



warp and weft

Vol. XV, No. 3

March, 1962

warp and weft

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by Robin & Russ Handweavers, 632 Santa
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A Word from the Editor

Things are hectic in the home of Robin and Russ and also the shop these days. We have sold our home, and the lot we had next door, and are really preparing for our move to McMinnville, Oregon. We have to vacate our nice house about two weeks from the date I am writing this, so you can see that with our moving the first of March, and a conference in two weeks after that, and with weaving to do, we are really occupied with the 1001 things connected with selling a house, moving and preparing for a conference.

It is expected that officially as of July 1, 1962, our new address will be for both Warp and Weft, and Robin & Russ Handweavers:

Warp and Weft or
Robin & Russ Handweavers
P. O. Box 273
McMinnville, Oregon

We are doing some experimenting with a large loop mohair in bleached white, and hope to have an interesting sample of this for you in the near future. We also have on the loom a very interesting weave for next month which would be very practical for mats, and we will give the set-up for a place-mat project, even though the same weave would have many other uses.

Of course, many of our activities are for preparation for the conference which will probably be in progress when you do receive this issue. You can't imagine the work connected with such an undertaking, until you have to do some of the work yourself. You have weekly meetings, and then during the week, you have to try and do all the 1001 small jobs that were discussed at your weekly meeting. Still, much of it to be done, and what a sigh of relief we will breathe when it is actually over.

Also, we should tell you of the exciting news of our new shop plans. We have some preliminary plans drawn up which we are very taken with, and we have to wait for awhile before we can have the construction started, as we are trying to purchase a very small piece of state owned land in front of our lot in Oregon, so that we will have highway frontage for our shop on highway 99W North in McMinnville. However, we are working on the plans on the supposition that we do obtain this, and they are very exciting. We will have a slightly larger building, which will be L-shaped, and we will have a mezzanine in it also, which will give us much more yarn display room, room for looms, etc. We will have Clear Story (one way of spelling it) windows in the roof for much better natural lighting, and also we will have a large porch on one side of the building that we could have people come in and stand on or perhaps even work on. We hope to have windows along that whole porch if possible.

When we move to McMinnville, we hope to have a new home built, and then once again, we will start all over furnishing it with hand-woven materials, and all of these materials, will be part of our future Warp and Weft projects that we will share with you. Robin has been enthusiastically working on house plans for the past several months, since our decision to move, and has come up with some very nice ideas.

Well time to get back to the rest of Warp and Weft.

RUSSELL E. GROFF, *Editor*

In Memoriam

It is with great sorrow, that we tell you of the passing of Mr. Frederick Brown, who had worked with us for the past 13 years.

Mr. Brown (we called him this) was a wonderful guide to us, and taught us much of what we know about weaving. Many were the short cuts and time-saving devices that he devised to help us with our weaving.

About 75% of the samples in Warp and Weft, were samples which Robin and I planned, and which then Mr. Brown wove into the finished fabric.

Many of you who have been in the shop knew Mr. Brown personally, and he often shared his ideas with the many weavers who stopped by. In all of these 13 years, never once did we hear Mr. Brown's voice raised in anger.

He graduated from the Philadelphia Textile School in the 1890's, and had been connected with weaving ever since that time. Upon his retirement from the power-weaving industry, he moved to Santa Barbara, and finally in 1949, he agreed to come and work with us and help us; and we cannot tell you in words how much his help, advice, guidance and suggestions were.

We hope that we can carry on and share our weaving with you, as Mr. Brown shared his enthusiasm and weaving ability with all of us.

A Reminder of the Northern California Weavers Conference

While our conference in Southern California will be over, we want to remind you again of the 10th Annual Conference of Northern California Handweavers which will be held in Sacramento, California April 28th and 29th of this year. It will be held at the El Dorado Hotel in Sacramento. The speaker will be Else Regensteiner of the Art Institute of Chicago, and there will be also actual demonstrations of 8 different techniques at

the conference also. Registration is \$3.25 and for further information write to: Margaret Ferron, 1948 9th Avenue, Sacramento 18, California.

This Month's Book Review

This month we are pleased to tell you about a new book just available, titled "THE CRACKLE WEAVE."

This was written by Mary Snyder, and is a book containing 42 different crackle weave projects.

The book is divided into 4 major parts, Lessons 1, 2, 3, and 4.

Lesson 1 is all on basic "Crackle Weave" drafts and contains 9 different projects and instructions in basic crackle weave variations.

Lesson 2 contains 10 different projects and they are all based on Traditional Weaves.

Instructions and recommendations are given in all of these projects also.

Lesson 3 is entitled "Contemporary Fabrics," and there are 13 different projects given in this section.

I would like to point out here that the first 32 projects ARE ALL 4 HARNESSE PATTERNS for the weaver with 4 harness looms. These are very interesting projects, and perhaps you might see one or two of them in future issues of Warp and Weft.

Lesson 4 is entitled "Ecclesiastical and Multiple Harness," and contains 10 different projects on these two subjects.

I think that many of you will find this a very enlightening subject and a particularly good book for study groups, and the serious weaver who is interested in learning more about the individual weaves.

TITLE: THE CRACKLE WEAVE

AUTHOR: Mary E. Snyder

PRICE: \$3.50 plus 8c postage.

AVAILABLE: From Mary Snyder or from Robin & Russ.

PILLOW TALK

A colorful fabric planned for pillows. Bright colors were used to bring a bit of color into the room.

WARP USED:

A black 8/4 Carpet Warp was used in this project.

WEFT USED:

Several different threads were used in the weft. They are as follows:

A. Dark Green Heavy Jute, available on 4 oz. spools.

B. 4 ply Heather Grey Knitting Worsted as the heavy accent thread.

C. Spun Rayon Boucle in an Olive Green with 1,700 yards per lb.

D. Gold Rayon Boucle with approx. 1,600 yards per lb.

E. Navy Blue wool spun rayon boucle with approx. 1,200 yards per lb.

REED USED:

A 15 dent reed was used, as it was sleyed one per dent or 15 per inch.

TREADLING DRAFT:

4		X	X	X	X	
3			X	X	X	
2	X					
1	X	X				

TREADLING:

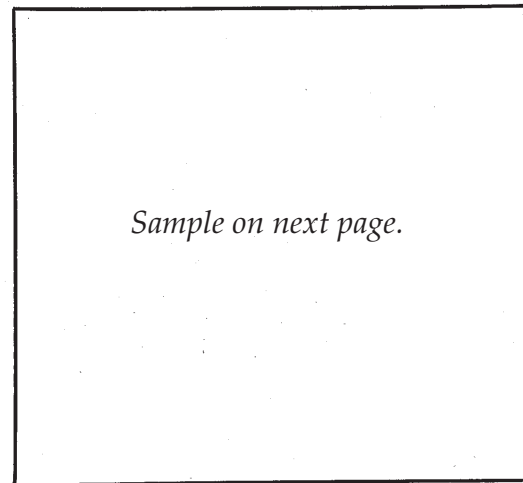
The treadling is really the only complicated thing about this sample, and it is not so much complicated as it is long. Here goes.

- Treadle No. 5, gold boucle.
- Treadle No. 6, gold boucle.
- Treadle No. 5, gold boucle.
- Treadle No. 6, gold boucle.
- Treadle No. 5, gold boucle.
- Treadle No. 1, navy blue boucle.
- Treadle No. 5, gold boucle.
- Treadle No. 6, gold boucle.
- Treadle No. 5, gold boucle.
- Treadle No. 6, gold boucle.
- Treadle No. 5, gold boucle.
- Treadle No. 6, gold boucle.
- Treadle No. 5, gold boucle.

- Treadle No. 1, navy blue boucle.
- Treadle No. 2, navy blue boucle.
- Treadle No. 3, double knitting worsted.
- Treadle No. 2, navy blue boucle.
- Treadle No. 1, navy blue boucle.
- Treadle No. 5, olive green boucle.
- Treadle No. 6, olive green boucle.
- Treadle No. 5, olive green boucle.
- Treadle No. 6, olive green boucle.
- Treadle No. 5, olive green boucle.
- Treadle No. 1, Heavy Green Jute.
- Treadle No. 5, Olive Green Boucle.
- Treadle No. 6, Olive Green Boucle.
- Treadle No. 5, Olive Green Boucle.
- Treadle No. 6, Olive Green Boucle.
- Treadle No. 5, Olive Green Boucle.
- Treadle No. 1, Navy Blue Boucle.
- Treadle No. 2, Navy Blue Boucle.
- Treadle No. 3, Double Knitting Worsted.
- Treadle No. 2, Navy Blue Boucle.
- Treadle No. 1, Navy Blue Boucle.

End of one repeat, repeat over and over.

SAMPLE:



TIE-UP DRAFT:

4	O	O	X	X	X	O
3	O	X	X	O	O	X
2	X	X	O	O	X	O
1	X	O	O	X	O	X
	1	2	3	4	5	6
					A	B

X's above—tie-up for Counter-balanced
O's above—tie-up for Jack-type



More About this Sample

The idea for the sample this month was suggested by a Swatch sent us by Rita Bretscher, of Carbondale, Illinois. She stated that she in turn had received the inspiration from a former Warp and Weft swatch which was recommended for lamp shade material. Her sample was woven with a natural cotton about 10/3 in size, and utilized some yellows and greens in hers. We did a draw-down from her sample and did a small experimental warp, and it was from this that the present sample evolved.

I'm suggesting this material for pillows, but Robin has also suggested that it would be very striking around a lampshade in either vertical or horizontal stripes, and I think that she is right. Also, to bring more color into the room, I think that you could cover wastebaskets, or magazine racks with it, and thus bring more color into your room.

Also, when we were experimenting with this sample, we did use a very heavy Jumbo Worsted, which I think was much more effective than the 4 ply worsted which we doubled. However, when it came time to weave the sample, the yarn company sent us the worsted we used instead of the Jumbo Worsted, and so we had to double it. We even experimented with it tripled and liked this, but did not have enough to do our 15 yards for samples, so we ended up doubling it. The Jumbo Worsted yarn gives it a much nicer looking appearance than the heather that we used, making it fluffier, and giving an effect of height and depth.

I also think that if you were interested in doing more with this threading and treadling, that you could easily do so. I can picture it in a finer thread in different color combina-

tions and being use in place-mats. Also if someone was interested in a textured drapery, I think that this could easily be worked out also.

If you will examine the threading draft a little, you will notice that it is a combination of a single Huck block and a triple Huck block. Everyday, I am more and more impressed with the versatility of the huck weave in its many different variations. If you haven't tried this particular weave in any of its many forms, you probably won't be as interested in it as we seem to be.

I don't know whether many of you know much about how "HUCK" weaves received such a name, but it is generally associated with by-gone days in most of Europe when a Travelling Trader or "HUCKSTER" specialized in a type of toweling woven on a huck threading draft and thus the name "HUCK" was taken as an abbreviation from huckster, and applied to the materials that he sold, and to the weave itself.

COST OF THE MATERIAL:

1. Carpetwarp in black and other colors is available on 1/2 lb. spools, 800 yards per spool, and it is 98c per 1/2 lb. spool. There are 24 colors, and these are supposed to be wash fast.

2. The heavy 4 ply knitting worsted is \$1.20 per 4 oz. skein of \$4.80 per lb. There are about 50 colors available in this.

3. The olive green boucle, navy boucle, and gold rayon boucle are all the same price, i.e., \$3.50 per lb. It comes on 1/2 lb. spools at \$1.75 each.

4. The heavy green jute comes on 4 oz. spools, and it is \$1.96 per lb., or 49c per 4 oz. spool. There are about 20 colors available in this.

This Month's Cover

The cover this month is a picture of a weaver that many of you know, Mrs. Valborg Gravander. (Mama).

She is shown here in her native costume, and is spinning some of the Camel's hair, from the Camels in the Golden Gate Zoo in San Francisco.

"Mama" Gravander has her own weaving studio in Mill Valley, California, and there she teaches, weaves commercially, and sells many of her handwoven fabrics.

She will be demonstrating spinning at the Southern California Handweavers Conference this month. There will also be several other spinners, and in particular, there will be Mrs. Hattie Bilbrey who will be spinning on one of the very large spinning wheels that you used to see in Colonial times.

Sale, Sale, Sale

Because of our impending move to Oregon, we have several thousand pounds of yarns that we are going to put on sale as of March 1, 1962. We will continue to have them on sale until we close our present shop, June 30th, 1962.

Also, we will be unable to advertise many of these items because many of the lots of yarn consist of only 10 to 25 lbs. of a particular kind and size. You will have to see them, to know if you are interested in same. There will be savings on all of these yarns varying from 10% to 50%, and we want to try and close out as many of them as possible.

Perhaps if you are out this way on vacation, you might stop by and see what we have to offer.

SILK BOUCLE: With a wool binder in stock now. This is a beautiful yarn, and is available in natural and in 3 other colors. The 3 other colors are California Gold, Deep Turquoise, and Aqua-Green. The natural is \$4.00 per lb., and the colors are \$6.00 per lb. and we have 50 lbs. of each of the 3 colors. ROBIN & RUSS, 632 Santa Barbara St., Santa Barbara, California.

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING

A 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.

THE HANDWEAVERS WORKBASKET now stocks a complete and full range of Bernat colors in both the Fabri and Afghan yarns. Sample color cards, thirty cents, upon receipt of request. Grace D. Blum, THE HANDWEAVERS WORKBASKET, Box 691, R. R. 1, West Chicago, Illinois.

FOUR HARNESS, 40" Norwood, Jack-type loom, treadles, hinged at back, three reeds, sectional beam. In perfect condition. Dissembled, marked, and boxed. \$75. Mrs. L. R. Flannigan, 2216 Belmont Blvd., Nashville, Tennessee.

BROMA: The Clear Plastic Spray for Rust prevention. This is recommended for use on reeds. It also helps to protect fabrics from soiling. In the large one pint can. This is a plastic lacquer spray. \$1.95 per can. Robin & Russ, 632 Santa Barbara St., Santa Barbara, Calif.

LARGE LOOP BLEACHED MOHAIR. This is a beautiful quality yarn that we have been able to obtain for the first time in bleached white. We have had it in natural and black, but I think this is an even nicer quality in bleached white. About 700 to 800 yards per lb. on cones of about 1 lb. 4 oz. each. \$3.50 per lb. Robin & Russ, 632 Santa Barbara St., Santa Barbara, Calif.

SMALL LOOP HEATHER CHARCOAL MOHAIR: This also is a particularly nice mohair, and it has approx. 2,800 yards per lb and is on tubes of about 1 lb. 4 oz. each. \$3.20 per lb. Robin & Russ, 632 Santa Barbara St., Santa Barbara, Calif.

COLOR WHEELS: These are very well made color wheels for help in your proper color selection in planning your fabrics. They show the Analogous, Triadic, Complimentary, Near Complimentary and Split Complimentary colors, as well as giving definitions of these terms and other terms in relation to color. \$1.00 each, plus 10c pp. Robin & Russ, 632 Santa Barbara St., Santa Barbara, Calif.

TRIP COUNTER WITH A RESET: For mounting on your loom to count the number of turns of your warp beam. Can be set back at zero at any time and counts up to 999. Complete with striking arm and screws to fasten to beam. \$7.50 each. Robin & Russ, 632 Santa Barbara St., Santa Barbara, Calif.

THE CRACKLE WEAVE: A new book just out with 42 different Crackle Weave projects. Recommended threads are given along with complete instructions. Price is \$3.50 each, plus 8c postage. Robin & Russ, 632 Santa Barbara St., Santa Barbara, Calif.

CONTEMPORARY LINENS: The latest folio by Mr. Elmer Hickman featuring 28 actual woven swatches of linens, with complete directions. Folio is \$6.95 postage prepaid. Robin & Russ, 632 Santa Barbara St., Santa Barbara, Calif.

AMERICAN FABRICS MAGAZINE: This wonderful magazine, issued quarterly, has usually about 50 to 200 sample swatches in each issue, plus the latest fashion trends, the latest materials being used in weaving, the latest developments in all kinds of fabrics. Subscription is \$12.00 per year, and well worth it. Robin & Russ, 632 Santa Barbara St., Santa Barbara, Calif.

HAND-WOVEN METAL WITH ELASTIC BELTS: These are beautiful hand-woven belts, made here in Santa Barbara, and come in gold, silver, copper, and the latest is an equal copper combination. These come in 1" or 1 3/4" widths, and each size is adjustable for about 5 or 6 inches, as it is an elastic backing with metal clips woven on top.

Narrow Width, any color\$3.95

Wide Width any color\$5.50

Postage prepaid on these orders.

Robin & Russ, 632 Santa Barbara St., Santa Barbara, Calif.

FINE NATURAL 7/4 DOUPPIONI SILK, on special while it lasts at \$4.00 per lb. It is 4 ply and is a good warp thread, as well as weft, and works as warp at 20 to 24 threads per inch. Robin & Russ, 632 Santa Barbara St., Santa Barbara, California.

FLAT 1/32" GOLD METALLIC, non tarnishable and washable. On approximately 5 ounce spools. **ON SALE WHILE IT LASTS** at 75c per spool. Robin & Russ, 632 Santa Barbara St., Santa Barbara, Calif.

OVAL SHAPED BAMBOO RINGS. These have about a 7-in. width on the long part of the oval. Excellent for bag handles of all kinds. 90c each, or \$1.75 per pair. We also have these in 7-in. diameter circles at the same price, and 5-in. diameter circles at 60c each, or \$1.15 per pair. Postage is extra. Robin & Russ, 632 Santa Barbara St., Santa Barbara, Calif.

OVAL BAMBOO RINGS WITH 12 BRASS RINGS. These are the same size as the oval rings above, but have 12 brass rings on each oval. Price is \$1.25 each. Robin & Russ, 632 Santa Barbara St., Santa Barbara, Calif.

DARK NATURAL LINEN WITH A FAINT GOLD metallic twist. Size 6/1, with 1,600 yards per lb. \$3.20 per lb. on 4 oz. spools. Robin & Russ, 632 Santa Barbara St., Santa Barbara, Calif.

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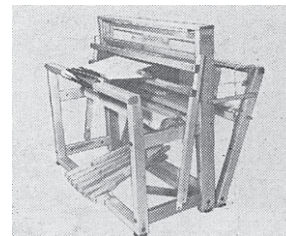
This is her first book, just reprinted in 1961, and has been out of print for about two years. Same price as before, \$6.95 plus 19c p.p. charges. Can be shipped immediately.

Also Available is the 2nd Book,
SWEDISH HANDWEAVING
by Malin Selander
\$6.95 plus 19c p.p.

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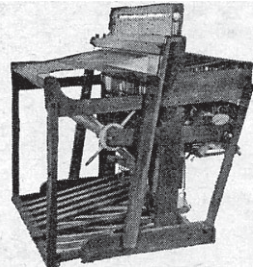
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