

warp and weft

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February, 1958

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Assistant Editors: Robin Groff and Frederick Brown.

Volume XI No. 2

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A Word from the Editor

At last, some good news about our multiple harness bulletin, that we have mentioned previously. We will mail out our first issues beginning with September of this year. Subscriptions will be \$4.00 per year, and individual issues will be 50c each. The sample swatches will be approximately twice the size of those currently featured in Warp and Weft. There will be no other information except that about the sample, that is, no book reviews or notices or word from the editor, etc.

Our sample for Warp and Weft will next month be a miniature overshot, with suggestions for a multiple number of uses. We feel sure that you will particularly enjoy it, especially as weaving the sample has taken about three times as long as some of the other samples, mainly because of the all-over pattern.

We have had several suggestions for articles from various weavers for future Warp and Weft issues, and we are getting information for these together. One of our subscribers has very kindly given us the details for a special piece of ecclesiastical weaving, so we will present this shortly. We do hope that if you have special wishes for articles, that you will give them to us via the mail, that we might try and answer your

questions or give you as much information as we know or can find out about the questions asked.

Incidentally, for those in the East and Midwest, we'd like to tell of one of the great advantages of living in California. My parents were here from Pennsylvania for Christmas, and the day before Christmas, we were able to pick some fresh corn that we had planted that we might have it for Christmas. The sweet peas were in bloom at a friend's place, and the jonquils were in full bloom here. And, we went swimming in a mountain stream about 50 miles from Santa Barbara last week. I've lived here for 11 years, and still enjoy the unusual weather.

RUSSELL E. GROFF, *Editor*

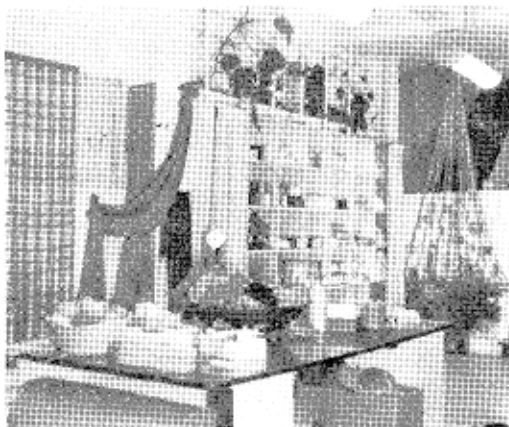
This Month's Cover

This month, while the nation is having a cold wave, we thought that you might enjoy a weaving display prepared by one of the Weaving Guilds in sunny California. This particular display was prepared for the Northern California Conference of Handweavers exhibition last summer by the Diablo Weavers of Walnut Creek, California. We'd like you to notice that the beach umbrella is handwoven, as well as the hammock, the various bathing suits, and towels, the boys' swimming trunks, the sport shirt and shorts, the sport dress on one of the models, etc. They certainly did work on their project, and it is just too bad that we couldn't get a better picture, to give you better ideas of the fabric details themselves.

This will give you an idea as to how a theme can be chosen for a guild display, and with the proper planning, an outstanding exhibition can be prepared. This type of an exhibition will certainly attract more outside interest than an exhibit with yardages and suits and skirts displayed here and there. Why not have your next guild exhibition centered around a "theme."

Weavers and Weaving Shops

It is our intention, each month, to give a short article about various well-known weavers, or about different weaving supply centers and shops throughout the country. If you know of an exceptional weaver in your area, or of a good supply center where there is weaving going on, we will be more than glad to hear about them, that we might contact them and see if it will be possible for us to present an article about the individual weaver or shop in each issue.



THE YARN DEPOT
in San Francisco, California

One of the places where the weaver is king, is the Yarn Depot in San Francisco. Originally started by Dorothy Liebes, in 1949, the Yarn Depot is now co-operatively owned by some 10 different persons.

Their first consideration was to feature yarns and equipment, but later it was decided that the Yarn Depot was to be a center that would be a source of new ideas for handweavers. A practice was made of always having interesting weaving on display. Class and private instruction was introduced, and looms were then made available for rent in the studio. A service was begun to help people with color problems. This has gradually developed into a mail order service.

Janet McNinch continues to manage the business, doing all the buying, and the other members who take an active part in its operation are Mrs. Kay Garrett and Mrs. Helen Pope.

Exhibitions are held constantly, and may feature the work of one or many persons.

One of the traditions that has evolved is that of having an annual Christmas exhibition. Another is to have the prize or ribbon winning fabrics from the Northern California Conference of Handweavers on display for about one month after the Conference is held.

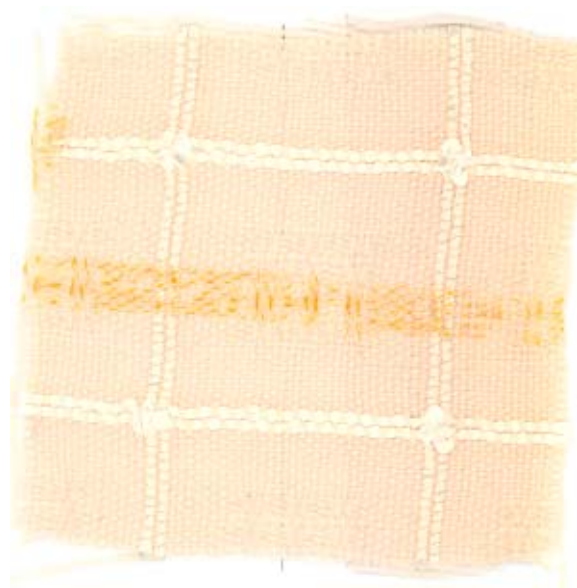
In the summer, the Yarn Depot gives a two-week workshop, with enrollment required for the whole two-week period. During this time, and often for their regular instruction, they feature such instructors as Kamuna Zethraus, Trude Guernonprez, Lynn Alexander and Ruth Mackinlay, as well as instruction by Mrs. McNinch and Mrs. Garrett.

We notice a difference in the weaving in Northern and Southern California in particular, and in my opinion, there is more color and brighter colors used in the weaving in Northern California or in the San Francisco Bay area I should say. This is evident in the Yarn Depot also, as when you visit their studio, you notice more color, and more texture than is found in most weaving studios.

Perhaps, the next time you are in San Francisco, you might have a chance to visit the easy-to-find Yarn Depot in downtown San Francisco. Their address is:

The Yarn Depot,
545 Sutter Street,
San Francisco, California.

THE NORTHERN CALIFORNIA CONFERENCE OF HANDWEAVERS have asked us that we give you a change of date for their exhibition and conference. Originally scheduled for Saturday and Sunday, May 10 and 11, it has been changed to May 3 and 4. This change has been made because Sunday, May 11, is Mother's Day, and it was felt that the exhibition and conference would have more attendance on another date. Thus, the conference is one week earlier than originally scheduled.



Sample page

More About this Fabric

Many persons hesitate to use a fine wool like afghan for their Warp. However, in weaving 15 yards of this fabric, there wasn't one broken thread in the Warp or Weft as a result of the thread being weak. There were a few broken threads which were caused by being caught in the shuttle, but other than this, absolutely no breakage.

This is a beautiful yarn to use, and even though it is quite expensive, the fact that it has 7,600 yards per pound does compensate for this, as it goes a long, long way.

This particular weave, as you notice from the threading draft, was done only on three harnesses. Swedish Lace, as we normally know it, consists of using 4 harnesses and producing two distinct blocks from these 4 harnesses. However, we have used just the one block available from the 3 harnesses in many fabrics such as stoles and drapes and dress material.

This fabric was woven on a jack-type loom. It can be woven on a counter-balanced loom, but not as easily as on the jack-type. The sheds are not as distinct as on the jack-type loom. This is especially true on the 6-treadle counter-balanced loom, but the 4-treadle counter-balanced loom is a little easier to use for this type of weave.

Actually, the fabric is reversible. There is a difference on each side. On one side, the lace appears to be created by the weft threads and on the other side of the fabric, the lace appears to be created by the warp threads. You can use either, but I believe the most commonly used side is the one that the lace appears to have been caused by the weft.

This is a very light weight fabric, in spite of the heavy 6/3 rayon every 49th and 50th thread, and it would make a very nice carriage cover for a baby buggy. We've particularly used this weave in place mats with linen as the warp and weft, and also have used it in drapes with mixed warps and wefts of cotton, silk, and rayon. Why don't you try it in one of your fabrics, and see how pleasing it is, and how easy to weave?

Cost of the Fabric

The Weaving Afghan in Pink is \$9.25 per lb., and we have paid extra to have it wound on one-pound cones. The 6/3 rayon is

Yarns Used in the Sample

The Weaving Afghan is available from Robin & Russ Handweavers or from the many Bernat Fabri and Afghan dealers throughout the country. The 6/3 rayon is available from Robin & Russ Handweavers. If anyone cares to have the Weaving Afghan wound off on 2-oz. spools, there is no extra charge for this service from Robin & Russ Handweavers, 632 Santa Barbara St., Santa Barbara, Calif.

either \$4.00 per lb. on approximately 1-lb. cones, or \$1.25 per 4-oz. spool.

The fabric was set up on the loom, 40 inches wide, and we put on a 15-yard warp. It took 2 lbs. and 11 ounces of Afghan for the warp, and two, 4-oz. spools of the 6/3 rayon for the warp.

In the actual weaving of the fabric, it took much less Afghan, as we used only 1 lb. 9 oz. of the Afghan and two spools of the 6/3 rayon.

Warp Cost — 40 inches wide,

36 inches long\$1.79

Weft Cost — per yard 1.18

Total Cost per yard\$2.97

Book Review

Once again Mr. Elmer Hickman has another outstanding folio. This one is entitled, "Glamorous Table Linens."

And that is just what the samples are. Rich in appearance, glamorous with the use of much color, and pleasing to the eye, I'm sure that you will especially enjoy the 24 fabric swatches that are featured in this new folio of Mr. Hickman's.

Form his page in the folder titled, Tabby Talk, we want to quote a little, as we think that this is very descriptive of the fabrics in this edition.

The fabrics are distinctive and the colors are exhilarating. The linen weaves in this folio were created to show color development and thread construction of a contemporary nature—often called texture weaves. Many different color combinations may be chosen, and these are suggested in the vari-

(Continued on Next Page)

ous woven samples, that is, the color combination used in one particular fabric may be transplanted and used for some other fabric.

I think that this idea of Mr. Hickman's is an outstanding one, and is certainly well illustrated in the 24 samples in the new folio.

I also notice that the title of this folio is misleading, as you can see many adaptations of these fabrics, using them in particular in draperies, in decorative fabrics to add needed color to a room, and still other uses.

I'm sure that you would enjoy this folio of Mr. Hickman's.

Title: GLAMOROUS TABLE LINENS

Price: \$6.95, pp. prepaid.

Available: Mr. Elmer W. Hickman

R. D. 2.

Emlenton, Penna.

or

Robin & Russ Handweavers

The Mexican Quetesgametel

The shawl or quetesgametel is Mexican in origin and fun to weave.

It is worn as a light wrap and though extreme in style, it has a dramatic effect as well as being attractive looking. It has wide potentialities for the weaver who likes to experiment with color and texture. It makes a quite original gift and costs little to make.

The warp should be at least 2½ yards or perhaps slightly more, depending upon the material used, and the size of the person it is intended for.

Mydelle Baker, who models the one shown here, wove this one with 2/18's worsted, Fabri, sett at 15 per inch. It could be sett closer if more firmness is desired. It could be woven on overshot with a tabby treadling. This one pictured was set up 19 inches wide, and in this color sequence. One inch of purple, one inch of lilac, one inch of shocking pink, one inch of wine, and then the color sequence was started over again.

Mrs. Baker used the lilac colored weft and treadled a tabby weave, which nearly completely hid the striped background except for a shadowy or soft tartan look. After every 4 inches of lilac, she wove a narrow purple and wine colored stripe. It is simple



MRS. MYDELLE BAKER

to make up after being woven, but it is hard for your editor to tell you how to make it up as he has never used a sewing machine. Depending upon the size of the person it is intended for, you can make it 15 inches wide and it takes just two 30-inch pieces, or 19 or 20 inches wide with just two 26-inch pieces.

Then you hem the ends and sew together in an L shape. When worn, part of the L folds around the neck and laps over the other end of the L.

The information about this was furnished us through the courtesy of Mrs. Mydelle Baker of Los Angeles, California.

The Prize, Three Subscriptions

We're looking for a name for our new multiple harness bulletin. This bulletin is to feature patterns from 5 to 12 harnesses. Why don't you submit an entry, and see if you can win the prize, which is a subscription to:

1. One year of Craft Horizons
2. One year of Warp and Weft
3. One year of our new multiple harness bulletin

The winning name and entry will be announced in Warp and Weft in the April issue. No entries will be accepted after March 15, 1958. Send entries to Warp and Weft. No limit of the number of times you can try to win these subscriptions.

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING

A new classified advertising section will be tried out in Warp and Weft for a few months, to see if there is any interest or response. Why not advertise your old loom, duplicate equipment, and other such items in this section. Price per 5-line ad is \$4.00. Payment to accompany your advertising copy.

HANDWOVEN NYLON BUCKET BAGS in white and white with pastels. Nylon is washable after bucket insert is removed. Fast colors. \$2.75 each plus postage. Robin & Russ, 632 Santa Barbara Street, Santa Barbara, California.

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NEW, KEY TO WEAVING, by Mary E. Black is available once again. Revised, and with more content than ever before. \$12.00 per copy, parcel post prepaid. Robin & Russ, 632 Santa Barbara Street, Santa Barbara, California.

NEW, RUG WEAVING FOR EVERYONE, a new well-written edition, with very complete details on almost every phase of rug weaving. Easy to understand, well written. \$6.50, plus 22c parcel post and insurance. Robin & Russ, 632 Santa Barbara Street, Santa Barbara, California.

SPUN SILK WARP, size 5/2, 4200 yards per lb. Smooth, high luster, strong silk, beautiful quality. \$7.00 per lb. Robin & Russ Handweavers, 632 Santa Barbara St., Santa Barbara, Calif.

SILK NUB, NOIL YARN. A nice nubby texture silk, about 7200 yards per lb. Good for textured wefts. On spools of 1/2 to 3/4 lbs. each. Price \$3.20 per lb. Robin & Russ Handweavers, 632 Santa Barbara St., Santa Barbara, Calif.

SINGLE PLY, FINE SILK WARP. A warp twist silk, with 11,000 yards per lb. It has a tight twist, and some people find it hard to handle because of this twist. A dull finish silk, on spools. \$4.00 per lb. Robin & Russ, 632 Santa Barbara St., Santa Barbara, Calif.

LINEN RUG WARP: size 9/3, with 900 yards per lb. \$2.40 per lb. On 1/2 lb. spools. Robin & Russ, 632 Santa Barbara St., Santa Barbara, Calif.

BLEACHED, HEAVY SLUB LINEN. On spools of approximately 1/2 lb. each. 400 yards per spool. Beautiful in heavy mats, in drapes and upholstery. \$2.40 per lb. Robin & Russ, 632 Santa Barbara St., Santa Barbara, Calif.

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