

The annual meeting of the State Alliance was held last week at Hillboro, and is said to have been attended by less than half as many delegates as in former years, before that once influential organization was almost destroyed by office-seeking demagogues.

It is said that the leaders at this meeting decided to attempt to revive the Alliance, and in order to entrap again the unwary they appointed a committee of six—two of whom are said to be Democrats, two Republicans and two Populists—to issue an address to the farmers urging them once more to join "Our noble order." This address will soon be issued and two from each party were appointed to prepare it in order to show that the Alliance "had gone out of politics." And in order to convince Democratic farmers that the Alliance had really gone out of politics this meeting elected Democrats (as they claim) as president and business manager of the State Alliance.

But there is an old saying that "A burnt child is afraid of fire," and the honest Democratic farmers of North Carolina are not likely to join again an organization, which they once thought was designed for their welfare and which they once joined in good faith, but which they abandoned when it was carried into politics and used as a ladder for selfish demagogues to climb into office on.

The attempt now to make the farmers believe that the Alliance is not in politics and is non-political recalls to mind the denials and protestations that were made ten years ago, when certain men were accused of trying to carry the Alliance into politics. And we also remember that afterwards, when those leaders thought they could safely throw off their mask, they boldly declared that the "Alliance is in politics," and not only that but "it is in STAY!"

It is very significant that a large majority of the men now trying to revive the Alliance are opposed to the proposed suffrage amendment.

The storm that swept over the island of Porto Rico, last week, was one of the most destructive ever known in any age or country. It is awful to think of so many hundreds, if not thousands, of human beings so suddenly swept to a horrible death.

As soon as the first news of this terrible calamity reached this country the Secretary of War at once ordered every available means to be used for the relief of the surviving sufferers, and also appealed to the large cities for contributions to be sent them. And the first response to this appeal promptly came from Vice-President St. John, of the Seaboard Air Line, who immediately telegraphed Secretary Root that his road "will most cheerfully transport such contributions over its own rails free of charge." This, however, is no more than might have been expected from this public spirited railroad officer.

The editor of the Record most highly appreciates the too flattering compliments paid him recently by so many of his brother editors and other esteemed friends in recommending him for the very distinguished position of Professor of Law at the University. Coming from such sources, and so utterly unexpected, such compliments are the more highly appreciated, and will ever be most gratefully prized. And yet it is proper to state that the subject of them has not had and does not have the slightest idea of either filling or even aspiring to that position. This much is said, even at the risk of being charged with declining what was not offered, because our silence might be misunderstood.

It is a subject for great thanks that the yellow fever outbreak at Hampton, Virginia, was so promptly and effectually checked. It reflects much credit on the Federal quarantine officials, who so quickly mastered the situation.

All quarantine restrictions imposed by the adjacent cities have been removed, and travel is now unrestricted from Old Point Comfort to all the outside world.

AGUINALDO'S appeal to the great Powers of Europe for a recognition of belligerent rights is far more reasonable and just than was the appeal of the Cuban insurgents, two years ago. Cleveland and then McKinley was bitterly denounced for not recognizing the belligerent rights of the Cuban insurgents, and yet now some of the same persons who denounced them are opposed to according belligerent rights to Aguinaldo and his followers.

There is great inconsistency in this. When belligerent rights were demanded for the Cuban insurgents they were not in possession of any large town or of any considerable part of Cuba, and they carried on a guerrilla or predatory war. With the Filipinos it is far different. When Dewey destroyed the Spanish fleet in the Bay of Manila the Filipinos were in practical possession of all the island of Luzon except the city of Manila, and that would soon have been captured by them. And even now, after our great government has been waging war against them for seven months with a large army of our best soldiers, these Filipinos are still in possession of nearly the entire island of Luzon. Our troops only hold the city of Manila and the adjacent country for a few miles. Aguinaldo's army is far superior in discipline, bravery, equipment and efficiency to any army ever raised by the Cubans.

Why then should not belligerent rights be demanded for the Filipinos by those who so warmly espoused the cause of the Cuban insurgents?

SAN DOMINGO is one of the West India islands that is inhabited and governed almost exclusively by negroes. They obtained their liberty many years ago and have been attempting to govern themselves for nearly a hundred years. They have therefore had ample time and full opportunity to test their capacity for self-government. And what is their present condition?

A bloody revolution is now raging on that unhappy island, and almost a state of anarchy prevails. The President of the Republic was recently assassinated, and an armed conflict is now being carried on by rival candidates for his place. There is absolutely no security for life, liberty or property. If these San Domingo negroes, who have had their liberty a hundred years, thus prove themselves unfit for self-government, why should any white man wish the ignorant negroes of North Carolina, who have had their liberty only thirty-four years, to rule or participate in the government of any part of our good old State?

Weekly Crop Bulletin.

The reports by crop correspondents for the week ending Monday, August 14, 1899, indicate very favorable weather and satisfactory progress in the growth of crops. The temperature was high, but without great extremes, and the mean for the week averaged a little less than 2 degrees above the normal. Showers were frequent, but generally not excessive and occurred with favorable intervals of sunshine. In fact the conditions during the week could hardly have been better and crops on the whole continue to do well. In a few sections it is feared that there has occurred too much rain for crops in low places. Damage by worms to late corn, and now also to peanuts, gardens and meadows is still reported; late cabbage in the west has also been injured.

Crops throughout the State continue to present a fresh and vigorous appearance. Early corn is practically matured and late corn is earing well and a large crop is now assured; lowland corn in the west is fine, but ripening will be short. Fodder is earing nicely; some has been saved and pulling will soon become general. The decline in the condition of cotton since August 1st has been comparatively slight; while sheathing continues and some rust has been reported, the amount is not greater than usually occurs at this season. The crop is opening slowly and the only element of danger is the possibility of damage by early frost.

Mexican troops have met the Yaqui warriors and two battles have been fought. On August 10 General Torres came upon the Indians at Vicam and sharp fighting followed. Thirty-seven Indians were killed and the Mexicans lost ten men.

A 15-year-old boy, while bathing in the river near Jacksonville, Florida, on last Tuesday, was bitten by a shark and died from his injuries four hours after the accident.

DESTRUCTIVE STORM!

Thousands Dead—Porto Rico Devastated—Widespread Destruction &c.

Ponce, Porto Rico, Aug. 12.—The terrific wind which accompanied the recent storm destroyed the crops and demolished a number of houses on the higher ground, while the floods destroyed bridges and houses and caused great loss of human life. A large number of cattle were killed. The storm was most severe in the central part of the island and along the southern coast. Three hundred bodies have been buried in the city of Ponce, and it is estimated that 2,000 persons were drowned in the Ponce district. The number of people of the lower classes lost is not known, but it is certain that there were few fatalities among the persons of the better class, and none among the Americans. The work of clearing away the debris progresses slowly.

Yabucoa, Atajates and Humacao were devastated, and in some instances entire villages were swept out of existence. One hundred persons are reported to have been killed on a coffee plantation. Everybody is ruined, pestilence threatens and money and work are needed, and a newspaper appeal has been made to the American people for relief. The calamity, with the commercial depression, has produced a terrible condition of affairs.

San Juan, de Porto Rico, Aug. 12.—According to an official report received here, the port of Aricoiba was destroyed during the recent severe storm, the place being inundated by water from the ocean and river; 200 bodies are in the morgue there, and hundreds of persons are missing. A number of wealthy citizens, who lived on plantations in the suburbs, were drowned.

The commanding officers of the district has ordered that the bodies of the victims of the disaster shall be buried where they are found. San Juan has been applied for supplies.

According to the latest report from Yabucoa, eighty bodies were buried there on Wednesday, while the remains of 200 victims have not been recovered. The crop is the only thing left standing. It is estimated that a number of American soldiers were killed at Manzanillo.

GOVERNMENT DESTROYED.

Washington, D. C., August 12.—Governor General DAVIS, at San Juan de Porto Rico, today issued the following:

"The true state of affairs throughout the island is not yet known because of the total destruction of all telegraphic communication and great destruction of all roads. Not more than one-fourth of the towns are yet heard from, but enough is known to warrant the statement that nearly all the dwellings in the island are totally destroyed, and their owners are without any shelter whatever or any food. The island has been saved from the ravages of the entire crop and most of the trees are ruined, and thus the only support is gone. Fully one-third of the people seek shelter in caves, and a State of general anarchy has been established. All the houses are destroyed, and much of the labor is rotting in the streets. A great many thousands of cattle are drowned and the debris carried down the rivers is strewn over the ocean, with the bodies of animals.

The deaths from falling walls and drowning will number more than a thousand, and maybe several times this number.

"The state of distress is very great, and when the green fruits saved from the debris are consumed, the suffering will be very great. I am relieving the suffering everywhere within reach as much as possible, but in several places there are many thousands who cannot be reached for some time.

"The supplies ordered sent by the government will help much, but will last only a few days, while the destitution must continue for many weeks or some months until the bananas grow up from the ground, for which the people at least are required. Food of all kinds is needed, especially rice, beans and egg fish, which has been the main support outside of fruit.

"Cheap cotton clothing is also needed, for thousands rushed naked from their dwellings at night when the gale broke. Medicines are also needed most pressing, especially quinine and other simple medicines. I estimate that at least 1,000 tons of food will be required weekly for several weeks.

Taking Census in Cuba.

Washington, Aug. 13.—Dr. Frederick Winsor, the assistant director of the census, is preparing the schedules for the Cuban census, which is to be taken this fall, with the hope that it may be completed before Congress meets in December. This is not a part of the work belonging to the Census Bureau, but the bureau will give general supervision to it, at the request of the War Department. The seven provinces of Cuba have been selected by the War Department. There are all Cubans, and they will not have foreign inspectors. The supervisors will be Cuban, but the enumerators, and the census of Cuba will be taken in the same way that the census of the United States will be taken next year.

It is not expected that this census will develop and give data to such the exact condition of the Cuban population as to education, manufacturing, mining and generally statistics, but it will enable the War Department to determine the population of each province and each locality in the island, the condition of its schools, and the number of its inhabitants. These statistics are necessary to enable the United States to project the future needs of the island, and to make a more intelligent estimate of the Cuban people for relief. The calamity, with the commercial depression, has produced a terrible condition of affairs.

When the census is taken the report will be made to Congress, and that report will be a very important one.

The census-takers will report to Congress what has been done, and by means of a return of the census-takers will be made a more accurate estimate of the Cuban population. The work of the census-takers will be to take the census of the Cuban population, and to report the results to Congress. The census-takers will be Cuban, and the census of Cuba will be taken in the same way that the census of the United States will be taken next year.

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A Novel Legal (?) Proceeding.

A legal proceeding lately occurred in Vance township that deserves to go down in the books, and we hereby fork it over to posterity as a valuable precedent. A man moved out of a neighborhood, leaving his dog in the possession of a neighbor. The owner made it a business to disturb the peace of the community, whereupon someone indicted the neighbor for keeping a nuisance. In the trial before the magistrate, it appeared that the dog was not kept in a kennel, as required by law, and was allowed to roam about the neighborhood, getting into a neighbor's yard, and barking and howling, and that the dog had bitten and injured the neighbor's child. The magistrate found in favor of the plaintiff, and the defendant was ordered to pay damages and to keep the dog in a kennel, and to prevent it from biting and injuring anyone. The defendant appealed, and the case was brought before the court. The court found in favor of the plaintiff, and the defendant was ordered to pay damages and to keep the dog in a kennel, and to prevent it from biting and injuring anyone.

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