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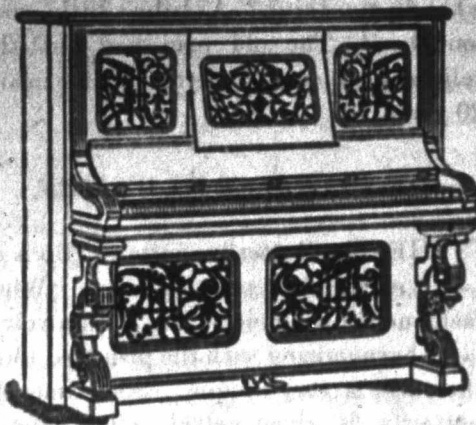
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MUSIC AND THE DRAMA.

THE Oak Bay promenade concerts are ensconced in public favor. The situation, with surrounding scenery, would be difficult to surpass. The music was delightful and there was only one feature deserving of criticism, and that is a topic that has been discussed so often and so bitterly, with such poor results that there is no hope of betterment—a case of bitter sweet and no rose without a thorn. The concert was delightful, but the tramcar service was vile. The cars

could not begin to accommodate the crowd, and a string of pedestrians gave expression to their dissatisfaction in vain grumbling, and indignant protests. Unless the cars show that they are equal to demands, the Wednesday evening outings will lose their flattering patronage. The programme furnished by Bandmaster Finn presented a very pleasing variety, and some of the selections received their first hearing here. The "Cocoanut Dance" was a characteristic arrangement, introducing sand and clog dancing, and was given an enthusiastic encore. The euphonium solo, "Rocked in the Cradle of the Deep" with variations, was a difficult piece, bristling with runs and bravura passages and was accorded most acceptable treatment. The "Washington Post" was a welcome favorite, and was given with confident attack, and a military dash. The stirring tempo and responses of the trombones and base horns brought up memories of Old Country and Eastern bands in their inspiring marches. Mr. Finn deserves all praise, and the public should proffer thanks for the possession of a band, that would be a credit to any place. The scene was of the most animated description, and was strongly reminiscent of seaside resorts in the east. There were happy circles lounging in the cool verandahs, and the rocks facing the hotel also received their quota of languid listeners. Most delicious ice cream was served in the dining room of the hotel, and many daintily sipped the varying flavors of frozen sweetness.

The choir of St. Andrew's Roman Catholic Cathedral rendered an excellent musical programme last Sunday evening. Millard's O Saturated, with chorus, was artistically rendered, the solo being taken by F. H. Lang. Algernon Aspland sang in his usual finished style an Ave Maria arranged from Stradella. The solo of the Tantum Ergo, by Weigard, was taken by Miss Sophie McNiffe. The programme will be repeated to-morrow evening.

The Potter-Bellew Company opened their engagement in San Francisco, last Monday night. They will begin a two nights' engagement at The Victoria, August 1. Two plays will be produced here—Therese and In Society.

On account of the strikes on the American railroads, the Lady Windemere Fan Co. found it impossible to keep their engagement at The Victoria last night. They will appear next Friday evening. The company is highly spoken of by the press.

Lord Mount-Stephen, the largest shareholder of the Great Northern, and party are coming across the continent on that line, and will return by the C. P. R.