

THE MILWAUKEE SENTINEL

MORNING EDITION
THIS CIRCULATION OF THE
SENTINEL ON SUNDAY WAS
43,146

THE HASKIN LETTER
Of interest to readers of The Sen-
tinel, will be found hereafter on the
editorial page as a regular feature.

ESTABLISHED 1837—NO. 27,723

MONDAY MORNING, SEPTEMBER 18, 1911—TEN PAGES

Weather forecast: Showers; cooler.

PRICE TWO CENTS

HOPS CROP FALLS SHORT THIS YEAR

Cultivation on Pabst Farm Proves
Expensive for Result and There
Is Hardly Any Profit.

HARVESTING ON FOR A WEEK

Growth Will Be Transferred This
Year From Wauwatosa to New
Tract at Calhoun.

Hop picking at the Pabst farm in Wauwatosa has been in full swing since last Monday. Nearly 500 women and girls are busy harvesting this indispensable ingredient of beer.

While last year the harvest lasted over two weeks, the work was to be done in eight days this year. On account of the extreme dry spell the crop is only half of what it was in 1910. This, of course, means a considerable loss. The cultivation of hops is most expensive and hardly any profits are expected from this year's crop.

As a consequence the price will rise considerably. While last year the hops from the Wauwatosa field were valued at 42 cents a pound, at least \$1 will be charged for that quantity this year. Owing to the weather conditions hops ripened a week later than in former years.

Sing Songs at Work.

This is, in sort, the situation from a business and financial viewpoint. But to watch the army of women and girls from Milwaukee and Wauwatosa in the action of picking the hops is a delight, just the same. It is an army of cheerful human beings who manifest the greatest enjoyment of their occupation.

So much do they enjoy their work that most of the time they are singing songs, sometimes all joining in a chorus that can be heard all over the vicinity.

While at work they are sitting on chairs, picking off the hop buds and dropping them in handfuls into the two compartment hop boxes which hold four bushels in each compartment. Hop picking is a healthful occupation. A proof for this is the fact that there are several women who are picking hops in Wauwatosa on advice of their physicians. They asked to be allowed to do the work without pay, but the Pabst company pays them just the same.

Hop Buds to Dry House.

When the throng of pickers invade the field they find awaiting them chairs and hop boxes. The latter are about six feet long and two wide, and have at each end upright boards four or five feet high, across which is laid a pole. Across this pole, likewise, are laid the hop poles around which are twined the hop vines. The vines are carefully stripped of the buds by four to six women who take seats along the poles. Particular pains are taken that none of the foliage gets into the boxes. There are about 100 hop boxes, and a day's pick amounts to about seventy-five bales this year.

At night, when the pickers are finished, men take the hop buds in wagons to the dry house. Here each day's picking is placed in the dry kiln, where the hops are dried for twenty-four hours. Hot air is employed, dry air at a temperature of 80 degrees being blown through the hops from below.

Before it is ready for its final use in flavoring beer, the hop has to go through the "sweating" process. The dried hops

are piled in closed rooms and left for a month. During this time the bud closes up and retains all the oil of the "lupulin" or pollen. On the quantity of this lupulin, which contains the oil, depends the value of the hop. The "hop leaves" are bitter and give the flavor to the beer.

Packed Into Bales.

When through the sweating process the bud is ready for packing and is pressed into bales of 150 pounds weight each. Then it is ready for the market.

The hop farm, which is owned by the Pabst Brewing company, is under the supervision of Charles Zaumeyer, who started the farm six years ago, and who has been in the hop business twenty-six years.

Next year the company will harvest two crops, one at the Wauwatosa farm and another at its new 200 acre farm at Calhoun. The Wauwatosa farm will be discontinued in 1912 and the property will be platted. The acreage has been found too small and the company has purchased a wider field at Calhoun. The shoots from the present farm will be transplanted at the rate of fifteen acres a year until the whole farm is planted.

Trellis System to Be Used.

The trellis system will be employed at the new farm. The poles will not be used to support the vines. telegraph poles will be set along the edges of the field at the end of each row and copper wires stretched from top to top. From the cables cords will be lowered, on which the hop vines will climb.

According to Mr. Zaumeler, a large proportion of the hops used in this country are imported. The rest are grown in Oregon, California, Washington and New York in the order named. The total amount raised here averages 245,000 bales, although this year's crops will be considerably less.

As usually treated, a sprained ankle will disable a man for three or four weeks, but by applying Chamberlain's Liniment freely as soon as the injury is received, and observing the directions with each bottle, a cure can be effected in from two to four days. For sale by all druggists.