

Tuberculosis Not Yet Licked So Be on Your Guard

Tuberculosis is not "licked" in Alaska as one would believe from reading the latest statistics released by the TB Control unit of the State Department of Health.

Although this report indicates that this State will no longer lead the nation in the number of new cases, analysis of the whole release clearly warns of a dangerous situation that could develop.

James S. Couch of the Alaska TB Association reflects the fear that the general public may gain an erroneous impression that

there is no longer any great danger of another epidemic of the disease here, thus relaxing their vigilance and neglecting precautionary measures.

In 1960 the State experienced a similar reduction in the number of cases with resulting apathy, a cutting back of surveillance and follow ups, which brought about a sudden and serious up-swing.

Tuberculin testing, a simple and painless process, is available without charge at the Fairbanks Health Center.

"It is a wise precaution to have every member of every family tested to prevent any increase of TB in our State," Couch said.