

TUBERCULOSIS CLEANUP SEEN

EXAMINER BUREAU, SACRAMENTO, May 21.—California may be able to clean up tuberculosis as a major public health problem within ten years, the senate finance committee was told today.

Testifying on an appropriation bill by Senator Nelson S. Dilworth, William R. MacDougall, general manager of the County Supervisors Association of California, said tuberculosis treatment costs "are falling as we are getting ahead of the problem."

He said new treatments are expensive, but added:

"We can see the end of the problem in five or ten years."

MacDougall said latent tuberculosis where there is no established county or State residence now constitutes the greatest problem in bringing tuberculosis under control. He said Dilworth's bill, allowing counties an additional \$5 a day State subsidy for treating such nonresidents, will be a major factor toward discouraging the present practice of "floating" them from one county to another.

The committee approved the bill and sent it to the floor despite finance department objections that it would cost the State an additional \$1,364,000 a year and "add nothing to the public health picture."

MacDougall said 758 such nonresident cases now are under treatment statewide and this class of patient makes up from 50 to 60 per cent of Fresno County's total sanitarium population.