's residence, to the sanatoria in which recipient shall receive treatment upon vouchers therefor approved by the Director; and the necessary transportation of recipients shall also be paid out of said fund; Provided, that in selecting sanatoria consideration shall be given recipient's religious beliefs, places of residence and consistent desires with relation to location; and recipients shall be admitted only to sanatoria located in the State which have been approved as to equipment, management and operation by the Director and State Department, and which have on file with the Director rate schedules whereunder assistance will be available to recipients.

It was soon obvious that the first annual appropriation of \$50,000 made by the Legislature was woefully below the cost of hospitalization, and in 1941 the Legislature was asked to increase the amount of the appropriation. After a thorough consideration for the need for additional money, the Legislature made available \$100,000 annually. Since 1941 each succeeding Legislature has appropriated \$100,000 annually, to carry out the provisions of the law.

In 1943, the Legislature amended the law as follows:

Chapter 153, Section 8. PERSONS ELIGIBLE FOR ASSISTANCE. Assistance shall be given to any applicant who

- (a) Has actually resided, as distinguished from legal residence in the State, for three or more years at the time of application, or was born within the State within three years immediately preceding application;
- (b) Is suffering from tuberculosis in any form requiring treatment; and
- (c) Is without sufficient means, in the absence of aid, to obtain such treatment.

Section 9, Chapter 216, Session Laws of Colorado, 1937, is amended to read as follows:

Section 9: EXTENT AND MANNER OF ASSISTANCE. Recipients shall be admitted to and treated in such sanatoria, and therein or otherwise receive such treatment for tuberculosis, and be discharged, as the Director in each case shall determine and in accordance with the rules and regulations which shall insure uniform and impartial handling of cases of substantially similar nature; the amount of assistance for hospitalization and other care shall not exceed an average of \$3.00 per day per patient, to be paid out of the Tuberculosis Fund of the county of recipient's residence, as provided by rules and regulations of the State Department, and the expense of necessary transportation of recipients shall also be paid out of said fund; provided that in selecting sanatoria consideration shall be given recipients' religious beliefs,

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places of residence and consistent desires with relation to location; and recipients shall be admitted only to sanatoria located in the State which have been approved as to equipment, management and operation by the Director and State Department, and which have on file with the Director rate schedules whereunder assistance will be available to recipients.

In 1945 the law was again amended as follows:

Chapter 197 of the Session Laws of 1945. Section 9.
EXTENT AND MANNER OF ASSISTANCE. Recipients shall be admitted to and treated in such sanatoria, and therein or otherwise receive such treatment for tuberculosis, and be discharged, as the Director in each case shall determine and in accordance with the rules and regulations which shall insure uniform and impartial handling of cases of substantially similar nature; provided that in selecting sanatoria consideration shall be given to recipients' religious beliefs, places of residence, and consistent desires with reference to location.

The amount of assistance for hospitalization and other care shall not exceed an average of four dollars (\$4.00) per day per patient, to be paid out of the Tuberculosis Fund of the county of the recipient's residence, as provided by the rules and regulations of the State Department; and the expense of necessary transportation of recipients shall also be paid out of said fund.

Recipients shall be admitted only to sanatoria located in the State which have been approved as to equipment, management and operation by the Director and the State Department, and which have on file with the Director rate schedules whereunder assistance shall be available to recipients.

Since the number of applications was greater than anticipated, the amount of the appropriation made by the Legislature was not sufficient to meet the obligations incurred for hospitalization. The Colorado State Department of Public Welfare, when asked to provide additional funds, made available additional money in an amount sufficient so that we could accept all cases. This indeed has been encouraging; nevertheless, the advance in costs has been rapid, and I think there can be no doubt that the institutions have had to bear, from their private resources, some of the expenses incurred.

May I suggest that the Legislature again be asked to amend the law as follows:

EXTENT AND MANNER OF ASSISTANCE. Recipients shall be admitted to and treated in such sanatoria, and therein or otherwise receive such treatment for tuberculosis, and be discharged, as the Director in each case shall determine and in accordance with the rules and regulations which shall insure uniform and impartial handling of cases of substantially similar nature; the amount of assistance for hospitalization and other care shall not exceed an average of \$6.00 or \$7.00 per day per patient, to be paid out of the Tuberculosis Fund of the county of the recipient's residence, as provided by the rules and regulations of the State Department, and the expense of necessary transportation of recipients shall also be paid out of said fund; provided that in selecting sanatoria consideration shall be given to recipients' religious beliefs, places of residence and consistent desires with relation to location; and recipients shall be admitted only to sanatoria located in the State which have

been approved as to equipment, management and operation by the Director and State Department, and which have on file with the Director rate schedules whereunder assistance will be available to recipients.

I believe that the institutions are having to pay double the salaries for graduate nurses, who are known as supervisors. The salaries of other nurses are at least 50% higher than they were ten years ago. Many graduate nurses will accept private nursing who will not accept work in the hospitals. Many of the hospitals are having the very sad experience of not receiving applications from High School graduates who will undertake training for nursing.

DATA on APPLICATION and HOSPITALIZATION

The following table from a single county is very interesting:

TABLE I - Patients Hospitalized

1937 (6 months)	12
1938.....	17
1939.....	15
1940.....	12
1941.....	19
1942.....	17
1943.....	8
1944.....	6
1945.....	6

The following table shows the applications received during the last five years from the State as a whole:

TABLE II - 1941	203
1942	160
1943	173
1944	150
1945	145

The following table shows the number of readmissions of cases who had been previously hospitalized:

TABLE III - 1941	25
1942	25
1943	24
1944	33
1945	43

While these tables do not cover a sufficient period of time to conclude that the incidence of tuberculosis in Colorado is decreasing, yet they certainly show that the trend is towards decrease rather than increase. Perhaps if the study was maintained for a period of fifteen years (I think 15 years would be sufficient, because that would include the immediate postwar period) I believe it would then be possible to estimate fairly accurately the number of beds that would be necessary to take care of all those needing hospitalization through State assistance. It is not only necessary to make provisions to pay the costs of the individual cases, it is also just as important to have the appropriation large enough so that there will be no slack or let-down in being able to remove cases from their homes to the sanatoria with the least possible delay.

To comment on the attached summary of the entire program up to December 31, 1945: we show 302 who have been discharged; at least 75% of these have had a negative sputum on discharge. 108 have been given pneumothorax and transferred to the Out Patient Department; some have been discharged and some are still under treatment; 13 were readmitted from the Out Patient Department to the sanatoria. 251 have died; it may seem that the death rate has been unduly high of the 997 who have been admitted under the program, and it is to the everlasting credit of the State Board of Public Welfare that they have placed no limit on the time these patients may stay under treatment. Since approximately 70% of our cases are far advanced, and some of them acutely sick, I will say that the care of these 251 cases during their last illness is one of the greatest humanitarian efforts that has been performed to the credit of the State of Colorado. It has not only decreased the incidence of new cases of tuberculosis by removing them from their homes, where untrained and overworked individuals would have to care for them, but they have been placed in institutions and cared for in the best way possible.

One hundred thirty-five (135) or 16% of all those admitted, left the sanatoria against advice. Part of this number has been readmitted and is included in the 148 readmissions.

In closing, it is my honest opinion that the State of Colorado does not need to be ashamed of the care which it has given its unfortunate citizens afflicted with tuberculosis, and I want to express my appreciation to the present and previous members of the Colorado State Board of Welfare for their fine support and guidance of the work done by the Division of Tuberculosis.

Respectfully yours,

F. A. FORNEY, M. D.
Director, Division of Tuberculosis

FAF:JRH

SUMMARY OF TUBERCULOSIS ASSISTANCE

TABLE I.

Year ending December 31, 1945

PART I - APPLICATIONS

Pending, - January 1, 1945.....	8	
New applications - never previously hospitalized	5	
Applications for (readmission to care; reopening of previous approval which was followed by rejection of hospitalization).....	3	
Received during 1945.....	145	
New applications - never previously hospitalized	102	
Applications for (1) readmission to care; (2) reopening of previous approval which was followed by rejection of hospitalization	43	
		<u>153</u>
Disposed of during the year.....	146	
New applications never previously approved.....	103	
Applications for readmission - previously under care.....	41	
Applications for reopening - previously approved but hospitalization not accepted.....	2	
Placed under care.....	121	
Not placed under care	25	
Hospitalization not accepted	7	
Died before approval of application	5	
Died before hospitalization (after approval)	3	
Applications withdrawn by County.....	10	
Pending December 31, 1945		<u>7</u>

PART II - CASES UNDER CARE

Cases under care January 1, 1945	226	
In sanatoria	196	
In Out Patient Department	30	
Placed under care during the year.....	121	
New cases - never before hospitalized	78	
Readmitted - cases previously under hospitalization	43	
Total		<u>347</u>
Cases terminated in sanatoria during the year	146	
Discharged	57	
Died	39	
Left against advice	34	
Tfd. to O-P Department and not returned to sanatoria	16	
Cases under care December 31, 1945	201	
In sanatoria	167	
In Out Patient Department	34	

SUMMARY OF SANATORIA CASES

Year ending December 31, 1945

Cases in sanatoria January 1, 1945.....	196	
Hospitalized during 1945	121	
New cases - never previously hospitalized	78	
Readmitted - previously hospitalized	43	
		317
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Hospitalization terminated during the year	146	
Discharged	57	
Apparently arrested	9	
Stationary <u>1/</u>	34	
Retrogressive <u>2/</u>	10	
Progressive	1	
Unimproved - permitted to leave <u>3/</u>	3	
Death	39	
Left against advice	34	
Tfd. to O-P Department and not returned to sanatoria	16	
		171**

** Four (4) cases were admitted twice, so there were actually 167 in sanatoria.

1/ Stationary. Unchanging condition and change not probable

2/ Disease becoming more active and condition of patient becoming progressively worse.

3/ No improvement during period of treatment.

SUMMARY OF OUT PATIENT DEPARTMENT

Year ending December 31, 1945

Cases in Out Patient Department January 1, 1945	30	
Cases transferred to Out Patient Department during 1945	17	
Total	47	
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Cases in Out Patient Department terminated during the year	13	
Discharged	4	
Readmitted to sanatoria	6	
Lack of cooperation	3	
		34

NUMBER OF YEARS OF STATE RESIDENCE OF PERSONS
RECEIVING TUBERCULOSIS ASSISTANCE IN SANATORIA
AND OUT PATIENT DEPARTMENT

December 31, 1945

Years State Residence	Total	Treatment Received in	
		Sanatoria	Out Patient Department
All Patients	201	167	34
Under 5	18	18	0
5 - 9	32	30	2
10 - 14	20	17	3
15 - 19	37	28	9
20 - 24	41	35	6
25 - 29	21	18	3
30 - 34	14	10	4
35 - 39	7	3	4
40 - 44	6	5	1
45 - 49	1	0	1
50 - 54	1	1	0
55 - 59	1	1	0
60 - 64	2	1	1

LOCATION OF HOMES OF PERSONS RECEIVING
TUBERCULOSIS ASSISTANCE IN SANATORIA AND
OUT PATIENT DEPARTMENT

December 31, 1945

LOCATION	Total	Treatment Received In	
		Sanatoria	Out Patient Department
All Locations	201	167	34
Urban	160	136	24
Rural	41	31	10

CASES RECEIVING PNEUMOTHORAX TREATMENTS

Year ending December 31, 1945

Cases receiving pneumothorax treatments January 1, 1945	74
(44 in sanatoria; 30 in Out Patient Department)	
Added during 1945	<u>16</u>
Total	90
Discontinued during the year	18
Discharged	8
Left against advice	5
Death	<u>5</u>
Cases receiving pneumothorax treatments December 31, 1945	72
(38 in sanatoria; 34 in Out Patient Department)	

PERSONS PLACED UNDER CARE IN 1945, CLASSIFIED
BY AGE AND STAGE OF DISEASE
Year ending December 31, 1945

State of Disease	Total	A G E						
		Under 11	11-20	21-30	31-40	41-50	51-60	61 and older
All stages	121	3	14	39	29	25	8	3
Far Advanced	96	1	10	31	25	19	8	2
Moderately Advanced	18	0	4	6	3	4	0	1
Incipient	7	2	0	2	1	2	0	0

In addition, 5 persons died before approval of application, one aged 28, one aged 44, one aged 50, one aged 55, and one aged 78; 3 persons whose applications had been approved died before hospitalization, one aged 27, one aged 48, and one aged 50.

PERSONS RECEIVING TUBERCULOSIS ASSISTANCE
CLASSIFIED BY AGE AND SEX, FOR YEAR ENDING

DECEMBER 31, 1945

AGES IN YEARS	TOTAL	S E X	
		MALE	FEMALE
ALL AGES	201	86	115
1 - 10	5	4	1
11 - 20	19	1	18
21 - 30	53	13	40
31 - 40	56	30	26
41 - 50	37	14	23
51 - 60	21	14	7
61 and older	10	10	0

SUMMARY OF EXPENSES FOR 1945

Gross Amount Expended for tuberculosis Assistance	\$195,204.63
Amount Expended for Out Patient Department	\$2,382.39
Amount Expended for Transportation.....	191.69
Amount Expended for Burials	<u>550.00</u> <u>3,124.08</u>
Amount Expended for Patients in Sanatoria.....	\$192,080.55
Patient Days	56,302
Cost per person per day.....	\$3.376
Part Payments Made by Patients and Relatives	<u>7,442.32</u>
Net Amount Expended	\$184,638.23

SUMMARY OF TUBERCULOSIS ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

July 1, 1937, to December 31, 1945

Total number of individuals applying for hospitalization 1189

Did not enter	80	
Died before approval	51	
Withdrawn by County	36	
Disapproved	22	
Died before hospitalization (after approval)	3	<u>192</u>
		997

No. of readmissions 148

(Of these some were readmitted one or more times; a few have been readmitted at least twice; 53 are still in sanatoria, and 13 were readmitted from the out patient department)

Of the cases admitted to the sanatoria, those disposed of were as follows:

Discharged	302	
Left against advice	135	
Transferred to Out Patient Department	108	
Died	251	<u>796</u>

Number in sanatoria December 31, 1945 201

SUMMARY — Continued

December 31, 1945

Average No. of days in sanatoria per patient	428
Average daily case load	160-
Average cost per day per patient	\$2.717
No. of patient days for entire program	437,783
Gross Amount expended for Tuberculosis Assistance	\$1,189,570.76
Paid by relatives and patients	<u>31,831.86</u>
	\$1,157,738.90

Out Patients

Out Patients	\$17,922.53
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Burials	7,310.50
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Transportation	1,836.85
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Pneumothorax	291
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Thorocoplasty	49
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Phrenicectomy	80
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