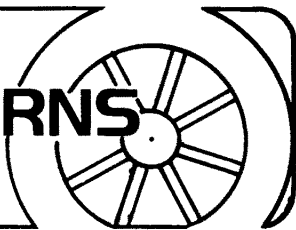


AS THE WHEEL TURNS



by Pat Boutin Wald

With the cold upon us, it seems a good day for book reviews. A few ideas for winter reading near the fire. I suggest the pages of *Pastoral Dreams* by Anita Schorsch for conjuring up visions of green fields and woolly spring lambs. A collection of art and literature about sheep.

The Sheep Book by Carmen Goodyear is an especially nice book for children. It's the story of a farmer and her sheep's wool from the sheep to the sweater. This book is one of a series of books published by Lollipop Power, suggesting a more open choice of work roles for men and women.

The Loom Has a Brain by Herman Blum is a difficult book to describe. A collection of philosophy and facts concerning the textile industry past and present. Especially interesting to spinners are the chapters on the history of yarn production and the naming of rayon.

167 International Sheep Breeds by Janice Gnatkowski is a collection of sheep photographs originally published in 1941 by the Texas Sheep and Goat Raiser Assn. Ms. Gnatkowski has kindly republished this book so we, too, can marvel at the diversity of sheep breeds. Included are the Manx four-horned sheep from the Isle of Man, the half black, half white Uda sheep; the fat tail sheep, the Zachelshaf and 163 more modern and ancient sheep breeds.

A special review of a Christmas gift I received: The book is *A Small Sheep in a Pear Tree* by Adrienne Lobel. The perfect gift for the admitted sheep fanatic, the story of "The 12 Days of Christmas" with all gifts of sheep. If you don't believe this book exists, call me up and I'll sing it to you . . . "5 golden sheep, four calling sheep, two turtle sheep, and a small sheep in a pear tree . . ."

For those of you trying to knit up your handspun I recommend *Knitting Without Tears* and *Knitter's Almanac* both by Elizabeth Zimmermann. As with Mr. Blum, Elizabeth adds her own bits of philosophy that make these much more than just "how to" books.



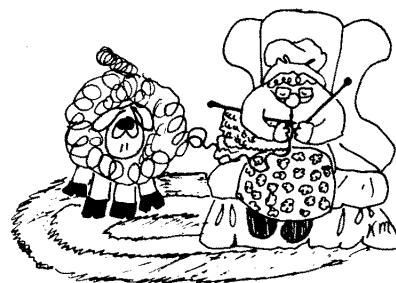
The Sheep Book is available from Lollipop Power Inc., P.O. Box 1171, Chapel Hill, N.C. 27514.

You can order Elizabeth Zimmermann's books directly from her: E. Zimmerman, Babcock, Wisc., 54413. You can also purchase them at the Grand Ave. Yarnery along with her *Wool Gathering* publications.

Pastoral Dreams, *The Loom Has a Brain* and *167 International Sheep Breeds* can be found at the Wool-N-Shop.

Of interest to knitters are the forthcoming knitting classes taught by Kathy Martin. Beginning knitting starts Wednesdays or Saturdays in March at the Wool-N-Shop. Classes include basic knitting patterns for hats, socks, and mittens with an emphasis on knitting with handspun. For those of you who have a basic knowledge of knitting, who might enjoy working on a project of your own design with Kathy's aid, intermediate knitting, offered Saturdays, may be for you.

Don't miss the knitting clinics offered by the Yarnery. Maud Water's will be solving knitting problems for all who attend the clinic at the Grand Ave. Store Feb. 24th and the Rosedale store March 3rd. Pat Penshorn will be at the Leisure Lane store on Feb. 24th. Besides answering questions, they will also be demonstrating interesting pattern stitches with suggestions on how to use them.



QUESTIONS

Why do so many people say that various different kinds of oil should be used to lubricate spinning wheels?

Lots of different people suggest different oils for lubrication because almost anything oily will lubricate a spinning wheel adequately. If you have small children in the house, I would suggest using mineral oil because it is not harmful if swallowed. If you do a lot of sewing, then you probably have sewing machine oil, and that works well for spinning wheels.

What is more important than what you use is how often you use it. You can not oil a spinning wheel too often but you can oil it too much at one time. Oil should not run out and make a mess. I would suggest wiping off as much of the old oil as you can before adding new oil.

Oil the wheel at the start of each spinning day. These few minutes you spend oiling your spinning wheel can help insure that it will spin easily for you and be spinning well for your grandchildren.

Today I measured the holes in my orifice and found them to be different sizes. What is my real orifice size?

Usually the inlet and outlet holes of an orifice are the same size, but there is at least one major manufacturer of spinning wheels that has the outlet hole smaller. The smallest hole is your actual orifice size. This is important because you can comfortably spin yarn up to half the diameter of the orifice without working you or your spinning wheel too hard.

— Tony Glaski