

Letter Excerpt

This is a letter that was written in 1939 that explains about the bags that were made for holding the loose tobacco. Read it carefully and answer the questions. Words in [] were added to help explain words in the letters.

Tobacco Bag Stringing Operations in North Carolina and Virginia. North Carolina Collection, Wilson Library, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

Written by Sherlock Bronson, March 16, 1939.

The bags are made by machines The insertion [placing] of the draw string ... is done by hand, except in the case of one manufacturer [maker – this was a factory], who is equipped with machines.... There are only three companies in the United States engaged in the manufacture [making] of these cotton bags - -

Golden Belt Manufacturing Company, having its plant at Durham, North Carolina; Millhiser Bag Company, having its plant at Richmond, Virginia; and Chase Bag Company, having its plant at Reidsville, North Carolina.

The Golden Belt Manufacturing Company...is the only company equipped with machines to perform its stringing operations [the machines can put the strings into the bags].... The machines are patented [this means that the invention of the machines to do the stringing belongs only to the Golden Belt Company] and the Golden Belt Company has been unwilling to license [allow] the other two companies to use the patented machines.

