Textile Production

Fabrics for Foreigners and Western Uniforms

Spinning Wheel (Father de Rotz Memorial Hall)

German Medias Knitting-Machine (Father de Rotz Memorial Hall)

Fabric and Tabi (Split-Toe Socks) Made at the Vocational Center (Father de Rotz Memorial Hall)

Aid Center Uniform Designed by Father de Rotz (Father de Rotz Memorial Hall)

On the second floor of the workshop, women manufactured textiles using cotton looms imported from France. They produced sheets, towels, napkins, handkerchiefs, and other products mainly in response to demand from foreigners living in Nagasaki. The women also produced Japanese-customized Western working clothes for the staff of the Aid Center. These clothes were more convenient to wear for work than were Japanese traditional clothes. At that time, Western clothes were mostly associated with high-class people; however, the uniforms worn by the Shitsu Aid Center workers were designed for practical considerations such as freer body movement rather than to display social status.