



HEALTH DRIVE—Dr. William McKinley Thomas, a director of the San Francisco Tuberculosis Association, and Dr. George Baker, director of the health department's communicable diseases bureau, make plans for free X-ray drive in Western Addition.

W. ADDITION X-RAY DRIVE

A door-to-door, church, school, social club and home X-ray drive was launched yesterday in the Western Addition by the San Francisco Tuberculosis Association in co-operation with the city health department.

Leaders said they hope to give free X-rays to 10,000 persons during the next six weeks.

While the incidence of the disease in the Western Addition is not alarmingly high, nor even as high as in two other areas of the city, there were 136 cases there in 1953, said Dr. George Baker, director of the health department's communicable diseases bureau.

An X-ray truck will tour the area during the six weeks period, and physicians of families there will encourage them to visit the association's tuberculosis X-ray facilities at 250 Masonic Avenue.

Some 250 volunteers in the area will support the drive, in co-operation with churches, schools and clubs, Dr. William McKinley Thomas, a director of the association, said.

"We hope to X-ray the largest number of people in the shortest period of time in the history of this program," said Doctor Thomas. He described the survey as the first major co-operative effort, utilizing volunteers, in this type of program.

San Francisco had 144 tuberculosis deaths in 1953, out of 1,789 throughout California. The TB death rate has been steadily decreasing in California and the Nation over the past decade.