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"Dralon,, for Furnishing

In 1950, the annual world production of natural and chemical textile fibres amounted to 9.4 million tons; during the next twelve years it increased 76 % to amount in 1962 to 16.6 million tons. During the same period, the earth's population rose from 2.4 to 3.1 billion, representing an increase of 30 %. A comparison between these two percentages shows that the quantity of textile fibres theoretically available to each individual has increased. The increase was not the same for all fibres, the most remarkable advance being that of chemical fibres, whose production rose from 1.7 to 3.9 million tons, corresponding to an increase of 140 %. That is to say that 24 % of the total annual world supply of 16.6 million tons of fibres of all kinds is at present accounted for by chemical fibres. It should also be added that today 17 % of the annual world output of chemical fibres consists of acrylic fibres, especially in the form of non-continuous fibres for spinning.

This interesting information was given out at a press conference organized by the chemical fibres department of the big dyestuffs works of Bayer Ltd. The conference was called in order to draw attention to the part played in the manufacture of furnishing textiles (carpets,

net-curtaining, drapes, table-cloths, blankets, etc.) by « Dralon », the acrylic fibre launched on the market 11 years ago by the German firm of Bayer. On this occasion, the firm had organized an exhibition devoted to furnishing textiles, which account for 21 % of its output of chemical fibres. The show in question was held on board the passenger ship *Loreley*, drawn up alongside the quay at Cologne, on the Rhine, during the International Furniture Fair held in that town from January 28th to February 2nd. Extending over an area of 11,000 square feet, this exhibition displayed the countless products used in furnishing and woven with various Bayer chemical fibre yarns, mainly Dralon.

The reason we mention this fibre here is that a certain number of Swiss firms have adopted Dralon for the manufacture of fabrics for upholstery, curtains and drapes. These fabrics are greatly appreciated for their easy-care qualities: they are eminently resistant to wear and stains, crease-resistant, washable, shrinkproof, and quick-drying without any need for subsequent ironing, so that they completely satisfy modern requirements in this respect.

A room furnished with Swiss fabrics:

Curtains in « Dralon »,
FILTEX LTD.,
ST. GALL
HAUSAMMANN
TEXTILES LTD.,
WINTERTHUR
« NELO », J. G. NEF
& CO. LTD., HERISAU

Upholstery fabric:
TEXTIL-WERKE LTD.,
MEISTERSCHWAN-
DEN

