

A STRONG ADDRESS.

The Cotton Growers Are Urged to Combine.

AN INTERESTING PAPER.

Way for the Farmers to Protect Themselves is Pointed Out in Detail. The Danger Imminent.

To the Cotton Growers of South Carolina.

The special committee appointed by the Cotton Growers' union of the State held in Columbia on the 20th inst., desire to say that the exceedingly low prices of cotton at the present, with the indication of lower prices still in the future, painfully admonish us that we have reached a crisis in the history of the industry.

Touching this point, Ellison in his "History of the Cotton Trade," pages 149-152, says: "For some years prior to the outbreak of the civil war it had been foreseen that, sooner or later a serious labor disturbance at the south was inevitable, and in view of the calamity which such an event would bring upon Lancashire, every effort was made to discover new sources of cotton supply.

Mr. Ellison further tells us that while the exceedingly high prices during the war did considerably increase foreign shipments of cotton, that this increase declined almost to its normal base as soon as the price of cotton fell to 15 cents or 20 cents per pound. If no action is taken and this crop is sacrificed at present or probably lower figures in the next four months it will fall far short of paying for the cost of production.

A GREAT SCHEME.

By Which the Cotton Acreage Can be Decreased.

There is a cotton man in Columbia who has a great scheme on foot for the reduction of the cotton acreage. He says he intends to push it to a grand and glorious success and no doubt he will if he can get the proper co-operation. There is a degree of uncertainty about his being able to do that, however.

Cost Him His Arm.

William Roelker, a German ironworker, twisted a lion's tail at East St. Louis, and will lose his left arm. John F. Hummel's circus and menagerie was to give an exhibition. The animal wagons were lined up, preparatory to the parade.

Beats Walking.

When a man walks a mile he takes, on an average, 2,263 steps, lifting the weight of his body with each step. When he rides a bicycle with the equivalent of only 127 steps requires little force, bears no burden, and covers the same distance in less than one-third of the time.

Another Hold Up.

A special from Elyria, Ohio, says: Another hold-up occurred on the Lake Shore road west of here. One gang of tramps held up the officials on a freight train and took everything in sight.

CLIMATE AND CROPS.

South Carolina Has Some Crop Growing the Year Round.

INSPECTOR BAUER'S REPORT

Much Valuable Information Furnished as to the Conditions in This State During Each Month.

The following is the climate and crop review for the season of 1898 issued from the South Carolina section of the United States weather and crop service Thursday.

There is no month of the year but which in portions of the State, some crops are either growing or coming to maturity. During January, February and generally the greater portion of March the active growth of crops is confined to the immediate coast from Charleston to the mouth of the Savannah river, where winter vegetables, planted in the previous autumn, receive cultivation and make more or less growth.

The winter season of 1898 was mild and dry. The average temperature for January was 49 degrees, which was an average of 3 degrees per day in excess of the normal. Along the coast the temperature fell below freezing (32) on two days only, while the average minimum was above the active growing temperature.

February was a cool month throughout the State, with an average temperature of 44 degrees which was 6 degrees per day below the normal. The minimum fell to, or below, freezing on an average of 16 days for the State, and 5 days in the truck raising districts, where also, the average minimum was unusually large.

March was a warm, dry month. The mean temperature was 59 degrees, which was 5 degrees per day above the normal. The extremes recorded were a maximum of 92 and a minimum of 22 degrees, the latter on the first of the month.

The prevailing high temperature caused a rapid growth of vegetation. The freedom of the soil from excessive moisture enabled early and thorough preparation of lands for the usual spring crops. Fruit trees of all varieties blossomed during the month.

April was cooler than usual, with a mean temperature of 58 degrees, which was 5 degrees per day below the normal. The extremes of temperature were a maximum of 92 degrees and a minimum of 25 degrees. Frequent light frosts occurred up to the 28th, none of which, although heavy in appearance, did any damage except to retard the growth of young corn and cotton.

Corn planting made considerable progress during the month, and the bulk of the cotton crop was also planted, there remaining but little of either crop to plant by the end of the month, except over the western counties, where the farm work was delayed, and was frequently interrupted by heavy rains.

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BATTLE OF MANILA.

A Retired French Naval Officer's Observation About It.

THE SPANIARDS NO GOOD.

They are Dreamers and Dwell in the Past. The Marksmanship of the Americans Excellent.

The Courier des Etats-Unis is publishing a series of letters from Manila, one of which gives an account of the battle of Cavite by a retired French naval officer who lived for a long time in the Philippine islands, and whose country house was situated between Cavite and Manila.

"Now, monsieur," asked the correspondent, "since your house was so near the scene of the battle, be good enough to tell us what the affair looked like."

"Well, I will tell you the thing simply and just as it occurred. At 5 o'clock that morning I was in bed. I heard a long, dull sound, I thought that it was a signal announcing the arrival of a French or an English vessel. My wife awoke and asked, 'What is that?'

After the 10th of September, ideal weather prevailed for harvesting and maturing crops. Rust, shedding and rotting ceased on cotton, and picking went on rapidly, which as it advanced seemed to indicate a shortage in the crop over the eastern and central counties, but also indicated a full average crop in the western counties.

Considerable corn was housed, and much found to be damaged from sprouting in the husk. Local overflows of rivers and creeks also damaged some corn, but on the whole the early corn had a good average yield, with many exceptions, owing to local adverse conditions.

Rice harvest continued throughout the month, and except where damaged by floods, yielded heavily. Upland rice was particularly fine in most localities. A heavy crop of peavine and other hay was saved in good condition.

The season as a whole for sweet potatoes, chufas, peanuts, sugar and sorghum cane, turnips, and for garden truck, after the middle of June, was very favorable and the yields large.

A short resume of the season would show that the winter was dry with nearly normal temperature; the spring cool, with frequent light frosts, and a deficiency in rainfall amounting to a drought of more or less severity, and entailing considerable loss in some localities.

The average rainfall for the month was 7.81 inches, which was 1.71 above the normal, and was evenly distributed, with an average of 14 days with rain. There was more than the usual amount of cloudiness. Few severe windstorms occurred, and there was an almost entire absence of destructive hail.

Crop developed satisfactorily, especially corn, which attained a very promising condition although the prospects did not indicate a full crop in all sections of the State. Cotton grew too much to stalk, and owing to the continuous wet condition of the soil, did not receive its usual July cultivation, and fields became grassy.

The official Gazette at Havana published a decree Thursday signed by Capt. Gen. Blanco and bearing date of September 27, granting pardon to and ordering the release of all political prisoners now undergoing confinement in the island.

PLEEBING FOR THEIR LIVES.

A Mighty Sea of Fire Sweeps Everything Before it.

A RACE RIOT.

Whites and Blacks Have a Fight Up in Illinois.

IT TOOK PLACE AT PANAMA.

The Blacks Driven from the Streets to Their Blockades by the Striking Union Miners.

Striking union coal miners and imported negroes engaged in a pitched battle in the Main street of Panama, Ill., Wednesday night. Several hundred shots were exchanged.

No one was wounded in the ranks of the union men. The negroes were driven from the city to their stockades, carrying with them, it is believed, a number of wounded comrades. One of the negroes is reported to have died soon after reaching the stockade.

The trouble, which has been narrowly averted between the striking coal miners of this city and negroes imported from the South to work the mines, was precipitated at 8:30 o'clock Wednesday evening.

As usual, the negroes from the stockades at the Springside and Penwell mines were making demonstrations on the streets of the city, by parading heavily armed. The union miners were in session at their hall, where a Chicago labor leader was speaking.

Before Smith had released the prisoner, however, the negro posse had been reinforced and assumed a threatening attitude toward the white men. David McGavie, leader of the union miners, clubbed one of the blacks over the head with a revolver, it is said.

Reports from the western portion of Colorado continue to tell of the ravages of the forest fires, which bid fair to devastate the greater part of the forests of the State. A special from Glenwood Springs, the centre of the burning district, says: "The fires in the mountains near here have taken fresh life today owing to high winds."

Among the passengers who arrived Wednesday at New York on the steamer Washington from Havana was Dr. Jose Dr. Congosto, secretary-general of Cuba. Dr. Congosto said the probability of the future of the island is a difficult one, and I have studied it without prejudice, and as a result of this study of years I believe that it is a social problem and not a political one.

Dr. Congosto was asked as to the condition of the reconcentrados. "There are no reconcentrados now," he answered with a smile. "What has become of them?" was the question. "Where?" "Do you mean to say they are all dead?"

An interesting case came before a Buffalo court the other day. It was based upon one woman's remark about another. "She uses pads to fill out her figure and make the boys think she's a stunner," the defendant is alleged to have said of the plaintiff. The law presumes a defendant to be innocent till proven guilty. The onus of the burden of proof, therefore, was upon the plaintiff to show that she did not use pads, and the defendant had slandered her.

A Fatal Powder Explosion. An explosion of powder Wednesday in the rear of the four-story building at 410 North Front street, St. Louis, occupied by C. & W. McLean, fishing tackle and sporting goods, set the store on fire and caused its destruction and resulted in the death of Pauline Bruders and the fatal injury of Florence Higbee. A number of other people were more or less hurt. The loss will probably amount to \$100,000. Partly covered by insurance.

RECONCENTRADOS ALL DEAD.

So Spoke the Secretary General of Cuba in New York.

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"That explains it better than I can. It is a subject which I prefer not to discuss."

"When asked as to the establishment of a new navy for Spain, Dr. Congosto said: 'Spain is still a great country, and she ought to have a great navy—and probably will.'"

Discussing the fall of Santiago and the surrender of Gen. Toral Dr. Congosto said: "There were brave soldiers at Santiago, and if their leader lacked courage he deserves to be punished. Santiago should not have fallen as it did, and if Toral had never entered into negotiations with the enemy it is likely that there would have been a different story to tell today. It is not true that the Spanish army there lacked supplies and ammunition, for they had plenty of both which they turned over to the Americans. If Toral had pushed forward instead of retreating toward the city, he certainly would have caused a repulse. These are things which he will have to explain."

A Perilous Trip. The United States transport Massachusetts, Captain Robinson, which sailed from Santiago September 23, arrived at New York Wednesday and proceeded to anchor off Liberty Island. While at Santiago the coal fire, the Massachusetts' bunkers took fire, it was necessary to jettison 100 tons. A portion of this coal was taken on board again. On going to sea the fire again broke out in the fire bunkers and smoldered for three days. It was finally extinguished by the use of steam, and the steamer reached port without further incident.

A Georgia Tragedy. A special from Waynesboro, Ga., says: Upright Lanier, son of S. E. Lanier, was killed here early Friday morning by Scott Beaton. Lanier went to Beaton's store, and, it is said, threatened and cursed him, whereupon Beaton got a revolver and shot Lanier. Beaton surrendered. The coroner's inquest is progressing.

A Neat Swindle. Michigan pays a bounty for the heads of dead English sparrows. It has recently paid out over \$2,000 on an Indiana crowd of sharpers who have killed the birds by strapping poisoned wheat about the streets of Indiana cities. The carcasses were shipped to southern Michigan towns, and the bounties collected as on birds killed in Michigan.

DISEASES OF CATTLE.

Veterinary Surgeon Nelson, of Clemson college, has written a long letter to Governor Ellerbe in reference to diseases of cattle in the state.

He says that it is necessary to have an assistant if the business is to be properly attended to. These letters have been sent to Washington with the governor's recommendation that the department of Clemson college has done much good work heretofore and the state authorities hope the government will send the additional surgeon.

Prisoners Released. The official Gazette at Havana published a decree Thursday signed by Capt. Gen. Blanco and bearing date of September 27, granting pardon to and ordering the release of all political prisoners now undergoing confinement in the island.

Five Thousand Head of Cattle Doomed to Death. Serious Situation. A prairie fire, probably started by a spark from a locomotive, has burned thousands of acres of grassy lands between Kiowa and Bijou creeks in Morgan county, Col., and destroyed thousands of tons of hay.

Ranchman W. C. Miller and his wife and child had a narrow escape from being burned to death. The woman and the child were badly burned. Had it not been for the prompt work of the railroad men and others at Corona, the town would have been entirely destroyed.

Dispatches from various points in the forest fire district indicate that the fires are spreading more rapidly than in other sections of the State. Large tracts of property have been burned and the farmers with their stock have been trying to get out of the path of the fires for a week past.

One large bunch of about 5,000 head of cattle is now entirely surrounded by fire and there is no chance for them to escape. The report came from Deputy Game Warden Slaughter, who directed his letter two days ago. It is probable that the cattle have been destroyed by this time.

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