

warp and weft

Vol. XVIII, No. 1

January, 1965

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Editor: Russell E. Groff,

Assistant Editor: Robin Groff.

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A Word from the Editor

This is being written about two days before Christmas. And you will be receiving it about January 10th to 15th. At this time, we have to REMINISCE, as this issue of January, 1965 will be the last issue in our first 10 years of publishing Warp and Weft. One thing I must say is that 10 years of publishing Warp and Weft, has left us with little time for anything else but working and planning projects. This is the 100th sample that we have mailed to you, and going even further, we can say that this means that some 1200 to 1500 yards of 40" wide fabric have been woven for samples in Warp and Weft. A lot of weaving, and truthfully, we can also say that a lot of water has gone over the dam, as we here in Oregon are in the midst of the worst floods we have ever experienced in this state. All this has been caused by a 10" snowfall which melted in two days when pelted by warm rain and temperatures of 50 to 60 degrees.

This past decade has been a busy one, and the time has flown because we were busy. It has been a wonderful 10 years for us, and at this time of year, we are able to count our many blessings, and we can think of the many wonderful things that have happened to us because of our work with Warp and Weft.

We want to take a few minutes to express our thoughts to our Lord and Savior, that he has allowed us to do this work these past years.

Christmas is a wonderful time of the year, and to the three of us, it has a magic and

charm all of its own that cannot be found at any other time of the year. We three will celebrate the Christmas Season by going to Yosemite National Park for about 4 days just after Christmas, and if your editor is fortunate, he will get to go to the Rose Bowl Game at Pasadena, and see Oregon State University defeat Michigan in that game on January 1, 1965. (Perhaps I'll have to eat these words next month.)

There seems to always be something to do in our studio. We have 6 different looms set-up with projects at the present time, and are just now setting up a seventh project. That is a lot of weaving to be done, and it will give us a lot of pleasure to do these many different projects.

Our sample loom is empty at present, but we must get it set-up also. This is the little 8 harness structo on which we design and plan all of our samples for Warp and Weft, and Drafts and Designs. This is an 8 harness, 26" wide structo loom that we use for this purpose. It is the perfect loom for experimenting and experimental work. With the levers for the 8 harnesses at the top of the loom, we can work out any treadling combination we want to without having to re-tie all those treadles for each change that we want to make. Then, when we develop the sample and treadling that we want, we can easily transpose it from the levers of the structo loom to the treadles of one of the other looms in the shop.

I might also take this time and opportunity to say that if any of you have worked out a most interesting sample of a weaving pattern and would like to share it, we would be most pleased to see it. If practical, we would be willing to try and duplicate such patterns and then share them with our Warp and Weft subscribers.

Enough for this time.

Russell E. Groff, Editor

This Month's Cover

We think that you will enjoy this month's cover for Warp and Weft. It was sent to us by Mr. Elmer Hickman, producer of those outstanding sample folios. It was sent to him by one of his weaving acquaintances, Mrs. Louise Cooley from Baltimore, Maryland. I believe Mrs. Cooley obtained it from the National Archives. The credit line reads: Office of Secretary of Agriculture, Photo No. 16-ESF1 in the National Archives. As near as can be determined, this photograph was taken about 1870. She (Mrs. Cooley) states that they found the photograph at a place called Waterford, a restored early American Settlement, and they traced it from there to the National Archives.

On this photograph are the words, A PRIMITIVE COTTON FACTORY, ALABAMA.

When you examine this photograph very closely, it makes you marvel at the tremendous progress made in our mode of living since the date of 1870. A close examination of all the persons can bring many thoughts to your mind. One could make many comments, but we will let you draw your own conclusions after viewing the cover photograph.

We are indeed indebted to Mr. Hickman and Mrs. Louise Cooley for allowing us to share this photograph with you.

This Month's Book Review

A new book just released this month is the book called "HANDWEAVING," written by Iona Plath.

This is a well planned and interesting book. It is particularly interesting because of the color plates and photographs of each of the 125 different weaving projects explained in the book.

Of these projects given, some 90 of them are illustrated in color, as well as in black and white photographs.

Each individual project has a black and white photograph illustrating it.

Most of the projects are 4 harness weaves, with just a couple of these many projects in

2, 6 or 8 harness patterns.

The author of the book, Iona Plath, is a professional handweaver, textile designer and teacher. She has also written an earlier book entitled, "THE DECORATIVE ARTS OF SWEDEN," and it was while she was doing the work on this book that she became interested in handweaving and started her career in this field.

A very complete explanation is given of each of the different projects, with the warp and weft threads being given as well as the threading, treadling, and tie-up. She gives the exact description of each of the threads which she uses for warp and weft.

One thing that makes this book very interesting is Miss Plath's choice of both colors and textures in her woven projects. Among the many projects which she suggests are curtains, pillows, upholstery, decorative fabrics, rugs, place mats, fashion fabrics, and stoles.

Another thing that I like about these many projects is that there are very few intricate threading drafts or very few treadling directions that are complicated, so it would be easy for any weaver to duplicate some of these many projects. It is a good book, and I think most of the weavers I know would enjoy it.

TITLE: HANDWEAVING

AUTHOR: Iona Plath

PUBLISHER: Charles Scribner's Sons
New York City, New York

PRICE: \$8.95 plus 20 cents postage

AVAILABLE: It is available directly from the publisher or from Robin & Russ Handweavers if desired.

OLD HAMPSHIRE YARNS

for

Hand Weaving - Hand Knitting

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Special prices on 10 lbs. and over quoted on request. Send 10c for a sample folder. Special attention is given to institutions and schools for arts, crafts and therapy programs.

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Department Y

Concord, New Hampshire

Mohair and Silk

This small plaid in silk and mohair was planned for a woman's winter coat, but it could be used for many other things.

THREADING DRAFT:

4	L	L		L	L		H					H	
3			M	M			H			C		H	
2			C				H		M	M		H	
1						H		L	L		L	L	H

∧ = Two threads in one dent--- all rest single sleyed, one end per dent

KEY TO THREADS IN THREADING DRAFT:

- H—Harvest Orange heavy 4 ply silk
- L—Loop mohair in Rosie Tan
- M—Melon Orange heavy 4 ply silk
- C—Cherry, rayon & cotton boucle

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—tie-up for Counter-balanced looms.

○—tie-up for Jack-type looms.

No. 5 & No. 6 or A & B are tabby treadles

WARP:

There are 4 different threads used in the warp. They are:

C—Cherry rayon boucle, 1700 yards per lb. on 1/2 lb. spools.

H—Harvest Orange, heavy 4 ply silk with 960 yards per lb. on approximately one pound cones.

L—Loop mohair in rosie tan. This has about 1250 yards per lb., and comes on about 1 lb. cones.

M—Melon Orange 4 ply heavy silk with 960 yards per pound, on cones of about 1 lb. each.

WEFT:

The same 4 threads as used in the warp were also used in the weft.

REED USED:

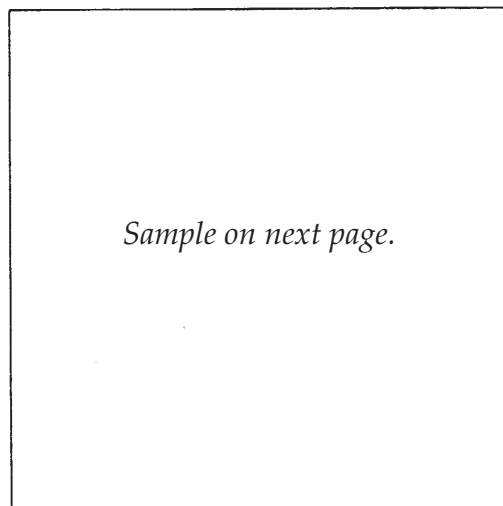
A 10 dent reed was used.

Page 4

SPECIAL SLEYING OF THE REED:

All of the threads in the warp (except the Rosie Tan Loop Mohair) were threaded one per dent. The Loop mohair was threaded 2 threads in a dent, as two threads of it always come together in the threading draft.

Sample:



Sample on next page.

TREADLING SEQUENCE:

1. Treadle No. 1—Loop Mohair
2. Treadle No. 3—Loop Mohair
3. Treadle No. 5—Melon Orange Silk
4. Treadle No. 6—Cherry Rayon Boucle
5. Treadle No. 5—Melon Orange Silk
6. Treadle No. 3—Loop Mohair
7. Treadle No. 1—Loop Mohair
8. Treadle No. 6—Harvest Orange Silk
9. Treadle No. 5—Harvest Orange Silk
10. Treadle No. 6—Harvest Orange Silk
11. Treadle No. 5—Harvest Orange Silk
12. Treadle No. 6—Harvest Orange Silk

END OF ONE REPEAT, REPEAT OVER AND OVER AS DESIRED. 12 threads in each repeat.



MORE ABOUT THIS FABRIC:

Surprisingly enough, this fabric was much easier to weave than had been anticipated. We had only 2 broken loop mohair threads in a 15 yard warp, and these both were from knots in the loop mohair thread. We also had about 4 of the heavy silk threads break, and this also, was because when knotted it was so thick, it had a hard time going through the reed. So, to repair these, instead of tying a new piece of warp thread on the broken warp thread, we just hung a spool on the back with an add a warp clip spool, and wove with the new thread until our original broken thread was long enough to put in without knotting. It worked out very well.

Incidentally, if you use this method, I also find that it is much easier to make repairs of such threads while the fabric is still under tension on the loom. I take a large eye tapestry needle and weave in the two broken ends of thread over and under the other weft threads according to the pattern. It is much easier to do this under tension with the fabric rigid and not able to move.

We found this fabric easy to weave and quite fast weaving. We had a 15 yard warp and finished it in 3 days if I remember correctly, and we had other work to do on these three days, so not all of it was weaving.

FINISHING OF THIS FABRIC:

First of all, let me tell you that our sample is not washed. There are two methods of finishing this material. One method would be much easier than the other, and that is sending it out to a commercial processor who will do this for you. On the west coast, we are fortunate in having the Geltman Sponging Company having offices and shops to do this in Seattle, Portland, San Francisco, and Los Angeles. I believe that this company also has such places in Chicago and New York, but if they do not, I'm sure that you will be able to find others in the classified section of your telephone book.

The second method of finishing would be to do it yourself. I would suggest that you rinse it in lukewarm water, and add a little soap, and rinse it thoroughly, and do not handle it roughly. Then allow this to drip dry, and when dry, then take it to a steam

iron and steam iron it. This is how we finish many of our fabrics.

In this fabric, we have loop mohair in both the warp and weft, but I do not think there is enough to cause any shrinkage problem when washed. One thing sure is that commercial finishing would eliminate any such fears. If you would have about 1/2 loop mohair in the warp and weft, and 1/2 of another fiber, I think that then you would have some problems with shrinkage. However, you must also remember that some manufacturers deliberately mix textures such as this to make unusual effects in their fabrics.

COST OF THE THREADS USED IN THIS FABRIC:

The heavy 4 ply silk in Harvest Orange and in Melon Orange has 960 yards per lb. It is \$4.80 per lb., and comes on about 1 lb. cones. There are also 4 other colors available in this heavy silk. They are Banana Beige, Royal Blue, Stocking Tan, and Popcorn Yellow.

The rayon boucle in Cherry color is \$3.50 per lb., and comes on 1/2 lb. cones. It has about 1700 yards per lb., and is also available in about 20 other colors.

The Rosie Tan Loop mohair is specially priced at \$4.00 per lb. We do have 6 other colors at the regular price of \$6.80 per lb. Most of this mohair has 1250 yards per lb., and comes on 1 lb. cones. As loop mohair is so popular at present, we do have other colors on sale at special prices from time to time.

COST OF THIS FABRIC:

We set-up the loom with 15 yards of this material, 41" wide on the loom. It took these threads in warp.

1. 1 lb. 5 oz. Melon Orange Silk
2. 2 lbs. 1 oz. Rosie Tan Mohair
3. 7 ounces of Cherry Rayon Boucle
4. 2 lbs. 12 oz. of Harvest Orange heavy 4 ply silk.

Costwise, this comes to \$29.10 for 15 yards of warp, 41" wide. Breaking it down to cost per yard for 14 yards of finished material, we find the cost to be \$2.10 per yard for warp.

In the weft, it took the following listed amounts of thread for weft in the 14 yards of finished material.

1. 6 oz. of Cherry Rayon Boucle
2. 15 oz. of Melon Orange 4 ply Silk
3. 1½ lbs. of Rosie Tan Loop Mohair
4. 2 lbs. 7 oz. of Harvest Orange 4 ply silk.

Weftwise, the weft for 14 yards came to \$23.52 or cost per yard for weft came to \$1.68 per yard.

WARP COST PER YARD	\$2.10
WEFT COST PER YARD	\$1.68
FABRIC COST PER YARD	\$3.78

This Month's Second Project: Some Beautiful Rose-Pink Place-mats

THREADING DRAFT:

	C	B	A
4	x x x x x x x x		
3	x x x x x x x x	x	x
2	x x x x	x x x x	x x x x
1		x x	x x x x

PLAN FOR 13¾" WIDE MAT:

1. Selvage 1,2,1,2,3,4,3,4,3,2—10 thds.
2. A to C—8 times 320 thds.
3. To balance, A to B, 1 time 20 thds.
4. Selvage 2,3,4,3,4,3,2,1,2,1 10 thds.

Total Number of Warp Ends 360

WARP:

Use 3 threads in the warp, which are 40/2 linen Peach, 20/2 linen in Pink, and 3/3 rayon in natural white. You will warp 3 ends each of the peach and pink linens. Then after these 6, you will have one end of the 3/3 rayon in natural white. The 6 ends of linen (3 of peach and 3 of pink) need not be in a sequence, but thread them at random. Then after the 6 ends, you will have one of 3/3 rayon. Repeat over and over for the entire width of the mat.

WEFT:

In the weft, you will also have 3 threads. One will be a 10/2 linen in Wild Rose; one

will be the 3/3 rayon in natural white, and the third will be a bobbin with one end each of supported gold metallic and supported silver metallic, both wound together as one thread on a bobbin.

REED USED:

A 15 dent reed will be used and it will be sleyed 2 ends per dent for the 6 ends of linen, and one thread of 3/3 rayon in a dent. This will be repeated entire width of the warp.

TIE-UP DRAFT:

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

X—tie-up for Counter-balanced looms.
O—tie-up for Jack-type looms.

TREADLING:

1. Treadle No. 1—10/2 Wild Rose Linen
2. Treadle No. 6—3/3 natural white rayon
3. Treadle No. 5— Gold & Silver 1/64 both threads wound together on one bobbin.

Repeat these 3 treadles until you have a square block. Then:

1. Treadle No. 3—10/2 Wild Rose Linen
2. Treadle No. 6—Gold & Silver 1/64" both threads wound together on 1 bobbin.
3. Treadle No. 5—3/3 natural white rayon

Repeat these 3 treadles until you have a square block.

END OF ONE REPEAT. Repeat over and over.

MORE ABOUT THREADS USED

1. The 3/3 rayon comes on 1/2 lb. spools and is \$1.75 per 1/2 lb. spool. It has 850 yards per 1/2 lb. spool.
2. The linens used are available on 2 oz. spools or 1 lb. cones. Prices and color samples will be sent upon request.
3. Supported gold & silver comes on approximately 1/2 lb. spools and is \$3.50 per lb. Spools vary from 8 to 14 oz. each in weight.

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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.

20 COLORS IN 8 & 12 CUT RAYON CHENILLE

This is all available on ½ lb. spools and is priced at \$3.50 per lb. or \$1.75 per ½ lb. spool. Excellent for accents of all kinds, for guest towels, etc. If you would like samples of these colors, let us hear from you. Robin & Russ, 533 North Adams St., McMinnville, Oregon.

3 PLY SILK TWEED FOR WARP OR WEFT.

This multicolored silk tweed has 4,000 yards per lb., and is \$4.00 per lb. It can be used for warp or weft. Use for warp at 24 threads per inch. Available on ½ lb. spools. Write for free sample. Robin & Russ, 533 North Adams St., McMinnville, Oregon.

THE STITCHES OF CREATIVE EMBROIDERY

is a new book just published, and is an outstanding one on Stitchery. It is written by Jacqueline Enthoven and is in stock. Price is \$7.95 plus 20 cents postage. An excellent book for those interested in this most popular, modern handcraft. Available from Robin & Russ, 533 North Adams St., McMinnville, Oregon.

14 COLORS IN 20/2 SPUN RAYON.

This is a beautiful thread with 8400 yards per lb. Price is VERY REASONABLE at \$2.00 PER LB. Available on ½ lb. spools of 4200 yards each. Postage is extra on this and all other orders. Robin & Russ Handweavers, 533 North Adams St., McMinnville, Oregon.

HEAVY NATURAL COTTON FLAKE WITH GOLD TWIST.

This yarn has 1400 yards per lb., and comes on cones of approximately 1 lb. each. Excellent for use where just a faint trace of gold metallic is desired. Price is \$4.20 per lb. Robin & Russ, 533 North Adams St., McMinnville, Oregon.

TWO LINE WOVEN LABELS.

12 dozen of these sell for \$4.90. The top line reads Handwoven by, and the bottom line reads with any name of your choice. White background with dark royal blue letters. Delivery takes about 4 to 6 weeks. Free samples if desired. Robin & Russ, 533 North Adams St., McMinnville, Oregon.

CUSTOM LABELS MADE TO ORDER.

Quantity orders of 1,000 labels can be woven to meet your own design if desired. You have your own choice of style of lettering, choice of color of lettering, choice of background color. Other items such as a loom can be put on these labels. Prices vary from \$28.50 per 1,000 to \$33.50 per 1,000 labels. Free samples will be sent to you upon your request. ROBIN & RUSS, 533 North Adams St., McMinnville, Oregon.

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.

FOUR BEAUTIFUL WOOL TWEEDS:

These tweeds are all \$3.20 per lb., and the colors are striking — and are listed below.

1. Heather Grey — Red, Yellow, Green flecks with 3500 yards per lb.
2. Heather Pink — Deep Pink and Pumpkin flecks with 2100 yards per lb.
3. Light Green with squa and dark green flecks, 3500 yards per lb.
4. Light Tan — with flecks of yellow, green, red, white — 2900 yards per lb.

Available on ½ lb. spools, Robin & Russ, 533 North Adams St., McMinnville, Oregon.

OUR NEW ALL PURPOSE SHUTTLE:

This shuttle has been made especially for Robin & Russ Handweavers. It will take one of the 4½" plastic bobbins, two of the 3" wooden swedish bobbins, or one of the 6½" paper quills, or one of the 7" aluminum spool type bobbins. Made of all birch and maple and nicely finished, this shuttle sells for \$4.50. The plastic bobbins are 20 cents each, or \$2.00 per dozen. The 3" wooden Swedish bobbins are 15 cents each, or \$1.50 per dozen. The 6½" paper quills are 50 cents per dozen, and the 7" long aluminum spool type bobbins are 50 cents each. Robin & Russ Handweavers, 533 North Adams St., McMinnville, Oregon.

TAPESTRY BEATERS:

Also made especially for Robin & Russ, these tapestry beaters are copied after those made and used by the Tibetians in their rug and tapestry work. Also excellent for a rug beater as well as a tapestry beater. Price is \$6.50 each, and they are made of hard wood with metal prongs like a fork. There are 6 prongs on each tapestry beater. Robin & Russ Handweavers, 533 North Adams St., McMinnville, Oregon.

4/1 BLEACHED SLUBBY THIRSTY LINEN

This is a very nice quality linen with 1200 yards per lb. It comes on 1½ lb. tubes and is REASONABLY PRICED AT \$2.40 PER LB. Bleached white and slightly slubby, this linen is imported from Scotland. Excellent in towels where you want a lot of absorbency. Robin & Russ Handweavers, 533 North Adams St., McMinnville, Oregon.

7/1 BLEACHED SLUBBY THIRSTY LINEN

This is a little finer linen than the 4/1 having some 2100 yards per lb. It too is excellent for weft in finer towels, in mats, etc. It comes on 1½ lb. cones, and is also imported from Scotland. Price is \$2.40 per lb. Try a 20/2 bleached Ramie thread for warp at 24 threads per inch, and use either the 7/1 or 4/1 for weft. The 20/2 bleached Ramie comes on 1 lb. cones, and is priced at \$3.60 per lb. Robin & Russ Handweavers, 533 North Adams Street, McMinnville, Oregon.

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