

lung missions, its imperious problems demanding solution, without following the reports and discussions in the connexional press.

There is a good deal said about cheapening the religious paper so as to compete with the secular journals which derive large revenue from liquor, tobacco, theatrical and quack medicine advertisements. The policy is a mistaken one. Methodists don't want poor and cheap papers any more than they want poor and cheap food. The best is not too good. The better way is to improve the paper—to make it so good—mechanically, artistically, editorially—that intelligent Methodists cannot do without it, that they will open it eagerly to see what their own paper has to say this week on this and that and the other great question of the day.

We magnify the editor's office. Prince Henry conveyed to the members of the craft Kaiser Wilhelm's phrase, that a great editor was equal to a great general. He is more. He marshals thoughts not things, he employs ideas not swords, ballots not bullets. Carlyle says he is the prophet of these latter days. If he is not, he ought to be. He should have the vision and the faculty divine, he should discern the signs of the times, he should tell forth the truth that is in him without fear or favour, for the welfare of man and glory of God.

THE STREET-CAR STRIKE.

It is cause for great regret that the fair fame of Toronto should be marred by the outbreak of violence attending the car strike. The acts of a few scores of hoodlums have brought disgrace on the entire city. The street railway employees were pledged to the observance of law and order, and seem, with scarce an exception, to have kept their pledge. But some of their indiscreet sympathizers, by their reckless destruction of property, did the cause of labour much harm.

There are always in every large community a number of foolish persons who are easily stirred up to excited feelings and deeds of violence. This is the material of which revolutions are made. In every great city there are volcanic elements which may flame forth in an outburst of insurrection. These must be suppressed at any cost. Law and order must be maintained. Turbulent and destructive mobs may not terrorize our cities. Surely the resources of civil-

ization are not powerless in settling disputes between employers and employees. There should be a voluntary or compulsory board of arbitration and conciliation for the prevention of strikes, which are a sort of civil war—and not very civil either. The efforts of Messrs. Ames and Flavelle to settle the strike are worthy of all praise.

The worst feature of such strikes is the setting the masses against the classes—labour against capital. Their interests are not antagonistic but identical—"useless each without the other." The principles of the Gospel and the Golden Rule will yet unite mankind in bonds of blessed brotherhood.

THE TEMPERANCE SITUATION.

We can only reiterate the opinion which we expressed two months ago, that the leader of the Ontario Government has lost the great chance of his life. If he had kept his pledges, made to the people of this Province, that he would give prohibition so far and so soon as it was in his power, we believe that he would have been in a far prouder position than he is today. We believe that the temperance voters would have been roused to enthusiasm, and would have won for him a victory at the polls such as he never had before. But thousands of them, we are informed, refused to vote for the man who had not implemented his pledges by acts. He remains in office indeed, but with depleted ranks, and in many cases with small majorities. The courageous part is always the wisest part. The people will respond to a moral issue as they will to nothing else.

It is to the credit of the Ontario Government that liquor licenses have been very greatly reduced in the last fifteen years; but the consumption of liquor has of late increased. The power of the drink trade has become concentrated, more dominant, more insolent. The thing now to be done, as Dr. Carman says, is to let bygones be bygones, to give the Government another chance, to pile up such a vote for the referendum, though taken at a time that greatly handicaps our efforts, as will show the Government that the temperance sentiment of the Province cannot be trifled with.

We hear continually the string harped upon that prohibition will not