



The Pace of Victory Permits Only A Congratulatory Handshake!

American Industry well merits a decoration for its brilliant record in the Mighty 7th! But, as our newly decorated Pacific heroes quickly return to combat, so industrial leaders aren't resting on their laurels. **Back into Bond action**—they are now busy consolidating recent Payroll Savings Plan gains!

First, many executives are now patriotically working to retain the substantial number of new names recently enrolled during the 7th War Loan. By selective resolicitation, they are urging all new subscribers to maintain Bond buying allotments.

Second, many are also employing selective resolicitation to urge every worker who increased his or her subscription in the 7th to continue on this wise, saving-more-for-the-future basis.

Help to curb inflationary pressures and harvest peacetime prosperity by holding the number of Payroll Savings Plan subscribers—and amounts of individual subscriptions—to the mark set in the Mighty 7th!

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Published Monthly by
CORD AGE MAGAZINE, Inc.
Leo H. Joachim, Editor

Cord Age

Founded in 1922

Business & Editorial Offices
468 Fourth Ave.
New York 16, N. Y.

Volume XLIII

JUNE, 1945

Number 6

Cordage Institute's 25th Anniversary

*Far-Reaching Results in Peace and War Attained by Association of Industry
Now In Its Twenty-sixth Year; Its Constant Endeavors Have Brought Benefits
That Have Been Spread To All Branches of Industry and Nation at Large*



J. S. McDANIEL
Secretary, 1920-1945

CORDAGE INSTITUTE, on June 17, 1945, completed twenty-five years of service to the entire country and to the customers, distributors and manufacturers of hard fiber cordage, wrapping twine and binder twine. Efforts of the Institute during the years have been to benefit its members through serving the country as a whole, the entire industry, the producers of the necessary raw materials, and through cooperation with the Federal and States' governments.

Since 1861 cordage manufacturers have recognized the value of cooperation and have maintained trade associations. For several years prior to 1920 there had been a feeling among leading members of the industry that there was great need for an active trade association which could be

representative of the industry in the truest sense.

After a number of meetings and much preliminary work by a Committee on Organization, composed of Messrs. F. A. Bryant, H. A. Whitlock and C. F. Wall, Cordage Institute was organized at a meeting of manufacturers at New York on June 17, 1920.

Mr. Bryant took a leading part in the organization work, and at its first meeting the members voted their appreciation "for his untiring efforts in their behalf and fully appreciate that only through his patience and hard work has this organization been brought into existence."

EARLY MEMBERSHIP AND LATER GROWTH

The organizing membership of Cordage Institute consisted of Columbian Rope Company, Consumers Cordage Company, Ltd., Hooven & Allison Company, R. A. Kelly Company, New Bedford Cordage Company, Peoria Cordage Company, Plymouth Cordage Company, E. T. Rugg Company, Tubbs Cordage Company, Wall Rope Works, Inc., and Whitlock Cordage Company.

A little over two decades later—just prior to Pearl Harbor—this membership had grown to include:

American Manufacturing Company, Columbian Rope Company, Great Western Cordage, Inc., Hooven & Allison Company, R. A. Kelly Company, New Bedford Cordage Company, Peoria Cordage Company, Plymouth Cordage Company, Portland Cordage Company, E. T.



F. C. HOLMES
First President; First and Fifth Chairman, Executive Committee

Rugg Company, St. Louis Cordage Mills, Tubbs Cordage Company, Wall Rope Works, Inc., and Whitlock Cordage Company.

CORDAGE INSTITUTE OPERATES COUNCIL FOR INDUSTRY

During this war the entire hard fiber cordage and twine industry in the United States has been cooperating in the Cordage and Twine Industry Council, which is operated for the industry by Cordage Institute.

The Consumers Cordage Company, of Canada, resigned from the Institute at the end of 1921 and since that time the Institute's membership has been composed of private, domestic firms in the United States.

Offices for the Institute were first established at 52 Broadway, New York City, but the middle of 1921

offices were leased in the then newly constructed Borden Building at 350 Madison Ave. Except for the years 1931 to 1933, when the offices of the organization were in the Lincoln Building, 60 East 42nd St., the Institute has been located on the 22nd or 23rd floor of the Borden Bldg.

F. C. HOLMES, FIRST PRESIDENT

At the first meeting of Cordage Institute, F. C. Holmes, of the Plymouth Cordage Company, was elected President; H. A. Whitlock, of the Whitlock Cordage Company, was elected Vice President; and these, together with F. A. Bryant, of the New Bedford Cordage Company, composed the Executive Committee.

These officers continued until the middle of the year 1922, when H. A. Whitlock became President; H. G. Metcalf, Vice President; and F. C. Holmes, the third member of the Executive Committee. In June, 1926, H. G. Metcalf was elected President; C. F. Wall, Vice President, and H. A. Whitlock the third member of the Executive Committee. During these years, the President also served as Chairman of the Executive Committee.

Early in 1928, the Articles of Organization of Cordage Institute were changed to provide for only one officer of the organization, the Secretary, who presided at all meetings. In January 1943, the Chairman of the Executive Committee became the presiding officer.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN

During the first twenty-five years of Cordage Institute, the following terms of office, as Chairman of the Executive Committee, have been held: F. C. Holmes, 7; H. A. Whitlock, 6; F. A. Bryant, 5½; E. W. Brewster, 4½; H. G. Metcalf, 2; Colonel S. W. Metcalf was elected in 1942 as member and Chairman of the Executive Committee but resigned to enter the Armed Forces of his country; Mr. Whitlock filled out his term of office and is now serving his seventh term of office.

Other members of the Executive Committee during the years have been W. C. Craig, N. Myers Fitler, E. C. Heidrich, Jr., E. D. Martin, F. P. McCann, Howard Rugg, R. C. Utess, O. H. Vieths, C. F. Wall, H. M. Wall and W. F. Wall.

J. S. MCDANIEL SECRETARY FOR 25 YEARS

The first Executive Committee of Cordage Institute elected J. S. McDaniel as Secretary-Treasurer, which office he has held continuously since the organization of the Institute. Mr. McDaniel succeeded Henry W. Grimwood, who had been Secretary of the Cordage Manufacturers Association from the year 1898 until his retirement several years before the formation of the Institute in 1920.

Thoroughly familiar with trade



F. A. BRYANT

Member, Organizing Committee; Fourth and Sixth Chairman, Executive Committee

association work, Mr. McDaniel was one of the organizers of the American Trade Association Executives, which observed its 25th anniversary in 1944, at which time he and other charter members were especially recognized. At present he is Director through 1948 of the Trade Association Executives in New York City, member of the National Industrial Council of the National Association of Manufacturers, and Liaison-Adviser to the Committee on World Trade Policy of the N.A.M., representing the N.I.C. manufacturing trade group.

Miss Ruth Lohman has been Mr. McDaniel's chief assistant since November 1923, and during his absence from the country on extended trips she has had complete charge of the management of the offices. Other assistants and their length of service are Miss Ann Mulcahy, 11 years, and Miss Allison O'Donnell, five years.

Gilbert H. Montague, of New York, acted as counsel for the Insti-

tute during its organization period and until June 1933. The Institute has had counsel in Washington since 1933 of the law firm of the former Senator from Missouri, Harry B. Hawes. Its counsel in New York, since February 1943, has been Jackson, Nash, Brophy, Barringer & Brooks. Bon Geaslin, former general counsel of the U. S. Maritime Commission, represented the United States Binder Twine Committee during the years 1939-1942, with which Committee the Institute closely cooperated. William Whyman, of New York City, former special U. S. Attorney, Customs Division, Department of Justice, has represented the Institute on customs matters since 1938.

Any history of Cordage Institute would be incomplete without mentioning Raymond A. Walsh, who passed away in 1939. Mr. Walsh was the law partner of former Senator Harry B. Hawes. He was particularly active in connection with passage of laws pertaining to prison competition, the Tariff Act of 1930, and the preparation and administration of the Code of Fair Competition in N.R.A. days.

SCOPE AND OBJECTS ALONG MODERN ASSOCIATION LINES

The scope and objects of Cordage Institute were modeled along the broad lines of modern trade associations which were developing during the second decade of the century. Much care was given by the Committee on Organization to this feature. The experience of the industry, during the first World War, influenced the early activities of the Institute. The organizers were cognizant of the necessity, for national security reasons, of an adequate hard fiber cordage and twine industry in the U. S. sufficiently large enough to meet the demands in times of war.

Therefore, some of the early activities of the Institute centered around, first, the maintenance of adequate raw fiber supplies; second, the alleviation of conditions tending toward a decrease in the productive facilities of cordage and twine in the United States (which decrease would be a serious blow to the national peacetime economy and a deadly blow to national defense); and, third, the maintenance of adequate statistical information about the industry as a whole.

AIMS AT TARIFF PROTECTION TO EQUALIZE COSTS

The industry has always been confronted with importation of cordage and twine. Over-production of raw material (fiber) has resulted in attempts by producers of the fiber to dispose of surpluses in the form of finished products, made by cheap labor, in the United States where selling prices must reflect relatively higher labor costs.

Cognizant of the lower cost of producing foreign-made hard fiber prod-



C. F. WALL

Member, Organizing Committee

ucts, the industry's position over the years has been to endeavor to retain such tariff protection as was necessary to equalize these costs.

REPRESENTS INDUSTRY ON TARIFF IN 1921 AND 1929

Early in the history of Cordage Institute—in 1921—it was confronted with presenting facts to the U. S. Congress, which was then considering the Fordney-McCumber Tariff Bill. At that time, the protection obtained was ¾ of 1 cent per pound on cordage of Manila or other hard fibers.

Again in 1929, the Cordage Institute represented the industry in the presentation of briefs and arguments before the Congress when it considered the Hawley-Smoot Tariff Bill. At this time the industry obtained an increase in protection, the new tariff act providing for a duty of 2 cents per pound on cordage of Manila, sisal or other hard fibers, with an additional 15 per cent ad valorem on sizes smaller than ¾-in. diameter; and 40 per cent ad valorem

on Cords and Twines made of Manila, sisal or other hard fibers. Binder twine remained on the Free List.

RETAINS TARIFF PROTECTION ON MANILA CORDAGE

Since June 1934, when the Reciprocal Trade Agreements Act was enacted, Cordage Institute has represented the industry before governmental agencies considering trade agreements. To date, it has been able to retain the tariff protection on Manila cordage, and, for a while, the protection on sisal and henequen cordage and wrapping twines. Tariffs were reduced fifty per cent on sisal rope and hard fiber twines in 1935 and on henequen rope in 1942.

EFFORTS RESULT IN BENEFITS DURING WORLD WAR II

These efforts, as it later developed, were in the interests of the country for, during the second World War, more than the capacity of the industry in the United States was required. Eighty per cent of the cordage produced since Pearl Harbor has been used directly by the Army, Navy, Air Corps, War Shipping Administration and Maritime Commission. The balance has been used for complementary, essential war uses such as oil well production, wire rope centers, transmission of power, construction and engineering projects, farm operations, commercial fishing, general industrial uses, operation and maintenance of railroads, air and other transport, and other essential purposes. The industry has also been called upon to maintain its production of binder twine for the harvesting of small grains. These uses were so essential that the production of hard fiber wrapping twine had to be stopped temporarily.

CLOSE COOPERATION ON P. I. PRODUCTION OF CORDAGE

Cordage Institute has interested itself in the production of cordage in the Philippine Islands since 1921, in which year it was proposed to manufacture rope from Philippine-grown Manila fiber at the Bilibid Prison in Manila.

In all of the considerations of this problem of the production of cordage in the Philippine Islands—with labor relatively much cheaper than in the United States and with no tariff

protection against imports from the Philippine Islands—the Institute has been acutely aware of its responsibilities to the Philippines.

Close cooperation has been maintained with Philippine government officials, economists and members of Congress interested in Philippine-United States relations.

QUOTA PLAN OBTAINED BY AGREEMENT WITH P. I. PRESIDENT

The solution to this troublesome problem was found by the inclusion



H. A. WHITLOCK

Member, Organizing Committee; Second President; Second and Ninth Chairman, Executive Committee

of provisions in the Hare-Hawes-Cutting Act (1933) and the McDuffie-Tydings Act (1934) and, subsequently, by the passage of the Cordage Act of June 14, 1935, and amendments to the McDuffie-Tydings Act, establishing a definite fixed quota on imports of Philippine-made hard fiber cordage and twine of six million pounds per annum. These provisions were obtained by agreement with the President of the Philippine Islands, expressed in acts of U. S. Congress.

SOLVING PROBLEM OF PRISON COMPETITION WITH INDUSTRY

Another problem which confronted the industry when Cordage Institute was organized was the production of cordage, binder twine and wrapping twine in States' prisons.

In November 1930, a Committee, composed of W. P. Libby, of the Plymouth Cordage Company, Colonel S. W. Metcalf, of Columbian Rope Company, and J. S. McDaniel,

Secretary of the Institute, together with Raymond A. Walsh, Counsel, was organized to consider this matter and prepare a program of activity. That Committee is still active.

The Institute advocated a diversification of prison production so that the burden of competition of prison-made products—made with little or no labor costs and with other overhead costs at times absorbed by various States accounting systems—would not fall too heavily on any one industry.

SUPPORTS PASSAGE OF VITAL LEGISLATION ON PRISON PRODUCTS

Cordage Institute advocated and supported the passage of the Hawes-Cooper Act, in January 1929, "An Act to divest goods, wares, and merchandise manufactured, produced, or mined by convicts or prisoners of their interstate character in certain cases"; in the early part of 1935, the Ashurst-Sumners Act forbidding interstate shipment of prison-made goods with intent to sell same in violation of State laws and requiring all containers to be plainly labeled regardless of destination; and, in the latter part of 1940, Public No. 851, 76th Congress, effective October 1941, forbidding interstate transportation of prison-made goods except the products of Federal or District of Columbia prisons for Federal use and products of State prisons for use by any other States or State or political subdivisions thereof, parts for the repair of farm machinery and agricultural commodities.

Cordage Institute, through its counsel, has intervened as *amici curiae* in court tests of the validity and constitutionality of the Federal Acts. The Hawes-Cooper Act and the Ashurst-Sumners Act have been sustained by the United States Supreme Court. The validity of Public 851 has not yet been tested.

AIDS IN STATE LEGISLATION ON PRISON COMPETITION

In addition to the passage of Federal Acts, Cordage Institute, through its Committee on Prison Competition, has interested itself over the years in passage of laws in various states, pertaining to prison competition, so that at the beginning of the current war, forty states had enacted statutes affecting the sale of prison-made products.

FAIR TRADE PRACTICES

Cordage Institute has always advocated fair trade practices and has maintained close cooperation with the Federal Trade Commission, the United States Tariff Commission, and other governmental regulatory bodies to insure that the products offered to the public would be in conformity with fair practices. Outstanding examples were (1) Federal Trade Commission orders prohibiting the sale of rope made from old rope yarn as Manila rope (thus sustaining earlier agreement that no



H. G. METCALF
Third President; Third Chairman,
Executive Committee

rope would be called as Manila rope unless it was made of new Manila fiber) and the prohibition, by the President, upon findings of the U. S. Tariff Commission, of the sale of mixed sisal and Manila rope as Manila rope.

TECHNICAL RESEARCH, PRODUCT STANDARDS, AND SIMPLIFICATION

Principal among the activities of the Institute have been technical research, the establishment of product standards, and the simplification of products—all designed to improve the products, lower costs of production and distribution and protect the consumer.

Cooperating with U. S. Department of Commerce, the Bureau of Standards of that Department, and the American Society for Testing Materials, testing methods have been developed and improved and standards for same adopted.

These efforts have been accomplished through the Technical Committee of Cordage Institute, one of the first committees organized. This

group, then known as Laboratory Test Committee—Standardization of Cordage, met first with several Federal government department representatives and representatives of the City of New York, at the Bureau of Standards, Washington, in April 1922.

SPECIFICATIONS FOR HARD FIBER CORDAGE AND TWINE

This committee has also cooperated, since 1924, with the Federal Specifications Board, the U. S. Army, Navy, Maritime, Coast Guard and other Federal agencies, the American Petroleum Institute, City and State governments and the A.S.T.M. in writing of specifications for hard fiber cordage and twine. Here also, these efforts have been of utmost value to the war effort in the simplification of purchasing, inspection, etc., and in the expedition of production.

RESULTS OF STANDARDIZATION AGREEMENT DURING PRESENT WAR

The work of this Committee and subsequent ones, over the years, has paid big dividends during the present war when technical means had to be found quickly to utilize substitute fibers, such as jute, American hemp, tow, short fibers, and cotton yarns; also to treat rope against mildew and rot in the tropics and against the unusual conditions under which rope is used in this war.

ELIMINATION OF SIZES AND SURPLUS VARIETIES

Representatives from the sales departments of the various companies, together with the Technical Committee, have been working since 1922 on the simplification of products. These efforts have resulted in the elimination of some sizes of cordage and of many surplus varieties, sizes and put-ups of wrapping twines.

The simplification of cordage has been expressed in the various specifications which have been officially adopted and which are standard in the industry today.

The twine simplification developed in cooperation with the National Paper Trade Association, was handled through the U. S. Department of Commerce, Division of Simplified Practice and is covered by Simplified Practice Recommendation

R92-38. This program was practically 100 per cent complied with at the time when the manufacture of hard fiber twines ceased, in order that the fiber and the productive capacity of the industry could be utilized for war purposes.

METHODS DEVELOPED BY RESEARCH ASSOCIATE IN USE TODAY

During the years 1932 to 1940, Cordage Institute maintained a Research Associate, Miss Genevieve Becker, at the U. S. Bureau of Standards in Washington. This research was in connection with the development of photometric measurement of the color of fiber in rope to evaluate the quality of same. It resulted in changes in the specifications which formerly called for various fiber mixtures without any laboratory method of determining the mixtures after the rope was manufactured. The methods developed by this research are in use today.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF TRAFFIC COMMITTEE

The Traffic Committee of the Institute was authorized and organized in November 1920, to "consider transportation problems of general interest to the cordage and twine industry." E. E. Bockstedt, of Columbian Rope Company; J. E. DeShazo, of Whitlock Cordage Company; A. H. Finlay, of Hooven & Allison Company, and W. P. Libby, of Plymouth Cordage Company, constituted the membership of this committee at first and, later, were joined by L. C. Landaker, of Hooven & Allison Company, and C. E. Holtz, of American Manufacturing Company.

This committee has been very active through the years in protecting the interests of the manufacturers, distributors and customers.

During the current war it was able, largely through the efforts of E. E. Bockstedt, whose services had been loaned to the Defense Supplies Corporation, Washington, to establish a system whereby there was maintained the same relative cost of getting fiber to the manufacturers that existed prior to the war, although ports of entry or points of shipment of fiber to the manufacturers were radically different from pre-war.

HARVARD SURVEY OF HARD FIBER DISTRIBUTION

In 1927 the Institute financed a survey of the distribution of hard fiber cordage by the Graduate School of Business Administration, Harvard University. The purpose of the survey was to determine some of the more significant facts relative to the distribution of hard fiber cordage by dollar value and poundage, by type of product, by type of customer, and by selected geographic areas, in order to determine, in so far as possible, significant weaknesses in the marketing policies



E. W. BREWSTER
Seventh Chairman, Executive Committee

of cordage manufacturers; to suggest means of strengthening these weak points; and, in part, to secure a basis upon which to determine the proper attitude for the manufacturers to assume toward the problems of the wholesaler.

The results of this study were published in June 1930, Bulletin No. 82, Vol. XVII, No. 1, by the Bureau of Business Research, Harvard University. This study typifies the constructive efforts of Cordage Institute, the results of which have been available not only to its members but to the industry and the country as a whole.

The Institute has cooperated through the years with other associations on matters of mutual interest. Some of these are the National Wholesale Hardware Association, the American Hardware Manufacturers Association, the National Paper Trade Association, the American Petroleum Institute, and the Soft Fibre Manufacturers Institute.

COST ACCOUNTING FOR THE CORDAGE INDUSTRY

In the year 1921 the Institute became interested and initiated a study of cost accounting in the cordage industry. These efforts culminated in a survey by Peat, Marwick, Mitchell & Company, of New York, in 1925 and the submission by that firm of a model cost account system for cordage manufacturing. L. Weindling, then employed by Peat, Marwick, Mitchell & Company, subsequently installed cost systems for many of the manufacturers.

Today this model system or modifications of it are utilized by practically the entire industry. Costs have been reduced through these better accounting methods which have been introduced.

SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH IN MANILA FIBER PROBLEMS

The Institute has always been interested in the necessary raw materials and has maintained close contacts with the Philippines. In 1924, at the suggestion of H. T. Edwards, Bureau of Plant Industry, U. S. Department of Agriculture, and the Secretary of Cordage Institute, an Industrial Fellowship for Research in Abaca was established in the Philippines and financed by the Institute.

The problems to be investigated under the fellowship were selected by the U. S. Department of Agriculture and Mr. McDaniel, representing the manufacturers, some of which were the varieties, diseases, cultivation, cleaning and identification of the Abaca plants.

This fellowship continued during the years 1924-1928, inclusive. In addition to numerous typewritten reports made available to interested parties in the United States and the Philippines, three pamphlets were published by the *Philippine Journal of Science* on "Fermentation As Affecting the Quality of Philippine Abaca", "The Tensile Strength of Abaca Fibers in Relation to Their Acidity", and "Abaca-Soil Conditions in Two Districts of the Philippine Islands and Their Relation to Fiber Production".

CLOSE COOPERATION WITH GOVERNMENT SPECIALISTS

Throughout these years close cooperation has been maintained with

the U. S. Department of Agriculture, the Philippine Department of Agriculture and Commerce, The Philippine Bureau of Science, the Philippine Fiber Inspection Service and other interested government agencies, both in the Philippines and the United States.

QUEZON INVITES INDUSTRY REPRESENTATIVES TO INAUGURAL

The relations thus established resulted in Hon. Manuel L. Quezon inviting the industry to be represented at his inaugural as first President of the Philippine Commonwealth in 1935. This invitation was accepted by F. R. Clark, Plymouth Cordage Company, F. P. McCann, Tubbs Cordage Company, Colonel S. W. Metcalf, Columbian Rope Company, and J. S. McDaniel, Secretary, Cordage Institute, together with members of their families.

MCDANIEL'S VISITS CEMENT RELATIONS WITH PHILIPPINES

Mr. McDaniel returned again to the Philippines in 1937 in the interest of Philippine-United States trade relations, the production of abaca and other matters of mutual interest to the fiber growers in the Philippines and the cordage manufacturers in the United States. He travelled extensively through the fiber producing areas in the Philippines, conferring with fiber growers and governmental officers concerned with abaca.

P. I. ABACA INDUSTRY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

While in the Islands in 1937, Mr. McDaniel submitted to President Quezon, on behalf of the cordage manufacturers, extensive suggestions designed to improve the fiber situation. These resulted in Executive Order No. 127 of the President of the Philippines, November 9, 1937, creating an Abaca Industry Advisory Committee, composed of the Secretary of Agriculture and Commerce, the Director of Plant Industry, the Manager of the Fiber Inspection Service, and eleven others.

The purpose of this committee was to serve in an advisory capacity to the Government, its branches, subdivisions and agencies and perform the following duties: (a) to study and submit recommendations as to the best economical method of

stripping and preparing abaca fiber for the market; (b) to study foreign market requirements as to quality and classification of fiber; (c) to serve as liaison between local abaca dealers and foreign buyers of abaca fiber; and (d) to study and submit recommendations on all other matters affecting the abaca industry.

Subsequently, Honorable Eulogio Rodriguez, Secretary of Agriculture and Commerce, visited Japan, United States and England in his capacity as Chairman of the Abaca Advisory Committee.

MCDANIEL VISITS ISLANDS AGAIN DURING INVASION

The war intervened and the activities of the Committee never ma-



COL. S. W. METCALF
Eighth Chairman, Executive Committee

terialized to the extent contemplated. Already plans are under way to carry on when the war ceases. Mr. McDaniel made his third trip to the Philippines in December 1944 in the interests of starting up the Philippine abaca industry and obtaining Manila fiber for war purposes.

INSTITUTE CALLED ON TO MANAGE INDUSTRY ORGANIZATIONS

Twice, since 1920, Cordage Institute has been called to serve the entire U. S. Cordage and Twine Industry by managing industry organizations. From 1933 to 1935 the Institute was the administrative agency in effectuating the Code of Fair Competition for the Cordage and Twine Industry under the National Industrial Recovery Act. Its Secretary, J. S. McDaniel, was Managing Director of the Code Authority, which was composed of one rep-

resentative from each manufacturer. F. C. Holmes, of the Plymouth Cordage Company, was Chairman of the Code Authority; also Chairman of the Executive Committee of Cordage Institute.

The Institute took a leading part in organizing the industry, following the signing by President Roosevelt of the National Industrial Recovery Act on June 16, 1933. The background and knowledge of the industry gained over the years, the available statistical information, etcetera, enabled the industry to apply on July 19, 1933 to be placed under certain provisions of the Cotton Textile Code of Fair Competition which had been approved by the President on July 9, 1933.

SECOND U. S. INDUSTRY TO OPERATE UNDER A CODE

This application of the industry was approved by Presidential Executive Order on July 27, 1933, and the cordage industry thus became the second industry to operate under a code. On August 5, 1933, the industry applied for its own code, which was approved on February 21, 1934.

Again, in the latter half of 1939, the Institute called the industry into meetings to consider the problem of adequate stocks of Manila fiber in the United States and the proposed purchase of Manila fiber by the U. S. Government under the Strategic and Critical Materials Act.

ORGANIZATION OF CORDAGE AND TWINE INDUSTRY COUNCIL

These industry meetings continued until the Cordage and Twine Industry Council, composed of all cordage and twine manufacturers, was organized in February 1942, to cooperate with the Office of Production Management (War Production Board) and other Federal Government war agencies. The Institute manages the Cordage and Twine Industry council. E. W. Brewster, of Plymouth Cordage Company, is Chairman of the Council and H. A. Whitlock, present Chairman of the Executive Committee of Cordage Institute, is Vice-Chairman of the Council; J. S. McDaniel, Secretary of the Institute, is Secretary of the Council.

The Council is an active organization today and meets regularly at the offices of the Institute, usually the

day preceding the W.P.B. Cordage Industry Advisory Committee meetings in Washington.

HOW INSTITUTE ASSISTED GOV'T IN EARLY DAYS OF WAR

In the early days of the war and before the Office of Production Management (War Production Board) was organized as efficiently as today, the Institute was called upon repeatedly to assist the government in ultimate utilization of the productive capacity of the industry, in expediting deliveries, allocating raw materials and various other ways which could only be accomplished as efficiently and rapidly through an industry which had an active trade association for many years and where the industry as a whole was willing and did support the trade association in its efforts to help the government to the greatest extent.

VALUABLE DATA IN COLLECTION OF STATISTICS

The Institute has collated comprehensive statistics concerning raw materials, finished products and other facts relating to the industry. It is called upon constantly to supply facts to the Government and other groups, such as the National Industrial Conference Board, Committee for Economic Development, and others interested in economic studies. It has cooperated for years with the Bureau of the Census of the Department of Commerce, the Bureau of Statistics, Department of Labor, and other governmental agencies in supplying data relating to the industry.

ADVOCATED PANAMA PLANTINGS AS LONG AGO AS 1925

Cordage Institute has been of inestimable value to its country and the industry in its foresight in preparing for war. As early as 1925, following an inquiry of the War Department, which was studying plans for the procurement of Manila fiber in case of emergency, it advocated experiments with the production of abaca in Central America and the maintenance in that area of a "seed bed" to be used in such an emergency. The Bureau of Plant Industry of the U. S. Department of Agriculture had proposed such a project. In August 1925, a shipment con-

taining 1400 plants of Davao abaca was forwarded to the Canal Zone. Since then, the Institute has cooperated with the Department of Agriculture and the United Fruit Company in the development of that experiment.

INSTITUTE ACTIVE IN PANAMA PROJECT SINCE 1931

In 1931, the Institute sent a committee composed of F. C. Holmes, H. A. Whitlock, S. W. Metcalf, Howard Rugg and J. S. McDaniel, together with H. T. Edwards of the Department of Agriculture and representatives of the United Fruit Company, to look over these plantings. A planting of 1,000 acres was contemplated at that time but this did not materialize due to the depression.

In 1936, at the urging of the Army and Navy, it was decided to go ahead and plant 1,000 acres, which was done in 1937. There was an additional planting of 1,000 acres in 1939-1940.

During the latter part of 1940 and the early part of 1941, the Secretary of Cordage Institute pressed for an additional planting, which the United Fruit Company decided to make at their own expense and initiative.

CALLS CONFERENCE WITH VIEW TO EXPAND PLANTINGS

Immediately after Pearl Harbor, the Secretary of Cordage Institute arranged a conference between the Defense Supplies Corporation, the Department of Agriculture officials and United Fruit Company officials, when it was agreed to expand the plantings in Central America to 25,000 acres.

The ability to make such plantings was due entirely to the efforts of the Institute, Department of Agriculture, Navy and Army officials and the United Fruit Company in their earlier activities to create the necessary seed bed. Today, 28,626 acres are planted in Panama, Costa Rica, Guatemala and Honduras.

Cordage Institute believes that the production of abaca in Central America should not be permitted to die out but should be kept as a nucleus which could be expanded reasonably quickly in time of war, even though this required a subsidy or would be otherwise at the expense of the Federal Government. The In-

stitute does not believe that Central American abaca production should be subsidized beyond such a point.

ADVOCATES AMERICAN HEMP BEFORE PEARL HARBOR

Even before Pearl Harbor, Cordage Institute advocated production of American hemp in the U. S. as insurance against this country's inability to obtain hard fibers for cordage and twine purposes. This resulted in the growth of 40,000 acres of hemp for seed and the following year of 340,000 acres of hemp for fiber, which was processed through 42 new plants built for this purpose.

The processing of this hemp has not been easy and many technical difficulties have arisen, but there are few in the industry who will not recall the days of enemy submarine activities in the north and south Atlantic and the Gulf of Mexico, when there was real fear as to the quantities of hard fiber which could be obtained from Africa and the Caribbean areas.

FAR-REACHING RESULTS IN WAR AND IN PEACE

Thus, Cordage Institute, through the far-reaching results of its constant endeavors, has justified its existence and can be proud of the reputation it has gained.

Looking over the list of its accomplishments, one is impressed with the feeling that here is an organization that, by its vigilance has shown itself awake to every new and critical situation facing the industry, and by its deeds has solved problems facing not only the manufacturer but also the distributor and consumer as well.

Cordage Institute has served its country well. In post-war periods it may be confronted with serious problems because of conditions which will have developed because of the war.

It will continue to be of greatest value to the country if it puts forth every effort to maintain an adequate cordage and twine industry in the United States as an assurance against the next war and, at the same time, maintaining employment in the United States and supporting the necessary peacetime economy.

CORD AGE congratulates Cordage Institute on its twenty-five years of service!