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ready and willing to do their part to uphold its good name and defend its reputation as one of the greatest and best schools in Vermont.

[Bennington Banner.]

Under the above caption The Banner publishes in another column today an editorial from The Vergennes Enterprise and Vergennes Reaching Out for the State Industrial School. The Vergennes Industrial school. The Vergennes Enterprise and Vergennes Reaching Out for the State Industrial school. The information that the school is making a tremendous success in the physical, mental, and moral development of the boys and girls committed to its charge is gladly received. That the management of the school is in the best of hands has never been questioned. Such, we believe has been the for years. But, as The Banner stated in its editorial, no institution is ever to perfect as human ingenuity can devise, will never remove the defect over which the controversy originally arose, that there are boys in the school who should never have been the inside of its walls.

So far as we have been able to learn the boys in this state, under a certain age, who are convicted of crime are sent to the industrial school, while those over that age go to Windsor and the unfortunate youths who have neither parents or relatives who will provide for them. To our mind if these three classes only one, the last, should be confined at the Industrial school. The truant and the orphans are entitled to something different. The natural hankering disposition of the truants and the lack of home influence in the case of the orphans, together with the surroundings which make them more readily susceptible to surroundings and associations, particularly the latter. We are still unconvinced that the proper conditions to give them a fair start in life exist at Vergennes.

With The Vermonter we too, trust that "in the not far distant future" the importance of this great question will be recognized by the state but that the "unfortunates" will be removed and entirely separated from the reformed and reformatory by the creation, through an appropriation for the enlargement of the school at Vergennes, but by the building of a new institution on entirely different lines and located at least one hundred miles from the oldest city in the commonwealth.

[Vergennes Enterprise.]

There is no difference of opinion between this paper and The Bennington Banner, The Rutland Herald and other broadminded journals, upon "the one great question" that must sooner or later be met and solved right in Vermont and this nation, or we shall follow the fate of ancient Greece, Rome, etc.—the proper education and training of the homeless and worse than homeless children.

We all agree that a great central institution, to be connected with an ideal home, is what the state must have, sooner or later.

The question is what now?

On this we differ.

Knowing, as we do, conditions at the state industrial school, we advocate relieving the space and conditions of that institution until such time as the people can be aroused to the mighty import of this question and then build and equip the ideal home, training school.

The two recommendations we recognize the great fact that no boy or girl is born a criminal or can be a criminal until they arrive at years of discretion.

They may commit petty crimes, may be surrounded by influences in their home life, their daily life, that makes them do criminal acts, for which they are not responsible, but are not criminals, because they do not know, and have not been taught, the difference between right and wrong.

We boldly assert that there is not a single criminal in the state industrial school.

Any "irredeemables" are passed on to their proper place, the house of correction at Rutland, but these do not average of one per cent.

The difference between truants and petty law breakers lately in charge [illegible] and those sent from criminal intent, but from lack of knowledge as to what constitutes right and wrong.

They have never been taught what is right and what is wrong under law. They only need to be taught respect for law and the difference between right and wrong.

This is just what they are taught now at this ideal home, industrial school.

The all important thing, to make such a school a success, is the right management.

This is very hard to get. Men like Mr. Bates are very scarce and hard to find. Men who recognize the difference between a home and a school and do not devote all their energies to teaching things taught in schools and neglect the more important fundamentals, principles of right living, duties, things these boys and girls have never known, much less then taught.

There is very little danger of contamination here, no more than in the city schools.

What is the influence of the boys and girls from "the block," and similar sections, upon the other school children with whom they mingle, on terms of perfect equality, at St. Albans?

What is the influence of the children from the most disreputable section of Bennington upon those from the residential section?

Is it not worse than that at the state industrial school where the boys are under the personal supervision, of teachers and officers the whole time? Is not the influence of bad this condition, not those living [illegible] communicated?

Ask any city physician, ask your own children about certain delicate matters and find how much they have learned in attendance at the public schools that should be taught in text books. You may be very much surprised at the knowledge they have acquired and the wrong kind, too.

Let us have the ideal home, with modern buildings so that there will be room for those now there, and are being sent every week, to letter grade and separate the very classes with The Messenger and Banner wish separated the truants and those who have committed grievous acts.

Rest assured, however, that the criminals, those whose influence you so much fear, are sent down to the house of correction and do not remain long in this state. Let us have the ideal home, the school and now at last hand what we have found to be true regarding present, not past conditions.

You will be surprised just as we were, when you thoroughly investigate present condition at this great state institution.

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Vermont's Wisest Railroad Policy.

[Burlington Free Press.]

From the very nature of our geographical situation and topographical conditions as well as our absence of large centers of population Vermont cannot reasonably expect large expenditures in the direction of railroad expansion, on the other hand we cannot have too many railroads to aid in the development and exploitation of our natural resources.

Under the circumstances we believe our law-makers at Montpelier will be wise in their generation if, instead of confirming any railroad strategy in any particular section of the state, they adopt the alternative of granting charter privileges to any entirely new railroad, which may manifest a desire to come into our state particularly are not depending on local business but desiring this wider connection.

We have in mind in this connection the disposition of the Canadian Pacific railway to extend from Essex North to Montpelier in order to tap the asbestos fields. The people of Vermont should ever bear in mind that this great Canadian railway system has long been reaching out in every direction, and that it has been particularly anxious to touch this point somewhere between New York and Boston as the Grand Trunk now reaches the Atlantic at New London, and as it will later on also at Providence.

If the people of Vermont and their representatives in the legislature are the factors of the state in connection with self-government, we may as well have the Canadian Pacific southern outlet when it comes as to drive it to seek some other field of exploitation, just as we helped the Grand Trunk to make the Central Vermont its chief artery reaching out toward New York.

A glance at the map of Vermont will show that a Canadian extension from North Troy to Lamoille would be aimed almost directly at Washington county. It would require but a small stretch of the imagination to see a connection near the state capital between the extension in question and the proposed line from Rutland to Montpelier, that would take the Canadian Pacific well on the way to some Atlantic point from which steamers could readily reach New York and other seaboard points.

It is to be hoped, therefore, that the legislature will by all means grant the Canadian Pacific railway a charter for the line in question, and for that matter to any other point in the state it may wish to reach, for let it never be forgotten that the opportunity to secure new railroad connections, particularly with another great continental system, will not often knock at the portals of Vermont's state house.

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[Rutland News.]

Without reflecting upon the judgment of the Vermont state senate in turning down the particular bill before it, providing for a state director of publicity, The News wishes to place itself plainly and emphatically on record as favoring the idea. The particular measure defeated may not have been the best one that could be brought about, but the principle should prevail. A business proposition of the extent and with the resources and possibilities of the state of Vermont that would not expend $10,000 a year or more, advertising its products and promoting its business, would be set down as absolutely dead. And what is Vermont except a co-operative business enterprise? If our resources are ever to be developed fully and best industrially, it must go after business in earnest.

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