## Alaska Has Highest TB

## Active Cases in States

The Alaska Tuberculosis and Respiratory Disease Association has received a report from the Tuberculosis Branch of the Public Health Service which stated that in 1970 Alaska has again gained the distinction of having the highest new active TB case rate among the 50 states.

Alaska dropped to the number four spot in 1969 only to have an increase in new TB cases during 1970. Hawaii and Alabama are in second and third rank.

Alaska has made tremendous progress against the disease since the advent of anti-TB drugs, especially isoniazid (INH). The Association's Medical Advisory Committee has encouraged all Alaskans to have a tuberculin test to determine whether a person has ever been infected with TB germs.

If the test is positive, infected persons are urged to take 1 NH pills as a chemoprophylaxis to prevent actual clinical disease. Dr. Francis J. Phillips, a TB specialist, is the chairman of the Medical Advisory Committee.
"Since an estimated $60,000^{\circ}$ Alaskans are infected with TB germs; it is important to establish the tuberculin status of every person", said Dr. Phillips.

