

(b) a greater reliability both in supply and price since production is not determined by uncertain factors such as the weather as in the case of the natural fibers

(c) aggressive and well-financed promotional campaigns backed by the chemical companies, and the exploitation of trademarks such as Dacron, Orlon, etc.

(d) a greater adaptability of manmade fibers to new processes imparting ease of care features such as permanent press and soil release

(e) a number of technical factors making for ease of handling and greater economy in manufacture such as the ability to operate machinery at greater speeds with less waste.

All available statistical data demonstrate the upward surge in United States production of manmade fibers and products. The use of manmade fibers increased from 21.8% of domestic consumption of all fibers in 1950 to 27.6% in 1960 and 45.4% in 1967 (United States Department of Agriculture, Cotton Situation, March 1968). All forecasts are that the manmade fibers will account for well over 50% of the total consumption of fibers in the 1970's.

Table 1 measures the growth in this sector of the industry.

Manmade fiber productive capacity from 1961 to 1967 increased by 93.1%.

For the same years, manmade fiber production doubled.

Noncellulosic fiber production for the same years tripled.

In terms of mill consumption manmade fibers grew from 2.1 billion pounds in 1961 to 4.2 billion pounds in 1967, an increase of 105.8% with the noncellulosics more than tripling in the same period.

Domestic consumption doubled from 2.0 billion pounds to 4.2 billion pounds.

End use consumption, which measures total utilization in end products grew from 2.1 billion pounds in 1961 to 4.0 billion pounds in 1966, probably doubling the 1961 production in 1967 although figures are not yet available.

Production of manmade fiber spun yarns grew from 241.4 million pounds to 853.9 million pounds, an increase of 253.7% (from 1961 to 1966).

Production of manmade fiber broad woven fabrics grew from 2.4 billion linear yards to 4.2 billion linear yards from 1961 to 1967.

End use consumption for apparel grew from 702 million pounds to 1,303 million pounds from 1961 to 1966.

This is a plentitude of statistics but they all conclusively demonstrate that in every sector of the manmade fiber complex—fibers, yarns, fabrics, and apparel—production and consumption have increased at fantastic rates.

PERFORMANCE IN 1968

Tables 2 and 3 measure the performance of the domestic manmade fiber and fabric industries by the Index of Industrial Production for the years 1961 to 1968. What is striking about these tables is the very large growth in the Indexes for the year 1968. For manmade fiber production, whereas the Index grew by 27 points from 1965 to 1966 and by 13 points from 1966 to 1967, the growth from 1967 to 1968 (April to April) was practically at 100 points, from 252.1 to 351.8. Thus in one year, from 1967 to 1968, the growth in production in manmade fibers was almost equal to the total growth from 1963 to 1967. Production in manmade fiber fabrics shown on Table 3 shows a similar pattern of accelerated growth in 1968. Whereas the Index grew by 23 points from 1965 to 1966 and by 10 points from 1966 to 1967, there has been a 44 point growth from 1967 to 1968 (April to April).

These Indexes show truly remarkable levels of growth well above the growth of the economy as a whole.

A further measurement of growth in 1968 is shown on Table 4, which measures production of manmade fibers in the first quarters of 1966, 1967 and 1968. Although there was no growth in 1967 over 1966, reflecting the general sluggishness in the economy, the growth from 1966 to 1968 (and 1967 to 1968) was by 30.6%. From 1967 to 1968 production of total noncellulosic fibers grew by some 41.7% and from 1966 to 1968 by 50.9%.

Certainly, these figures indicate a present pattern of dynamic growth of the United States industry with no basis upon which to postulate future injury to this industry.