lower screens since they were subjected to moving water longer, and swept them out of the apparatus. On the other hand, Yoder's apparatus had a tendency to "accumulate" these smaller "aggregates" on the lower screens. These data suggest that it is necessary to control hydraulic factors in any system of aggregate analysis.—PAUL J. ZWERMAN, Soil Conservation Service, Columbus, Ohio.

DEW RETTING OF HEMP UNCERTAIN WEST OF LONGITUDE 95°

IN WORLD WAR II the necessity arose to produce in the United States large tonnages of cordage fibers to substitute or extend our inadequate supplies of sisal and abaca. The War Production Board authorized the U. S. Dept. of Agriculture, September 23, 1942, to grow 300,000 acres of hemp and to construct 71 hemp fiber cleaning mills. Experience had demonstrated that the most productive area to grow hemp in the United States by past practices was in the heart of the so-called Corn Belt upon highly productive soils.

The supply of hemp sowing seed in 1943 was sufficient to plant only 168,000 acres which resulted in the need to erect only 42 fiber processing mills. The planted acreage was allocated to regions east of longitude 95° in Iowa, Minnesota, Wisconsin, Illinois, Indiana, and Kentucky.

Interest developed at the beginning of the War Hemp program to have hemp grown outside of the Corn Belt upon less expensive land, and on land less competitive with other war crops. Advantages of growing hemp in areas west of longitude 95° primarily in eastern South and North Dakota and Nebraska and western Iowa and Minnesota were pointed out to the Department by interested agricultural organizations.

This interest resulted in the Agricultural Research Administration undertaking to determine through experiments reported here if areas immediately west of longitude 95° in the northern states would be adapted for the production and dew retting of hemp. Experimental plantings were arranged and appreciation for assistance given in connection with the cooperative experiments isacknowledged to C. P. Wilsie, Agricultural Experiment Station, Ames, Iowa; C. E. Claassen, Agricultural Experiment Station, Lincoln, Neb.; A. N. Hume, Agricultural Experiment Station, Brookings, S. D.; T. M. McCall, Northwest Experiment Station, Crookston, Minn., and T. H. Fenske, West Central Agricultural Experiment Station, Morris, Minn. Experiments were planned for eastern North Dakota, but the narcotic law of North Dakota prevented hemp from being experimentally grown in that state.

The records of the U. S. Dept. of Agriculture contain many notes regarding attempts by individuals, firms, and experiment stations to grow hemp west of longitude 95° in earlier years. The records primarily of cultural studies of small experimental plots do not indicate that the hemp after harvest was dew retted and processed for fiber. The reports are of little value in reference to judging the practicability of the environmental conditions of the region for dew retting.