

"Tuberculosis is curable only in the earliest stage of the disease. In this statement 'curable' is used in its ordinary practical significance, not in a strictly scientific sense; that is, to mean that the patient loses all symptoms of the infection, is able to return to accustomed ways of living and is no longer a source of contagion to his associates."

"The diagnosis of pulmonary tuberculosis in an early stage is beset with such difficulties that its practical application on a large scale has completely failed. This failure has been due to two factors:

a. The lack of skill in early diagnosis displayed by the medical profession; and

b. The nature of the disease."

"The establishment of hospitals being accepted as the best method for the State to deal with the problem of tuberculosis in the negro, it becomes an important task to decide specifically upon the character, plan, location and management of such institutions. Your committee feels that certain broad principles of policy should be decided at once, but the details should be exhaustively studied before a definite plan is accepted. Concerning the broad principles of policy, the following questions demand an immediate answer:

"1. Shall there be one or two large, or a number of smaller institutions?"

"This question cannot be considered in detail, but your Committee commits itself unhesitatingly to a plea for County hospitals. The advantages of such a plan are so important and so numerous that they outweigh the one valid objection, namely: the increased cost of construction and maintenance, that can be urged against it. Chief among the advantages is the desirability of having an institution for sick and dying patients near their home, where relatives and friends may conveniently visit them. The hardship of sending patients off to a distance to linger in illness and die away from family and friends would