

when the company have defaulted to the city and the government in the payment of their interest, and yet this is the institution that was to give the workingman work, that was to be such a boon to the farmer; in a word, it was going to take hard times in one of its immense box cars and dump them into the sea at the great throbbing, populous city of Sidney.

So far, either through their characteristic lack of interest in the affairs of the city, or from some other cause which need scarcely be mentioned, comparatively few of the ratepayers are aware of the real outcome of the recent differences between the company and the corporation. This company called for tenders for the work and then wisely let the job to themselves, which would make it appear that they went to a lot of unnecessary trouble. This idea was not original by any means, but imitation is the sincerest flattery, and it is likely, therefore, that their company will come out all right eventually. Whether by accident or design, they were proceeding by a route that would have been of some practical benefit, when the city interfered on account of the supposed pollution of Elk Lake. Now have the present of wisecracks at the aldermanic board any idea of what pours into Elk Lake in the course of the year, and do they know how much a train or two a day passing along a portion of its banks will pollute its waters? The idea is childish, and such a reason is not candidly put forward. As the work of grading was proceeding there was every hope that the line would come right into the city, but at present indications the road will stop at the brick-yards, on Saanich road, fulfilling the statutory obligation by crossing the boundary line and entering the city; there, however, it will stop, and the street car company will constitute an excellent transfer service. This will be hitting three birds with one stone; it will save

the company of contractors some twenty or thousand dollars, it will be complying literally with the by-law, and the waters of Elk Lake will be saved from pollution. What a blessing the last will be and how thankful the people should be for the wisdom and foresight of the aldermen. There the road will be stuck on a stiff grade, in a hole, out of the way of being useful for any purpose whatever. For this we shall have to pay between nine and ten thousand dollars next year again, and so on for the following eighteen years. But we will have the railway!

I was sorry to read the announcement the other day that Miss Laura M. Adams had decided to leave Victoria, for a few years at least, as she is a lady creditable to any place. Amiable, jovial, well and widely travelled, it was a pleasure to converse with her. She is a natural born musician, devoted heart and soul to her profession, which she greatly adorned, and in which she held a high position by thoroughly sterling merit. In proceeding to Germany to further pursue her studies, Miss Adams only displays that enterprise and vim that characterized her entire career. I am only one of a multitude of friends who regret Miss Adams' leave-taking, but who wish her every success in her undertaking.

Musical society has been welcoming a new arrival in the person of Miss M. B. Sharp, the present principal of the Victoria Conservatory of Music, and successor to Miss Adams. From all accounts Miss Sharp is worthy to fill the position which she has taken, for not only is music her profession by natural choice, but she is eminently adopted for it. Gifted with a very sensitive temperament she is peculiarly capable of appreciating the delicate sympathies and feelings which music prompts; and, being also firm and determined in manner, has been able to master all the obstacles of the

science. This latter qualification is also an important factor in the art of teaching. Miss Sharp is a Canadian born, being a native of Fredericton; although she has seen a deal of the outside world. Her musical ability is testified to by men of eminence, who cannot afford to give their personal commendation either lightly or in places where it is undeserved. The Chancellor of the New Brunswick University speaks most highly of Miss Sharp's accomplishments; also the Bishop of Fredericton, who is a finished musician himself, and consequently qualified to judge. His lordship speaks of being struck with the power and skill of her voice, which is sweet, sympathetic and expressive. As a player she is highly endorsed. Accompanying Miss Sharp is Miss Walker, also an accomplished musician, who will share the duties of the piano forte department.

I am in a receipt of a letter from a gentleman who severely criticizes the sending of the Victoria Lacrosse Club east to strive for new honors. I can not see that any good end could be gained by publishing the letter and therefore consign it to the waste basket. As the writer, concludes from the defeat of the Victorias at Vancouver that they will neither "honor nor advertise the city," I may be pardoned at this late hour for saying that it is strongly in evidence that the Vancouvers had made up their minds to win that game or die in the attempt. To accomplish this point it is stated that they resorted to downright brutality. The fact that Victoria had won easily every previous match in the championship series, affords striking evidence of the unworthy tactics adopted by the Vancouver team. As for myself, I have great faith in the Victoria club, and would not be at all surprised to see them returning weighted down with honors. A local poet, who feels that he has been overlooked in not being awarded the laureateship, writes thus:

Will they ever come back? Will they
ever come back?
Our heroes all covered with gore?
If they don't make it stick
They'll get struck with a brick
When we meet on that beautiful shore.

PERE GRINATOR.