

warp and weft

Vol. XVII, No. 3 March, 1964

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VOL. XVII, No. 3

MARCH, 1964

A Word from the Editor

An extremely busy and hectic month has gone by, so full of actions and activities that I find it hard to think of them.

First of all very little weaving has been accomplished, but still much activity. The adult education weaving class in our shop is active and the weavers come in our shop and work on their projects also during the day as 3 hours a week isn't enough time for the work in our evening classes. The workshop or classes at Albany, Oregon are well under way and I'm finding this is a very active and busy group of weavers. We had a 3 day workshop of the Portland Handweavers Guild. This was conducted by Mrs. Karin Melander of Santa Barbara, California and her subjects in her workshop were SWEDISH FINGER WEAVING OR SWEDISH ART WEAVING. Mrs. Melander spent a short time with us in McMinnville, and it was a pleasure to see her. Then, the job of getting our two bulletins out, and mailing an additional 300 to 400 catalogues to some of the names on our mailing list, and trying to take care of the routine essentials make it an interesting life.

And to top it off, the worst of all was a week's visit with the flu and spending most of this in bed.

In among these activities above, we three found time to visit Mt. Hood area twice and one of these two visits was spent skiing and the other one was still more pleasure in riding down a steep hill in a large inflated inertube (a type of sled-riding). We're hoping to try the skiing and sledding again soon.

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Several new threads have come in this month, and you will find some of these listed in the classified section.

Robin has started hundreds of seeds to be planted first thing in the spring and you should see Janice and her tumbling activities. She certainly does enjoy this type of activity. The large tumbling mat (her delayed Christmas present) keeps her active along with her reading.

Here's hoping that this forthcoming month will see a little weaving being produced and some more experimental work being done for our two bulletins.

Russell E. Groff, Editor

This Month's Cover:

The cover this month is a photograph of two wall hangings woven by Mrs. Norma Schneider of the Oregon Woolen Mills in Portland, Oregon.

Both of these hangings were woven in a SOUMAK TECHNIQUE. This is one of the most interesting weaving techniques you can do and many people compare it to Embroidery on the Loom. There is an excellent explanation of this technique in Mary Black's NEW KEY TO WEAVING. It is also explained in the book, RUG WEAVING FOR EVERYONE, by Gallinger and Del Deo.

This technique can be used for wall hangings as shown here, for pillow tops, for an extremely decorative fabric wherever you can use it, and it is quite commonly used in rugs with heavy rug wool.

Mrs. Schneider used a 20/2 linen warp for these hangings at about 20 or 24 per inch. The threads used for the SOUMAK for Pattern are sweater or sock weight yarn in various colors. As tabby in between each row of SOUMAK is a tabby thread of 3 ends of 20/1 linen all wound together on one bobbin to act as one thread.

These two figures are called "KACHINA DOLLS," and if I am correct, I believe that the designs were inspired by some of the Kachina Dolls made by one of the Indian tribes here in the Pacific Northwest.

Two Book Reviews This Month

Two books that I feel should be reviewed together are the following listed books. First is the book *ADVENTURES IN STITCHES*, by Mariska Karasz, and the second is *DECORATIVE WALL HANGINGS*, by David B. Van Dommelen.

I am reviewing both of these books because I want to tell you about a new or recent development in the art and craft of Handweaving. There is at present a great growth of interest in wall hangings, of all types. These can be not only woven, but can combine weaving, stitchery, and embroidery, and applique, and this is the reason why I am reviewing these two books. The book, *ADVENTURES IN STITCHES*, is a detailed picture-guide book for many, many, many different types and kinds of stitches. This is the latest revised and expanded edition of this book reprinted in 1959. This is a valuable idea book for the hand-weaver as not only are there so many stitches explained clearly, but there are many excellent close-up photographs of types of projects you could do on the loom using your weaving as the background and these stitches as the pattern in your fabric. I feel that any piece of stitchery can be enhanced by the right background, and this you can create yourself on the loom.

There are illustrations of how to start, continue and end your stitches, suggestions on mounting finished materials, suggestions as to how to select your materials for stitchery, explanations of flat stitches, loop stitches, chained stitches, knotted stitches, other detailed stitches and composite stitches. An alphabetical list of the different stitches is given and other general information about stitchery. From the weaving viewpoint, I think that this is a very outstanding book which will be of interest to many weavers.

TITLE: ADVENTURES IN STITCHES

AUTHOR: Mariska Karasz

PUBLISHER: Funk & Wagnalls Co.

COST: \$7.50 plus 20c postage

AVAILABLE: It is available from the publishers or from Robin & Russ Handweavers.

OUR SECOND BOOK REVIEW is about the book entitled "DECORATIVE WALL HANGINGS" by David B. Van Dommelen. This book is actually a survey of the art and craft of decorating a background of fabric both beautifully and creatively.

This book is intended primarily to enthuse and inspire the beginner and so should be of great interest to the weaver who can design and create his own background fabric as well as doing the actual decoration of his background fabric.

Mr. Van Dommelen describes some of the widely varying techniques that can be used for fabric decoration. He lists the materials and equipment needed in each of these techniques. The first portion of his book is devoted to 20 different types of stitchery. His next chapter deals entirely with Applique and gives many clear-cut ideas about this technique along with many outstanding photographs of this technique. He gives suggestions for using applique on a sewing machine as well as by hand.

His third chapter deals with the use of paste, applique of pieces of other fabrics and the use of the felt pen. Ideas about these are given and again many illustrations (mostly of the author's work) are shown.

The fourth chapter deals with the felt pen and press on tape and gives the thoughts and impression of the author about these materials.

His next chapters deal with the use of paper, collage, and fabric; and also the art of "hooking" which we generally associate with the making of rugs. The detailed photographs in this section are extremely interesting.

The next two chapters deal with the use of stencils and also with "dyeing" techniques such as batik, tie-dyeing, etc.

The last portions of the book are devoted to obtaining three dimensional effects, the mounting and hanging of your finished products and the proper choice of the right materials for this type of work.

(Continued on page 6)

M's and O's Again

This 4 harness M's and O's variation is interesting for heavy table-mats, and could be used for table-cloths, bed-spreads, etc.

Tie-Up Draft:

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

X's above—for counter-balanced tie-up.
O's above—for jack type tie-up.

Threading Draft:

	C					B					A
4	X	X			X	X			X	X	
3			X	X			X	X			X
2	X	X			X	X		X	X		
1			X	X			X	X		X	X

Warp:

A 10/2 linen in light pink was used as the warp thread.

Weft:

The weft is a heavy 14 cord linen in natural. This comes on approximately 1 pound tubes.

Reed Used:

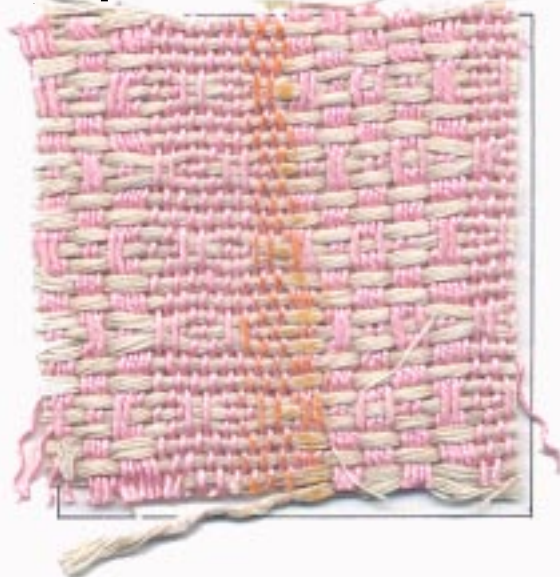
A 10 dent reed was used, and it was double sleyed; 2 ends per dent, or 20 threads per inch.

Treadling Sequence:

1. Treadle # 6 — one time
2. Treadle # 5 — one time
3. Treadle # 6 — one time
4. Treadle # 5 — one time
5. Treadle # 3 — one time
6. Treadle # 5 — one time
7. Treadle # 6 — one time
8. Treadle # 5 — one time
9. Treadle # 6 — one time
10. Treadle # 3 — one time

Repeat over and over from # 1.

Sample:



Plan For A Place-mat, 15" Wide On Loom

1. Thread A to C—8 times— 288 threads.
 2. Thread A to B—1 time — 16 threads.
- Total number of Warp Ends 304 threads.

This gives you a warp set-up using the 10 dent reed with 2 per dent of 15-1/5" width. This will come down slightly narrower in the weaving, but not much because of the heavy weft thread used.

More About This Fabric

First of all, I want to mention that this sample will not appear as firm as if you were weaving place-mats. On the 40" width, we find that it will not beat as tightly as on the 15" width for place-mats. Thus, if you plan on making mats, you will have a heavier and more satisfactory mat that will lie down flat and be much closer than in our sample which we wove on a 40" loom with the full width of the loom being used.

Next I should mention that I feel that you should use a double beat on this fabric. Linen is always quite stiff and usually does not beat together as much as other threads used, so thus I suggest that you beat after you throw the shuttle, change your shed to your next treadle, and then beat again for satisfactory body to your fabric. Also, this 14 cord linen we have used is actually 14 threads of a linen all wound together as one thread and it has a sort of spring or bounce to it that it does not pack in as tightly as you would expect unless you do use a double beat.

I might also mention that this has been one of our most popular place-mats and that we have used a natural linen warp, a white linen warp, a pink linen warp, light yellow, and that these colors in the warp have all been popular. However, I believe that the natural has been the most popular of all of the warps.

Also for weft, we have used other materials besides the 14 cord linen. We have a fairly heavy rayon boucle with a gold twist, which has been quite popular and makes a very satisfactory mat. We also had a very heavy rayon frill type yarn with gold twist, which has been very satisfactory.

On another of our mats, we used about 6 ends of 20/2 bleached ramie all wound together as one thread as a weft thread on the natural warp, and this too has proved to be very popular. We have also used the heavy, 2 ply jute-tone in different colors as weft, and it too has been very satisfactory.

Most of these mats, we have woven about 19" long on the loom and because of the weight of the weft thread, we have fringed

these mats, rather than hemming them, and we feel that it makes a much more satisfactory mat than if you had a bulky hem at each end.

We cut out some cardboard strips 1" wide and 16" long. We put in one cardboard strip in our shed, weave a mat and then put in two cardboard strips. Each of these is put in on a different treadle to hold in place. This then makes the weaving and in particular the finishing of these mats much easier. You can hemstitch the end of each mat on the loom under tension if you desire, or you can stitch at the beginning and end of each 19" piece of fabric with the sewing machine. Then cut right down in the middle between the two cardboard strips, and your fringes are all automatically an even length, and you do not have to worry about trimming the fringes later and getting them all the same length. These cardboard inserts take care of the even fringe and make the weaving that much faster and easier to do. Why don't you try this and see how well it works.

Cost of Threads Used In This Project

The 10/2 linen in pink used for the warp costs \$4.40 per lb. right now, but we understand that next month it will probably go up in cost to about \$5.00 per lb., or slightly more for the colors in the 10/2 linen. The natural at present is the best buy in a linen thread on the market at \$3.25 per lb. However, it too will be going up quite a bit at the end of the month.

The weft thread of the 14 cord linen is also a very reasonable price at \$2.40 per lb. We cannot always find this same size on the market but usually can find a 10 cord or 12 cord which is very close to the 14 cord. At present we have probably 50 lbs. of the 14 cord linen on hand at the price of \$2.40 per lb. This is a very good price on a linen of this type.

Cost of a Place-mat

Using the 10/2 pink linen for warp, you find that the warp cost is 98¢ per yard or 57¢ each for the 21" place-mat. Using the natural 10/2 linen for warp, you find that the warp is 72¢ per yard or 42¢ for the warp in a 21" place-mat.

In the weft, we find that 1 lb. is enough for slightly over 5 mats of the 14 cord linen. Thus, the weft for each mat comes to 48¢ each.

Warp Cost Pink Linen Mat	.57
Weft Cost 14 cord Linen	.48
Total cost per pink mat	<u>\$1.05</u>
Warp Cost Natural Linen Mat	.42
Weft Cost 14 cord linen	.48
Total cost, Natural Linen	<u>.90</u>

Second Book Review

(Continued from page 3)

This is an outstanding book which I think will be of great interest to many weavers.

TITLE: DECORATIVE WALL HANGINGS

AUTHOR: David B. Van Dommelen

COST: \$8.50 plus 20¢ postage.

PUBLISHER: Funk & Wagnalls Co.

AVAILABLE: It is available from the publishers or from Robin & Russ Handweavers.

A New Warp and Weft Binder Is Available

At long last, we have been able to get a 3 ring binder for *Warp and Weft*, with a hard cover and the name imprinted on the cover. These are light tan in color with the

name imprinted (*Warp and Weft*) on the cover in dark brown. Dark Brown binding where the rings go. Price is \$1.50 each, plus 10¢ postage. We used to have one custom made, as these were, which sold for \$2.50 and then \$2.75. I think these are better and easier to insert the individual issues. All you need is a paper punch to punch 3 holes in the *Warp and Weft* copy. Immediate shipment can be made on these now. Order from Robin & Russ Handweavers, 533 North Adams St., McMinnville, Oregon.

Two California Handweaving Conferences Due in March-April

The Fourth Biennial Conference of Southern California Handweavers will be held March 14th and 15th in San Diego, California at the U. S. Grant Hotel, 326 Broadway in downtown San Diego.

The theme of this conference is "The Weavers Palette." Advance registration is necessary, so if interested, write for registration to: Mrs. S. G. Heyer, 3372 Copley Ave., San Diego, California 92116. Be sure to send your check for \$5.00 which covers registration, program, and fashion show. This show will be open to the public on Sunday only, and just to the weavers on Saturday, the day that the activities occur.

The Twelfth Annual Conference of Northern California Handweavers is to be held at the new Jay McCabe Convention Hall next to the San Jose Civic Auditorium in San Jose, California on April 25th and 26th of this year. There will be a major speaker, fashion show, guild booths and commercial exhibits on display at this conference also. Registration will be accepted up until April 10th, 1964, and should be sent in as soon as possible to Mrs. Marguerite Welker, 620 Sumner Street, Santa Cruz, California.

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING

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.

FOR SALE: 60" Leclerc Jack Type loom with 10 treadles, sectional beam, 3 reeds, other equipment, all nearly new. Half price, you pay transportation. Write to E. J. Work, 317 W. Bijou, Ft. Morgan, Colorado.

IN STOCK: 48 colors Swedish Linen. (Color cards 50c). Fabri and Afghan, (Color cards 35c). The Handweavers' Workbasket, Box 829, R. 1, West Chicago, Illinois 60185.

FINE RAYON BOUCLE IN HEATHER GRAY: This is a close-out fine rayon boucle with 7300 yards per lb. It originally sold at \$3.50 per lb., and we are closing it out at 80c per lb. while it lasts. Light grey with sort of white flecks. A wonderful accent in all types of suiting, coat material, drapes and upholstery. **ROBIN & RUSS, 533 N. Adams St., McMinnville, Oregon.**

ORANGE RUST LINEN BOUCLE. A nice quality linen boucle on 1/2 lb. tubes. It has 1800 yards per lb., and is reasonably priced at \$3.20 per lb. Also, a limited amount of California Gold and Citron Chartreuse linen boucle available, at the same price. Robin & Russ, 533 North Adams St., McMinnville, Oregon.

16/2 Ramie, IMPORTED FROM SWITZERLAND. This ramie is the same as linen, has 2400 yards per lb., and is \$5.00 per pound, or \$1.25 per 4 oz. spool. Colors are wash-fast and sunfast. Free sample sheet upon request. Robin & Russ, 533 N. Adams St., McMinnville, Oregon.

WARP AND WEFT BINDER: We have finally been able to find a much more reasonable 3 ring binder for Warp and Weft. It will hold about 3 years copies, is a hard cover with name printed on the cover. It is a 3 ring binder set, and is priced at \$1.50 plus 10c postage. Light tan with dark brown binding. Robin & Russ, 533 North Adams St., McMinnville, Oregon.

25/2 LINEN IN NATURAL. This is slightly soiled on the outside of the tube, but it is a nice quality yarn at about 1/2 of what it normally would cost at \$2.40 per lb. On approximately 1 1/2 lb. tubes. Superior quality, and has 3750 yards per lb. Robin & Russ, 533 North Adams St., McMinnville, Oregon.

FOR SALE: 20", 4 harness Structo Table Loom. Originally priced at \$100.00 each, this loom is now for sale at \$65.00 plus shipping. Has been warped one time, and part of this first warp is still on the loom. Robin & Russ, 533 North Adams St., McMinnville, Oregon.

3 Cord BARBOURS LINEN: This is an excellent quality Barbour's linen, 3 cord with a good twist for handweaving. Do not know definite yardage per lb., but figure this would be about 2,000 yards per lb. Slightly soiled on outside of tube, but otherwise an extra good quality. \$2.40 per lb., on 1 lb. tubes. Robin & Russ, 533 N. Adams St., McMinnville, Oregon.

16/2 White ORLON: Limited amount available at \$2.40 per lb. 1/2 lb. spools. 4300 yards per lb. On approximately 1/2 lb. tubes. Robin & Russ, 533 N. Adams St., McMinnville, Oregon.

FOR SALE: 8 harness Herald Loom, 15 dent reed. In good condition. \$100.00 plus transportation. Inkle Loom, New \$10.00. Mrs. H. Paul Scheyer, 1018 Milwaukee Ave., Puyallup, Washington 98372.

POMPADOUR BABY YARN. This is actually a wool yarn with rayon twist, having 2240 yards per lb. Available at \$5.40 per lb., or 69c per 2 oz. skein. It comes in 6 colors, Baby Yellow, Baby Green, Baby Pink, Baby Blue, Baby Lavender, and White. Can be used for warp or weft. Excellent at 15 per inch as warp. Robin & Russ, 533 N. Adams St., McMinnville, Oregon.

FABRI. 2/18's Worsted Yarn. This superior quality worsted yarn has 4800 yards per lb., and comes in 2 oz. skeins. There are 44 colors available, and it is excellent warp for all types of woven projects. Price is \$6.80 per pound, or \$1.00 per 2 oz. skein in less than 1 lb. of a color. Color card is 30c for the 44 colors. Robin & Russ, 533 N. Adams St., McMinnville, Oregon.

NATURAL RAYON BOUCLE WITH GOLD TWIST. This is a nice quality rayon yarn with a gold twist. Available on 1/2 lb. spools. Excellent for weft in place-mats on a linen warp or cotton warp. Has approximately 1,000 yards per lb. \$2.80 per lb., or \$1.40 per 1/2 lb. spool. Robin & Russ, 533 N. Adams St., McMinnville, Oregon.

Important Announcement

TOWN AND COUNTRY TWEEDS

By popular demand, a small quantity of Hickman's Town and Country Tweed Folio has been reprinted. It is a collection of 24 luxurious handwoven samples of exclusive wearing apparel for women's and men's coats, suits, and sports wear. Complete instructions and yarn sources for these 4 harness colorful and attractive weaves. Price is the same, \$6.95 postpaid.

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