



# The Chronicle

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**CANADIAN LABOUR PARTY PLATFORM.** **T**HE Canadian Labour Party has got out a platform with the following planks:

- 1.—Free state insurance against sickness, old age and unemployment.
- 2.—Prohibition of prison labour in competition with free labour.
- 3.—Suppression of all private banks and founding of a national bank.
- 4.—Complete liberty of the press and speech in public affairs.
- 5.—Election of the judges by the people.
- 6.—Suppression of usurious interest. All interest above the legal rate to be declared criminal.
- 7.—The extension of the jurisdiction of the Minister of Labour.
- 8.—Abolition of the Dominion Senate.
- 9.—Regulation of immigration.
- 10.—That the general elections be at a fixed date every four years without regard to any general elections taking place in the interim.
- 11.—All public lands to be declared inalienable and revocation of grants of land to corporations or individuals who do not comply with the requirements of the law.
- 12.—Creation of an agricultural credit.

There is only one sound plank in the whole platform, that relating to usury. The one referring to the regulation of immigration may be all right, but it is so ambiguous that it may mean anything. That proposing the suppression of the banks is a gem.

**THE** awful slaughter of the aviators in sporting contests and exhibitions for public amusement continues, and increases in frequency. It cries aloud for public condemnation, and legislative action to punish this senseless and brutal waste of human life. That men should be found in plenty who are willing to incur risks in the cause of science and in the service of humanity is altogether creditable. But these foolish aviation meets do nothing whatever to advance the cause of science or the interests of the human race. The victims are simply butchered to gratify a morbid craving for sensational and dangerous excitement. In most of the cases of fatal accidents the aviators are jeered and bullied by the mobs of spectators into doing things which are condemned by their own

better judgment. These shows do no more for the improvement of aviation than the deadly automobile track races do for automobiling. They are rapidly becoming a reproach to any community which tolerates them.

**GREAT FLOODS IN CHINA.** **B**Y the rising of the Yangtse-Kiang river, the most important channel of commerce in China, a hundred thousand people have been drowned, and the cotton and rice crops along the Yangtse-Kiang valley for a distance of seven hundred miles, have been destroyed. This river and most of its tributaries are very liable to floods. One of them, the Han river, at low water is only a foot below the level of the adjoining plains, and frequently rises twenty-six feet above that level. Another, the Hwai-ho, often floods the country for ten or twenty miles on each side. How little is known in the western world about China is illustrated by the fact that the very name of the Yangtse-Kiang, which is 2,900 miles long and navigable by big steamers for 800 miles is hardly known on this continent. That the flood will be followed by a serious famine is almost certain.

**A SETTLEMENT OF THE MOROCCAN QUESTION IN SIGHT.** **T**HERE is every likelihood that the immediate danger of war between France and Germany is over.

What could not be accomplished by diplomacy has been forced by the financial panic in Germany. War is becoming more and more a question of money—big money. Germany could not hope to borrow money in England or France for a war against either of those countries and recent developments on the Berlin bourse have made the possibility of raising the money at home very doubtful. The necessity of terminating the panic is no doubt responsible for the precipitate announcement of Germany's contempt for African sand-hills while the negotiations with France are far from complete. The basis of the settlement in view may be gathered from the statement made by the German Foreign Secretary to Messrs. Richard Barthold and C. F. Wolfram, special commissioners of President Taft to the unveiling of the Von Steuben monument at Berlin. Minister von Kiderlen-Waechter told the visitors