

TUBERCULOSIS WAR

NEARLY FOURTEEN MILLION INVESTED



OUT of nearly \$20,000,000 spent last year in the treatment and prevention of tuberculosis in the United States, 69.3 per cent of the money was derived from public funds, either federal, state, county or municipal. These are some of the interesting figures given in the annual statistical statement of the National Association for the Study and Prevention of Tuberculosis, made public today. The statement is based largely on actual reports received from anti-tuberculosis agencies throughout the country, but where reports were not available, the figures have been estimated.

Treatment of tuberculosis patients in the more than 500 sanatoria and hospitals of the country and the construction of such institutions cost over \$18,000,000 of the total expenditure. Care of patients in dispensaries and open air schools cost about \$825,000. Anti-tuberculosis associations and committees spent nearly \$675,000 in furthering their work of organization and education, while state and local boards of health and special tuberculosis commissions spent over \$250,000.

More than \$13,800,000 or 69.3 per cent of the total expenditures came from public funds. The National Association points to this growing increase in the spending of public money for tuberculosis as one of the most significant facts in the report, as it indicates the shifting of the burden of institutional care of consumptive from the private purse to the general public purse, where it rightly belongs. Since 1909 the percentage of public money spent in tuberculosis work has increased from 53.5 to nearly 70 per cent.

