

at all times to maintain himself in such a manner that his services are promptly available for other cases and other contagious diseases which may develop. Unless the attending physician especially requests to be relieved of his position he should in no manner interfere with his work, his methods of medical treatment or the general management of the patient. If the means of isolation employed are satisfactory his duty ends for the time being, when a diagnosis has been made, and the measures called for by the act or by the regulations have been carried out. Until recovery has taken place and the attending physician's services are no longer required, he should let the case severely alone, except to see that all necessities, including food, nursing, and medical attendance, are provided. Any sums which he may order disbursed on these grounds are either at the expense of the person responsible for the patient's care, or are at his own personal risk, until the municipality reimburses him.

Instance will arise where the M. H. O. must act without having received any notice of contagious disease from the attending physician, and where his intrusion may seem to be impertinent. But a careful exercise of his function and the realization by the attending physician that the M. H. O. must perform his duties whether he desires to do so or not, will prevent those professional complications which may so easily arise. Great tact and forbearance on the part of both are required. Both can, if they desire, assist the other, and render any difference of opinion which may arise a matter of professional secrecy rather than a reason for public dispute. The office of the M. H. O. is difficult enough to fill without having such differences with fellow practitioners. If the M. H. O. gives due regard to the rights and privileges of the attending physician, and the attending physician does all he can by prompt reports of contagious cases, and active support of the M. H. O. in his efforts to prevent the spread of the diseases which do so much to shorten the average duration of human life, they will unite to promote the ideals for which those engaged in the scientific study of medicine are striving.