

HOPES ARE LESS

Yards Depleted by Attack of Vermin That Defy Frequent Use of Spray.

WORK MAY END SOON

Many Pickers Expected to Find Hop Not Needed and Rapid Progress Reported From All Districts Where Season Is On.

Hop growers in Oregon are keenly disappointed over the small crop that is being harvested this year. Early in the season it appeared to be a big yield of 140,000 or 150,000 bales, but it is doubtful now if the crop will exceed 100,000 bales.

Some well posted authorities believe it may fall to \$3,000 or \$3,000 bales. Last year Oregon produced 137,000 bales of hops.

The vines made a good start in the spring and gave promise of a record yield per acre early in the summer, however, the wet weather brought on a severe attack of hop lice, and in spite of all the efforts of the growers they could not master the plague.

Spraying was resorted to frequently by most of the farmers, and some yards were gone over four or five times. At first it seemed as if the attack had been checked, but the weather was against the growers, and the vermin responded.

As a consequence of the ravages of the aphid and the accompanying loss of honeydew on the vines, the vitality of the hop plants was sapped, and the vines bore thin.

In some yards great patches produced no hops at all, and all yards were affected.

There are numerous instances in the valley of yards that usually produce a heavy crop, but this year they have only 5 or 10 bales for the market.

A few yards will have no hops at all, or at least not enough to pay for the trouble of picking, and in almost every yard there are portions that the pickers will have no occasion to visit.

The most unusual feature reported comes from the Aurora, Silverton, Sheridan and Ballston sections, where the abandoned acreage will be large.

The independence section, one of the most important in the state, appears to have suffered least, but conditions there cannot be called good.

Picking started yesterday in several of the large independence yards, and the reports that came in last night were that the pickers were going through them at a rapid rate, indicating a thin, top crop.

It is feared that many of the pickers who have gone up from this section will be disappointed in finding work.

In some of the districts on the east side of the river pickers are reported to be hiking along the coast, trying to find new locations, as the yards to which they were first directed had no work for their services.

Earlier Crops to Be Less.

Not only in Oregon is the crop coming down below expectations, but the entire American crop will be much less than was figured upon. The latest reports made by reports of the crops of the four hop-producing states are as follows:

Table with 2 columns: State and Bales. Oregon 100,000, California 120,000, Washington 37,000, New York 15,000.

Total 172,000.

In Washington hops are doing better than in other states, but the yield this year is less than last year.

In California adverse weather has reduced the crop, and New York hops also suffered from unfavorable weather conditions.

The market is not established yet, and it is uncertain whether it will be high or low, but the general opinion is that the output in the United States small.

But England has produced only half as much as a crop and has had to depend on needed supplies from Germany and Austria.

RAINS WILL CUT DOWN HOP CROP

Yield Will Not Be 100,000 Bales, Says I. E. Patterson.

SALEM, Or., Aug. 31.—(Special.)—That the Oregon hop crop this year will not exceed 100,000 bales, I. E. Patterson, owner of the largest hop ranch near Salem, and formerly collector of Oregon hops, says today.

He says that the pickers who are going to work on the hop vines this year will be disappointed in finding work.

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OFFERINGS ALSO CHEAPER

Traders Are at Sea as to Future Course of Market—No Hope Seen for Early Foreign Demand for Grain.

With no demand for wheat, prices continue to settle to a lower level. At the Merchants' Exchange yesterday, bluestem held fairly steady at a decline of only 1 cent for prompt delivery, while October bids were unchanged.

Traders are at sea as to the future course of the market, and no hope is seen for an early foreign demand for grain.

There are more or less at sea as to the market. They are unable to see any signs of a betterment in conditions soon, and can do nothing but wait until the market finally settles. They regard prices here, notwithstanding the severe decline, as still too high in comparison with markets elsewhere.

But for the buying in the first part of the month for account of early ships, the August record of Merchants' Exchange according to a Chicago bulletin, shows a decline of 1 cent for the month.

As it is the showing is fairly satisfactory, total sales for the month amounting to 105,000 bushels of wheat, 100 tons of oats, 400 tons of barley and 100 tons of millfeed.

According to a Chicago bulletin, snow set in late in the month, and an increase in wheat yield per acre of Minnesota and North Dakota at 18 bushels, and South Dakota at 17 bushels.

The total yield of the three states he places at 391,000 bushels.

Bradstreet gives the visible wheat decrease at 807,000 bushels, the corn decrease at 227,000 bushels and the oats increase at 400 bushels.

The European visible wheat supply is 58,302,000 bushels, a decrease of 1,200,000 bushels. A year ago it was 59,500,000 bushels, an increase of 2,570,000 bushels.

Terminal receipts yesterday, in cars, were reported by the Merchants' Exchange as follows:

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PRICE IS GOING

Stock Market Affected by Exchange Situation.

PRICE CHANGES NARROW

Steel Holds Leadership in Wall-Street List—Railroad Shares Are in Better Demand, Owing to Increased Dividends.

NEW YORK, Aug. 31.—The extraordinary conditions involved in the foreign exchange situation again served as a restraint upon the stock market activity today.

With demand strong, when the stock market opened at the usual incredible rate, the price of the stock market fell to a level of 4.44, and the price of the stock market fell to a level of 4.44.

Further foreign selling of our stocks, particularly of the European obligations, cannot be overcome short of a credit loan or other form of negotiation with the foreign market.

While American bankers decline to comment on this phase of the situation, it is believed that the only action of interest to the prospective lenders is that consisting of high-grade American securities.

Stocks moved irregularly and at times languidly, but with more moderate improvement toward the close. Pools continued their activity in certain specialties, but failed to assist outside support.

Chicago, Aug. 31.—Wheat sold down to new low prices for the crop today on liquidation and ideal weather conditions.

Closing prices were 1 1/2 cent lower, 12 1/2 September at 90 1/2 and December at 92 1/2. Corn followed wheat on general selling by local traders and under a net of 1/2 cent