

of Cleveland, Ohio, in May 1952, Olin entered the growing field of powder-actuated industrial fastening tools and fasteners used in the construction and maintenance fields and many others. Ramset tools use a special type of smokeless powder cartridge as their source of power to drive steel fasteners of many types into steel and concrete.

To complement its well-established position as a producer of explosives for the coal-mining industry, Olin purchased an interest in the Armstrong Coalbreak Company of Benton Harbor, Michigan. This company holds basic patents and sells and services equipment used in the new and rapidly growing technique of mining coal by compressed air.

The formation of the Matholin Corporation to manufacture, sell and conduct research on hydrazine, one of the most promising of the new commercial chemicals, was announced jointly in July, 1953, by John M. Olin, president of Olin Industries, and Thomas S. Nichols, president of the Mathieson Chemical Corporation.

Hydrazine, as an important national defense chemical is expected to become one of the basic chemicals of the future, with constantly growing applications in many fields of industrial chemistry. Until recently it has been a laboratory curi-

osity but some 2,000 derivatives have now been reported. The material, or its derivatives, is being used in medicinal, agricultural, plastic and many other products.

The new company, owned equally by Olin and Mathieson, will acquire the first commercial-scale hydrazine plant recently completed by Mathieson at Lake Charles, Louisiana.

Research which always has been dominant as a factor in the company's growth, received a major impetus in 1952 with the establishment of the Olin General Research Organization. Over 700 scientists, technicians and others are employed in Olin laboratories.

Olin's steady growth has brought with it a reorganization, coordination and added depth to its management which, with resulting efficiency, have produced the highest peacetime sales in its 62 years.

Olin recognizes that, in peace or war, America must be strong and progressive. Through a vigorous program of research, efficient production, aggressive selling and capable management which has the ability to recognize and take advantage of new opportunities, Olin Industries is producing an even stronger enterprise for the benefit of its customers, employees, stock-holders and for the nation as a whole.

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