

Medical Director's Office

Mrs.

Mable

Gates

January 24, 1969

Dr. Roger A. Johnson

Rose Cottage Schedule

I am sorry to be so late in responding to the draft you sent me of the Rose Cottage schedule and program. In general it seemed quite good, however I do have a few questions.

At 6:30 a.m. the children rise and go to breakfast. Later at 8:30 a.m. they dress to go to school. Why not have school children dress in their school clothes before breakfast?

From 8:30 to 11:00 a.m. approximately one quarter to one-half of the children are left in the buildings, and there seems to be no planned activities for them. Do you feel that they could be doing more than watching television or simply moving around the rooms?

At 11:00 a.m. there is a "readiness" for lunch period. This seems to consist of making 32 retarded children between the ages of 6 and 16 sit with coats, hats, boots, etc. I think they are expected to sit and be quiet for at least one-half hour—quiet time, it's called. For what purpose? It was stated that there is a need for better table manners and eating habits. Perhaps this time could be used for instruction or discussion of how they're going to behave at lunch. Perhaps they might even appreciate and learn from movies on table manners.

Is any "in-cottage" program feasible in Rose? Do you have anything going now in the Cottage? Is the shortage of staff a problem?

Call me or come and see me so we can discuss this.

RAJ:1b

*Discussed and
clarified to Mrs. Gates*