



Such street-car strikes as those in Brooklyn, St. Louis, and Albany are a kind of civil war—not very civil either. The business of great cities is completely disorganized, and thousands of persons are put to much inconvenience and great loss, and in each case precious lives have been sacrificed. Some board of conciliation, such as has prevented strikes for many years in New Zealand, is surely not beyond the resources of civilization. It has been affirmed that more money has been lost to the labouring classes by strikes than has ever been gained, while there is a

serious peril of the substantial prosperity over which capital and labour are wrangling being scooped up by hard times, which such quarrel invites. It is affirmed that the loss of trade about which there is such outcry in Great Britain at present is the direct result of the colossal strikes of a few years ago

An American cartoon represents Mr. Pierpont Morgan as asking King Edward what he will take for his crown, and another paper describes him as negotiating for the Bank of England and the House of Parliament, or perhaps the British navy. The English people take very philosophically, however, the purchase of steamship companies at a very high rate, and the annexing of American heiresses by what are called Morgan-atic marriages. The King and the London magnates have been showing marked courtesy to the American multi-millionaires, and the nation exhibits no resentment at Mr. Carnegie's generous gift of ten millions to Scottish universities.

## Religious Intelligence.

### THE CONFERENCES.

The first Conferences of the twentieth century have been seasons of unusual interest. A feeling of expectancy and of consecration pervaded these assemblies. It was realized that the progress of the past century but gave grander opportunity and greater obligation for the century to come. The financial success of the Twentieth Century Fund it was felt would be incomplete without the outpouring of a gracious spirit of revival and soul-converting power.

It is most gratifying to note that, notwithstanding the extra effort by which nearly a million and a quarter dollars are laid upon God's altar, most of the connexional funds show no diminution, but in some cases marked increase. Best of all is the evidence of spiritual growth in a general increase of membership throughout the Connexion. Thus we regard it as the omen and harbinger of a great forward movement, when many thousands

more will be brought into the Kingdom of God.

It is significant, too, that a large proportion of this increase comes to us through the Sunday-school. This is as it should be. The school is the best recruiting ground of the church. Those who enter by this door into the school ought to be better trained, and give promise of longer years of usefulness and development, of nobler Christian character, than those who are rescued from the world after years of sin. Intrinsically precious as all souls are, it is wise of the Church to seek first of all, and above all, the incorporation of its own children into the household of faith. The largely increased circulation of our Sunday-school periodicals is one indication of the life that throbs in this most important department of our Church's operations. Methodism in all its branches lies under an obligation of unspeakable importance to the many thousands of faithful, unwearying teachers who