expanded rapidly, rising from about 6.6 billion pounds to about 9.0 billion. This annual growth rate, amounting to about 6.5 percent, was several times higher than in the previous decade. Virtually all of this increase was attributable to manmade fibers, the aggregate consumption of which increased by 1.9 billion pounds from 1961 to 1966. Whereas manmade fibers accounted for about 31 percent of the total U.S. consumption in 1960, this proportion rose to about 45 percent by 1966. The share for cotton declined from 62 percent to 51 percent in the same period, and that for wool from six percent to about four percent.

"This dramatic shift in the fiber composition of consumption also had a pronounced effect upon the technology and the traditional structure and organization of producing industries. With the emergence of large chemical concerns as important producers of textile fibers, sizable and increasing amounts of capital were invested in the development of new products, new processing technology, and market promotion, while the use of manmade fibers often resulted in the simplification, or even elimination, of some processing operations. Modern management techniques, and the introduction of new, sophisticated, high-speed machinery resulted in greater efficiency. New products, such as laminated fabrics, were introduced with increasing frequency and gained wider consumer acceptance. As these changes occurred, often at an accelerating rate, many small concerns, lacking adequate capital resources, found it increasingly difficult to adjust to new conditions of production and marketing. Partly as a result of this difficulty, notably in the past decade, there was a pronounced tendency toward merger and consolidation within the industry, and larger companies have thus accounted for a greater share of the market."

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We submit that no segment of the United States textile industry, including cotton, can economically justify the need for protective import quotas.

And, because the manmade fiber textile sector is the most progressive and competitive of all the major fiber groups of the huge industry, it seems rather self-evident that of all the many components of the American textile complex, those involving manmade fibers can make the least legitimate claim for import quota protection.

Industry future

Although United States textile industry spokesmen constantly and consistently express fear for the future in discussions with Members of Congress and with Administration officials, a fear they attribute almost exclusively to the threat of imports, most impartial economists, investment brokers, and textile technicians are agreed that the future for the overall complex appears bright and promising.

And, most leaders of the industry itself agree with this optimistic forecast when they report to their respective stockholders or seek additional financing.

Thus, what started out as the golden decade of textiles in 1957 may well progress into the golden age for the American textile enterprise, for practically every indication of the immediate and even distant future suggests continued growth in demand, in supply, and in profits.

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In the May 2, 1968, issue of the trade journal, *America's Textile* Reporter, James S. Parker, Director of Technical Services for the ATMI, predicted that the United States textile industry "will experience unprecedented growth in the next ten years."

Barring unforeseen circumstances, he declared that the industry will have to be 50% larger 10 years from now to meet increased demands of the buying public, the military and the government, and the needs of other industries. By the year 2,000, he said that the industry would have to be two and a half times as large as it is today.

In the Centennial Issue of *Textile World*, "The Pace of Change: Textiles 1868–2068," April 1968, McGraw-Hill's chief economist, Douglas Greenwald, authored a section entitled "An Economic Forecaster: How Has the Past Shaped Up and What's Ahead for 2068?"

Specifically addressing himself to "Textiles," the economist declared that, "Within the framework of population and output growth over the next 100 years, textile mill production will grow 2810%, or an average of 3.4% per year, compared with a 3511% growth in the past 100 years, or 3.7% per year. The rate of growth will decline gradually after the next 20 years. In the two decades