

ed. A manufacturer in an interior city who has an establishment employing large numbers of men said that plenty of female workers could be obtained at low wages, and there were no labor troubles with them. He also said that rents were comparatively cheap, and shipping facilities were good. Buyers, however, would consider his city as a market for muslin underwear and would go several hundred miles farther to buy in New York City. Merchants in his own city preferred to buy in New York City, where they could select and select from all the newest styles. He said, however, that the business of manufacturing underwear could be successfully conducted in his city if the factory maintained a show and sales room in New York City.

The amount of work which manufacturers let out to be done by contract is smaller in the muslin underwear industry than in other textile trades. Where contract work is done garments, after being made, are sent out to be made up, but usually this is done only in the busy season, when the manufacturer has many rush orders. This occurs most frequently in the case of cheap garments. Even if he has the floor space and can command additional labor, it does not pay him to install extra machines to make up goods for customers who have waited until the last minute to place their orders. When returned to the factory the cheaper garments are not closely examined. The better grades of garments are made in the factory, where there is supervision and close examination of all work. The contractors in many cases employ members of their own families, and pay less wages than do the manufacturers.

Some of the larger factories have part of their cheaper garments made up in charitable institutions, but the amount is not large. These institutions do not solicit business, but usually do work for the same factories year after year.

Until 10 years ago cambric and muslin were the principal materials used in lingerie, but since then there has been a demand for other fabrics, and now cambric and muslin are not much used except for the cheaper grades. Medium and fine garments are made of muslin, batiste, and lawn, and for some of the finer grades crêpe de chine or China silk is used. There is not much difference between men's underwear for winter and for summer except that for summer wear nightgowns are made of lighter materials and more of them are made with low necks.

Styles of muslin underwear are affected by changes in the styles of the outer apparel. When outer skirts are full, lingerie also is made full, and when outer skirts are tight fitting, lingerie is made to fit the form closer. During the last few years there have been radical changes in the styles of outer apparel and of underwear. Manufacturers of undergarments, as well as those of outer apparel, must follow the changes of fashion in order to do business successfully. Practically all muslin underwear made in the United States is trimmed with embroidery or lace. Embroidery is more durable than lace, and more of it is used on the cheaper and medium-priced garments. On the yokes of nightgowns, princess slips, and combinations there are often four or five rows of embroidery or lace, or of lace, the outer row being called edging, and the inner rows insertion. When one or two rows of insertion are openwork embroidery or lace, called beading, through which ribbon is run. Frequently figures

