

increasing. In 1900 it was 83 cents; in 1905 it was \$1.13; in 1910 it had risen to \$1.26, and last year it was \$1.30. This is due to the cost of food and help steadily increasing. Better hospitals also demand better equipment.

The Government grant is at the rate of 20 cents a day for 120 days on all patients in hospitals not ten years in existence, and on-patients from the hospitals do not receive more than 70 cents a day when the hospitals have been more than ten years in operation. For children from 1 to 12 years of age 7 cents a day is allowed.

With regard to sanatoria the Government makes a grant of \$4,000 on the erection and satisfactory equipment of a sanatorium, and thereafter pays \$3.00 a week on patients from whom the institution does not receive more than \$4.90 per week.

The report refers to the new additions to the Western and St. Michael's Hospitals in fitting terms. Mention is also made of the satisfactory progress that has been made on the new General Hospital.

Dr. Bruce Smith very properly denounces the process of hand-picking of cases that has been too much in vogue among hospitals. He takes the position that hospitals should make an effort to meet the needs of the sick, and that a consumptive should not be allowed to die in a hay loft, nor one with erysipelas in a fence corner. With this view we have always been in accord.

The local sanatoria for tuberculosis took care of 1,284 patients. There is much activity in this work, and a number of counties and cities have decided to erect sanatoria at an early date. Many sanatoria scattered throughout the province is the ideal plan. The death rate from consumption is given as follows per 100,000 of the population: Austria, 350; Servia, 275; Ireland, 215; Norway, 276; Germany, 185; United States, 167; England, 121; Ontario, 102. The figure for Ontario is bound to be materially reduced in the near future.

A VALUABLE STATEMENT ON TUBERCULOSIS.

At the recent International Conference on Tuberculosis there was a lengthy and able discussion on the place of sera in the treatment of the disease. Professor Gabriel Bertrand, of the Pasteur Institute, among other things, said:—

“Frankly speaking, the whole question must be taken up again from the base. Suppose that a serum is found that acts upon the Koch bacilli and that it has killed all the bacilli in an invalid. The day after everything will have to be begun over again. The invalid will