

Fairview Home Now Deemed An Educational Institution

Many Mentally Deficient Are Placed in Jobs

By Lester Cour
Staff Writer, The Statesman

Oregon no longer has an institution for the feeble minded in the usual sense.

The age-old dead end, a traditional place of despair and lost hopes, is a thing of the past. Today the state's mentally deficient, children and adults alike, are becoming useful citizens at the Oregon Fairview Home southeast of Salem.

Guiding the quasi-educational institution—one of America's best—is Dr. Irvin B. Hill, an energetic young physician who became superintendent in 1946 shortly after finishing his training.

Many Get Jobs
Dr. Hill says, and believes sincerely, there is no such person as a feeble-minded one. And the doctor has ample proof to back his contention: Nearly 200 employees on his staff feel the same way.

Unknown to most Oregon taxpayers, one in every 11 persons at the home are placed on wage earning jobs each year. Since the home's training program and placement service was instituted in 1932, nearly 900 mentally deficient persons have been discharged and placed as self-sustaining wage earners.

Dr. Hill pointed out that without training these persons would have remained as permanent inmates of the home. Had they remained, the institution would now necessarily be twice its present size. The present population is about 1,200. The saving to taxpayers alone is staggering since it costs \$700 annually to keep each person.

Schooling Available
Also unknown to most persons, the home is equipped with a school which offers the equivalent of a seventh grade education. Due to a space shortage three school rooms and an auditorium are utilized in one building, two in the basement of another and the two other in separate buildings on the grounds.

Classes are taught by 10 specially-trained men and women under the supervision of Mrs. L. Daye Idelman, the principal. Pupils range from 8 to 25 years old.

How do children and adults become inmates of Fairview? All must be residents of Oregon for at least six months and all are committed by court orders after a hearing.

There are three definite classes at the institution. Infants with organic difficulties are cared for in modern nurseries. Few of these will ever leave the home. In the middle group are children of grade school age. The remainder are adults, unable to support themselves because of mental deficiencies.

"Just Like Anyone Else"
Most of the children attending academic classes are those whose mental limitations were noticed by teachers of regular schools in the first, second or third grades.

The adults—between the ages of 18 and 30—are those who found they were unable to find suitable employment because of limited learning capacity. Dr. Hill pointed out that many of these persons were passed through grade school and entered Fairview unable to read or write.

"These people are just like anyone else," Dr. Hill said. "They are able to learn, but learn slowly. They may be slow in certain lines but are very good in others."

Dr. Hill said there is no definite line of demarcation dividing the normal and more sub-normal into separate classes. Persons with an intelligence quotient of less than 70 are considered mentally deficient. Two per cent of America's population falls in this class, as do the Fairview patients.

Are Given Education
The Fairview children are given a grade school education, usually leaving the institution or schooling at the age of 16. They and the adults are taught to read and write and then prepared for life by special occupational training afforded by the institution.

Adults—men and women alike—are trained to hold jobs as farmers, truck drivers, green house men, cooks, waitresses, laundry workers, baby sitters, convalescent attendants, domestics and section hands.

Men are trained as farmers on the home's 500 acres of surrounding land. Dr. Hill said farming is encouraged as a trade for patients because the mentally deficient men do better in a rural environment. The institution's farm is operated successfully with the aid of 12 supervisors.

Cooks and waitresses are trained in the institution's kitchens, gardeners on the beautifully-landscaped grounds and laundry workers in a new, modern laundry. Women patients are also given a complete home economics course.

Aided in Getting Jobs
When a patient is ready to re-enter society, the institution's placement service is set in motion. The service is headed by Mrs. Lillian L. Bristow, who came to the home three years ago. About one person is discharged to a job every nine days.

After placing the graduate on a job, Mrs. Bristow checks each week to determine the person's progress. Monthly reports are mailed to her by employers throughout the state. It is a fact that most Fairview graduates make good and only a few return for additional training.

Dr. Hill stressed that mentally-handicapped persons must be placed on routine jobs under the placement service. Since their learning capacity is impaired, they must be employed where the jobs do not require additional daily learning.

Fairview graduates have an outstanding record in World War II. Forty-five former inmates served in the armed forces and all were discharged with good records.

Former women inmates have proved their stability in society after leaving Fairview. Of 208 who married, only one has been divorced, the records show.

Dr. Hill, a graduate of the University of Oregon and the U. of O. Medical school, is proud of the home's training program, and even has further plans for development of the institution's facilities.

"We'll Get Them Done"
For the next biennium he is asking the 1949 legislature for a \$500,000 capital outlay appropriation to expand Fairview. He wants a new hospital. When this is built the school will be moved into the hospital building. Other innovations also are on the proposed buildings even more up to date.

The youthful-appearing physician from Cushman figured "it might take a couple of bienniums to get things the way they should be, but we'll get them done."

ment service. Since their learning capacity is impaired, they must be employed where the jobs do not require additional daily learning.

Fairview graduates have an outstanding record in World War II. Forty-five former inmates served in the armed forces and all were discharged with good records.

Former women inmates have proved their stability in society after leaving Fairview. Of 208 who married, only one has been divorced, the records show.

Dr. Hill, a graduate of the University of Oregon and the U. of O. Medical school, is proud of the home's training program, and even has further plans for development of the institution's facilities.

"We'll Get Them Done"
For the next biennium he is asking the 1949 legislature for a \$500,000 capital outlay appropriation to expand Fairview. He wants a new hospital. When this is built the school will be moved into the hospital building. Other innovations also are on the proposed buildings even more up to date.

The youthful-appearing physician from Cushman figured "it might take a couple of bienniums to get things the way they should be, but we'll get them done."

ment service. Since their learning capacity is impaired, they must be employed where the jobs do not require additional daily learning.

Fairview graduates have an outstanding record in World War II. Forty-five former inmates served in the armed forces and all were discharged with good records.

Former women inmates have proved their stability in society after leaving Fairview. Of 208 who married, only one has been divorced, the records show.

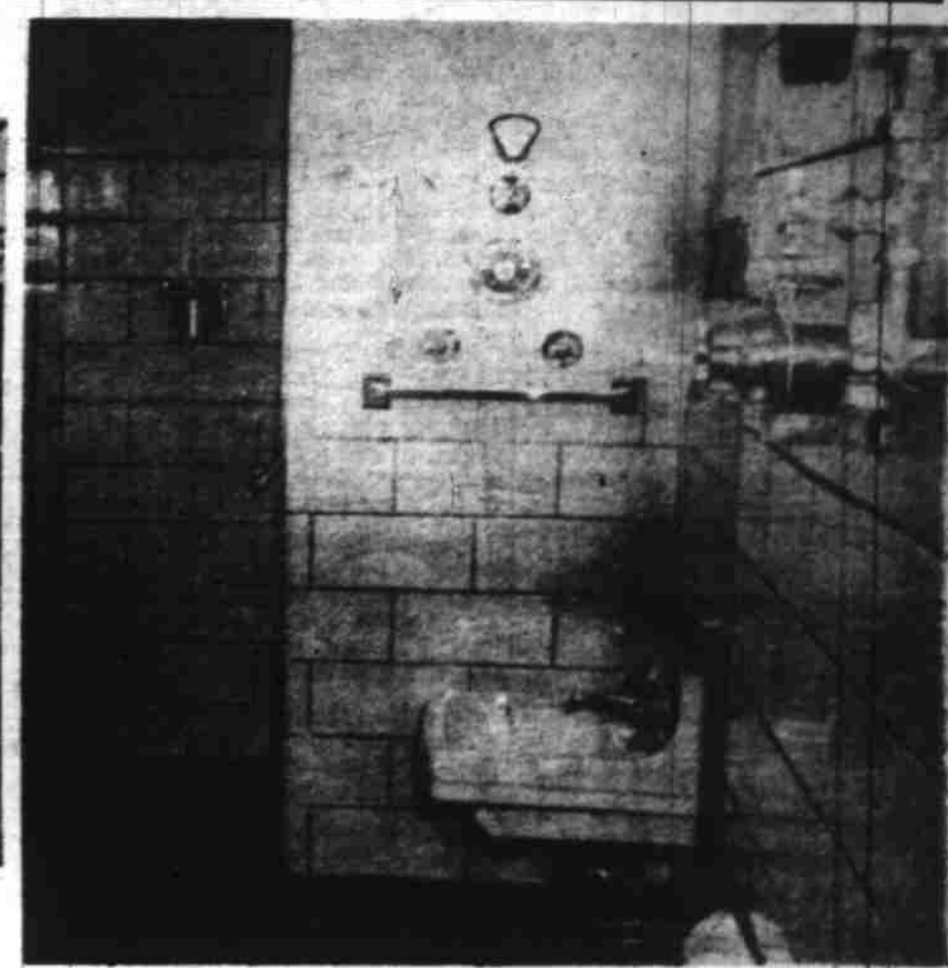
Dr. Hill, a graduate of the University of Oregon and the U. of O. Medical school, is proud of the home's training program, and even has further plans for development of the institution's facilities.

"We'll Get Them Done"
For the next biennium he is asking the 1949 legislature for a \$500,000 capital outlay appropriation to expand Fairview. He wants a new hospital. When this is built the school will be moved into the hospital building. Other innovations also are on the proposed buildings even more up to date.

The youthful-appearing physician from Cushman figured "it might take a couple of bienniums to get things the way they should be, but we'll get them done."



Patients of Fairview home are shown processing laundry in the institution's new and modern laundry. At the right is a portion of one of the new lavatories for younger patients who are given job training in many lines and some of whom return to private life as self-supporting citizens.



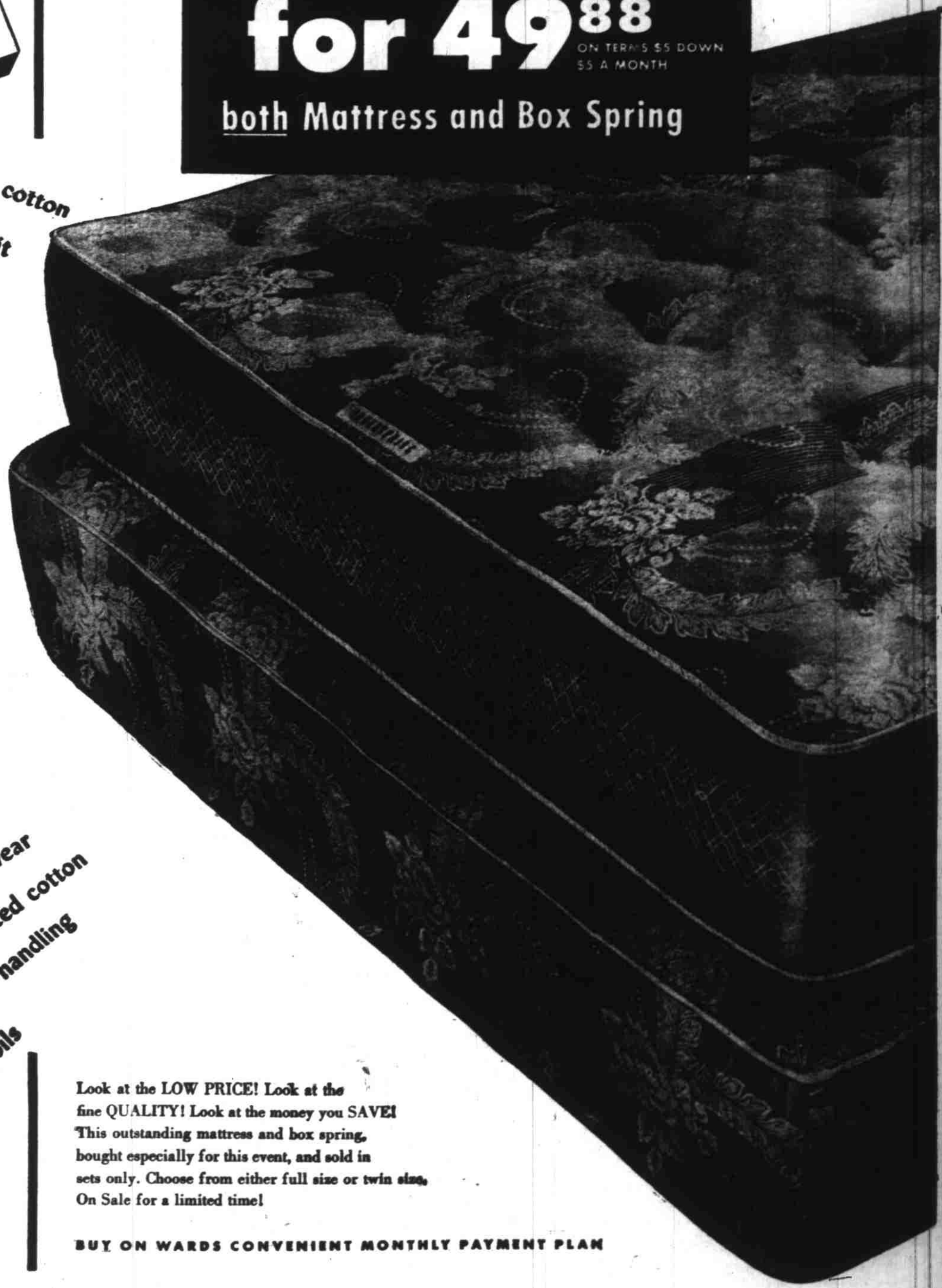
Montgomery Ward

155 N. Liberty

Phone 3-3191

WARDS will
Close at 5:30
Friday, Dec. 31
New Year's
Eve

**All this
for 49⁸⁸**
ON TERM \$5 DOWN
\$5 A MONTH
both Mattress and Box Spring



- Padded with 35 pounds of soft layers of felted cotton
- Beautiful long-wearing cotton damask cover
- Pre-built border keeps mattress edges firm
- Flexolator insulation prevents "coil-feel"
- Inner-roll edge keeps sides from sagging
- Four sturdy side handles for convenient turning
- Four ventilators keep interior clean
- Taped seams strongly stitched for wear

**made to sell
for 85⁰⁰**

- Long-wearing cotton matching damask cover
- Super quality rigid frame construction
- Strongly stitched taped seams for added wear
- Softly padded with layers of all new felted cotton
- Four turning handles for convenient handling
- 72 large sturdy premier wire coils

Look at the LOW PRICE! Look at the fine QUALITY! Look at the money you SAVE!
This outstanding mattress and box spring, bought especially for this event, and sold in sets only. Choose from either full size or twin size. On Sale for a limited time!

BUY ON WARDS CONVENIENT MONTHLY PAYMENT PLAN

NEW RELIEF! WHEN COLDS CAUSE

Croupy Coughs

VAPORUB STEAM
Brings relief with every breath!

Mother, you know what wonderful relief you get when you rub on Vicks VapoRub!
Now... when your child wakes up in the night, tormented with a croupy cough of a cold, here's a special way to use Vicks VapoRub. It's VapoRub Steam—and it brings relief almost instantly!

Put a good spoonful of Vicks VapoRub in a bowl of boiling water or vaporizer. Then let your child breathe in the soothing VapoRub Steam. Medicinal vapors penetrate deep into cold-congested upper bronchial tubes and bring relief with every breath!

VICKS VAPORUB