

warp and weft

Vol. XVIII, No. 8

October, 1965

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by Robin & Russ Handweavers, 533 North
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Editor: Russell E. Groff,

Assistant Editor: Robin Groff.

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A Word from the Editor:

I'm afraid to say so, but very little weaving except for the drapes featured in warp and weft, has been done here in the Robin and Russ studio. I will say that since the last issue of Warp and Weft was written, your editor has finished weaving some 55 yards of the drapes as explained in the September issue.

With the fall season, many other interests take part of our time. Football season and bowling have begun for the fall, and we have been enjoying the football games and of course my interest is in bowling.

We expect to have a weaving class in Adult Education start in our shop the first week in October, so that means that a lot of weaving will have to be done in the next 8 days, to empty the looms so that we can use them for the adult education classes. That means that some 40 yards of fabric will have to be woven to finish 2 warp and weft projects and some rugs and place-mats. I wonder if this will get finished, but surely do hope so.

And, during the past two weeks, we have had my parents from Pennsylvania visit us, so it has been an extra busy time for Robin, being hostess and preparing meals, and yet, it was such a great pleasure to have my parents visit us for these two weeks, that any extra work was quickly forgotten.

Our part of the country is essentially farming country, and it is a great pleasure to share with relatives, the bounty of this wonderful valley in which we live. My parents have enjoyed the corn, the blue-lake beans, the peaches, the

pears, and the tomatoes that are products of this area.

Well, enough of this chatter, so that I can get this to the printers, and then get some of that weaving done.

Russell E. Groff, Editor

This Month's Cover:

The cover this month is of one of the outstanding wall hangings which was displayed at the Pacific Northwest Weaving Conference held in Portland last May.

This wall hanging was of great interest because of the beautiful specimens of Sea Shells which were incorporated in this hanging.

Also, this hanging was extremely well done and had one thing that is lacking in many such hangings. Because of the weight of the shells and sticks at the bottom of this hanging, this particular one had enough weight to make it hang properly. Many wall hangings that I have seen have not had enough weight to make them hang properly.

This hanging was done by one of the weavers to participate in the display of handweaving from the state of Montana, and while I do not know the name, we hope that we will see more of such hangings in future exhibitions.

Next Pacific Northwest Conference to be in Spokane, Washington in About May, 1967.

The Inland Empire Handweavers Guild of Spokane, Washington have announced that they will sponsor the next Pacific Northwest Hand-Weaving Conference in about May, 1967, in Spokane, Washington. It seems like a long time ahead to plan for this, but I would like to take this opportunity to urge the Pacific Northwest Weaving Guilds to consider participating and having a guild exhibit. It is only 1½ years away, so perhaps your guild might like to start planning for this conference now.

This Month's Book Review:

This month, we want to tell you of *THE WEAVER'S BOOK OF SCOTTISH TARTANS* by Harriet Tidball.

This is one of the monographs written by Mrs. Tidball, after she spent some 6 months to a year in Scotland.

Of course, of main interest to the handweaver is the fact that the actual thread count for some 250 tartans is given. This does not tell you what size thread to use, but does enable the handweaver to make an authentic tartan by having the correct thread count of each color tartan.

The first section is devoted to the background of the tartans, telling how they have developed, and some of the related Scottish history.

There are also sections devoted to the explanation of Tartan patterns, the weaving of tartans, the tartan terms, and the final section is on the setts of these tartans.

There are a few illustrations given and all are in black and white, but for the price, \$4.00 plus 10 cents postage, this folio is a bargain for the handweaver.

TITLE: *THE WEAVERS BOOK OF SCOTTISH TARTANS*

AUTHOR: Harriet Tidball

PRICE: \$4.00 plus 10 cents postage.

AVAILABLE: Robin & Russ Handweavers

This Month's Second Project:

The 2nd project for this month is a placemat project which we will call *PINK ICE PLACE-MATS*. Here is the setup for the same.

THREADING DRAFT:

										Selv.
4		BB		R		B				
3		B	B	B		P	B	B		B
2		B		P	B	P	B		W	B
1		B		R		BB				B

KEY TO THREADS IN THE WARP:

B—20/2 Merc. Ramie, Blush Pink

R—6/3 Rayon, natural white

W—Rayon & cotton Boucle, white

P—Peach 20/2 Linen

WARP:

There are 4 threads in the warp as listed above in Key to threads in the warp. The main thread is the 20/2 Blush Pink Ramie, which is \$5.00 per lb., has 3,000 yards per lb., and comes on either 4 oz. or 1 lb. cones.

The 6/3 rayon, natural white comes on ½ lb. spools of 800 yards per spool and is \$3.50 per lb., or \$1.75 per ½ lb. spool.

The rayon boucle, white, comes on ½ lb. spools of 1600 yards each, and is priced at \$1.75 per ½ lb. spool.

The Peach 20/2 linen comes on 2 ounce spools and has about 375 yards per 2 oz. spool.

WEFT:

In the weft we have the same Blush Pink Ramie as in the warp, and the same rayon boucle, as is used in the warp. The only new thread in the weft is the Silver Guimpe, or metallic wrapped cotton. This comes on 2 oz. spools, and is \$1.00 per 2 oz. spool.

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. 5—20/2 Merc. Pink Ramie
2. Treadle No. 1—Silver Guimpe
3. Treadle No. 5—20/2 Merc. Pink Ramie
4. Treadle No. 6—20/2 Merc. Pink Ramie
5. Treadle No. 3—White Rayon Boucle
6. Treadle No. 6—20/2 Merc. Pink Ramie

REED USED:

A 10 dent reed is used and it is sleyed 2 ends per dent or 20 threads per inch. It is drawn-in through the heddles in one end per heddle.

PLACE-MAT THREADING PLAN:

1. Selv, 8 thds, 4, 3, 2, 1 — 08 thds.
2. Pattern 14 x 20 thds — 280 thds.
3. Selv, 8 thds, 4, 3, 2, 1 — 08 thds.

Fluffy Yellow and White

This fabric is suggested for a baby blanket which is extremely washable. In other materials it could be used for mats, towels, upholstery etc.

WARP:

Our warp is a 10/2 white, mercerized perle cotton.

WEFT:

Two threads are used in the weft. One is a 3 ply white fingering yarn which many persons use for knitting. The other thread in the weft is a 20/2 mercerized egyptian cotton, in a lemon color.

REED USED:

A 15 dent reed was used, and it was double sleyed, 2 ends per dent, or 30 threads per inch.

THREADING DRAFT:

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

TREADLING SEQUENCE:

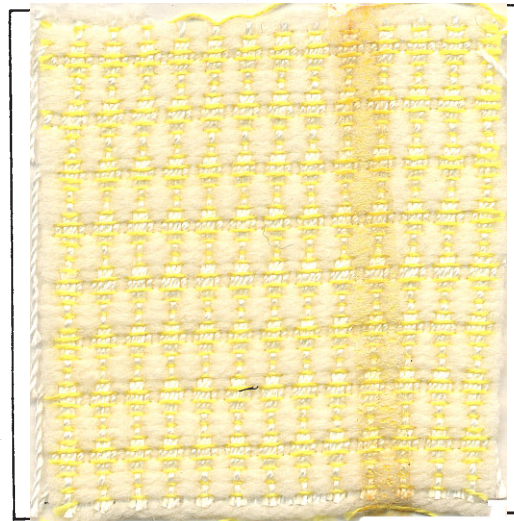
1. Treadle No. 1—20/2 Lemon Cotton
2. Treadle No. 2—3 ply white wool
3. Treadle No. 3—20/2 Lemon cotton
4. Treadle No. 4—3 ply white wool
5. Treadle No. 5—20/2 Lemon cotton
6. Treadle No. 6—3 ply white wool
7. Treadle No. 5—20/2 Lemon cotton
8. Treadle No. 4—3 ply white wool
9. Treadle No. 3—20/2 Lemon cotton
10. Treadle No. 2—3 ply white wool

END OF ONE REPEAT. REPEAT OVER AND OVER AS DESIRED.

TIE-UP DRAFT:

4		O		O		O
3	O			O		O
2	O		O			O
1	O		O		O	
	1	2	3	4	5	6

SAMPLE:



MORE ABOUT THIS SAMPLE:

First of all, I must mention that this sample was inspired by a piece woven by Miss Esther Tuttle of Darien, Connecticut. This piece was in one of the travelling exhibitions that came to the Portland Handweavers Guild.

I will also say that we have taken many liberties, and changed the threads used, and it is an entirely different fabric than that sample we saw, but it does certainly help to have ideas from other sources to help inspire one to work out a new and different project.

This is quite an easy fabric to weave, with the weaving being a little slow, as you have to alternate two shuttles throughout the entire fabric.

It is important in this fabric that you have a firm, double beat. I suggest that you beat, change to the next treadle and beat a second time before you throw the shuttle for your second shot.

You have to beat this firmly to get what looks like an applied diamond on the surface of this fabric.

Also, I think that both sides of this fabric are very interesting, and also that the underside is approximately the same as the top side, but that the reflection of light makes it look much different.

I can see many uses other than that of a baby blanket for this pattern. I would suggest a fairly heavy bulky cotton for the white pattern thread and make quite absorbent towels.

You could use this set-up, with quite heavy threads and make a very interesting rug.

I can see this pattern used as a decorative fabric with an extreme contrast in colors for use in covering note-books, for covering wastebaskets, for use in pillows, and other such uses. Perhaps some of you might send us samples of what you do with this pattern and let us later share your results with other subscribers.

COST OF THREADS USED IN THIS SAMPLE:

There were 3 different threads used in this sample, and the cost is as follows for each of these three.

1. 10/2 white merc. cotton comes on 1 lb. cones with 4200 yards per lb. Price is \$2.85 per 1 lb. cone.
2. The lemon, 20/2 egyptian cotton has 8400 yards per lb., comes on ½ lb. spools, and is \$2.75 per ½ lb. spool.
3. The 3 ply white fingering yarn comes in 1 oz. pull skeins and it is 40 cents per skein or \$6.25 per lb. It is also available in other colors at the same price.

COST OF THE FABRIC:

In this fabric, it took 2 lbs., 10½ ounces of 10/2 white cotton warp at \$2.85 per lb. We had a 9 yard warp, 30 ends per inch, 40" wide. Thus the warp cost per yard came to \$7.59 for the entire warp, or 85 cents per yard.

In the weft, with 8 yards of finished fabric, it took approximately 11½ ounces of 20/2 Lemon Egyptian Cotton and it took 39 ounces

of the fingering wool yarn. Thus the total weft cost was \$19.63 or breaking it down into weft cost per yard, we get a price of \$2.43 per yard.

WARP COST PER YARD	- \$.85
WEFT COST PER YARD	- <u>2.43</u>
FABRIC COST PER YARD	- \$3.28

I might mention that I feel this is a good reasonable price for a 36" square baby blanket of \$3.28, and even a 40" x 60" one would only cost about \$5.46.

A Second Book Review:

The second book that we want to review this month is the new manual, SECTIONAL WARPING MADE EASY, by your editor.

This is actually an instruction manual showing in pictures, and telling in words how to set up the loom that has a sectional warp beam.

There are actually about 25 step by step pictures showing the complete process of warping the sectional warp beam, and also the complete finishing of the dressing of the loom in pictures, as we do it here in our studio.

I myself feel that sectional warping for any warp of more than 5 yards, is the easiest method of dressing the loom.

A good example of the time involved in such a set-up, was a loom we did at the state fair this year. It took about one hour to wind 48 spools to warp a beam. Then at the fair, I was able to put a 14" wide warp, 20 yards long, on the loom with no assistance whatsoever. It was drawn-in in a new pattern and then sleyed through the reed and the complete loom set-up took ¾ hours, and this included one hour in winding the spools.

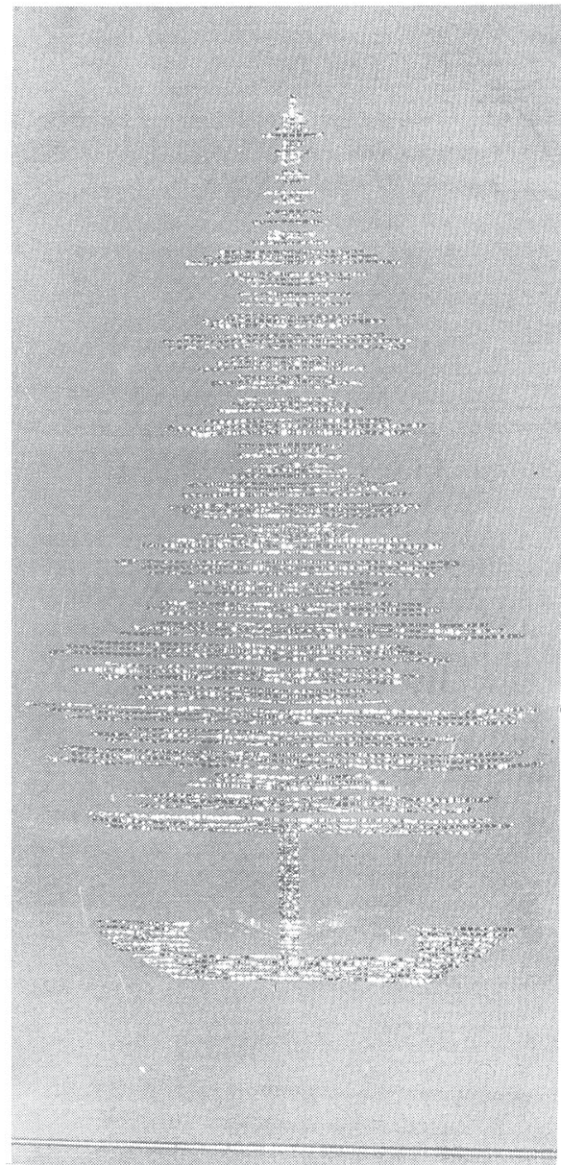
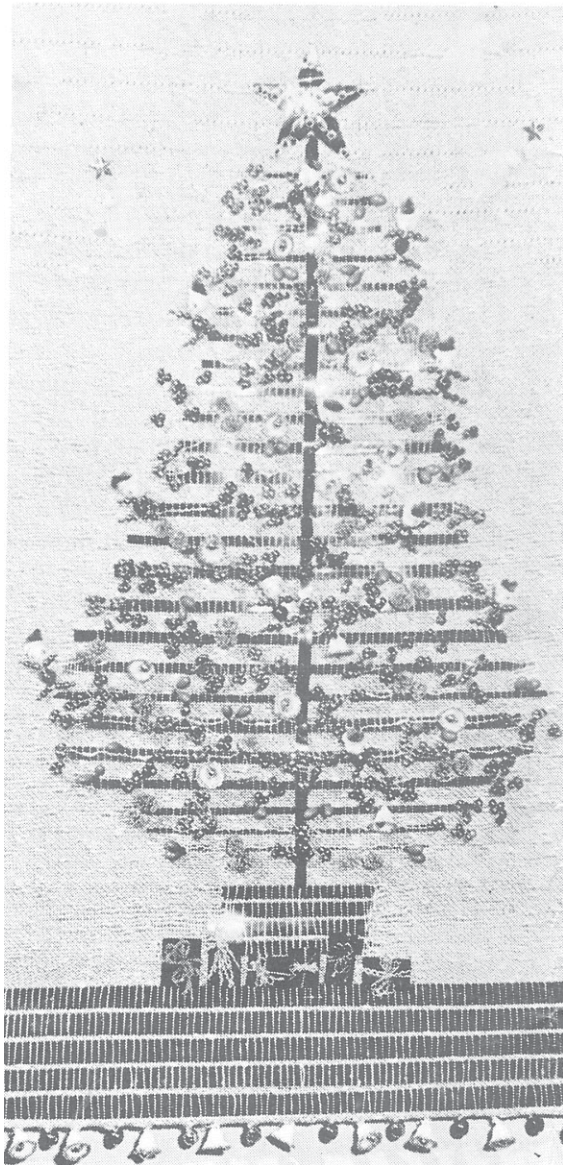
The manual also continues showing the steps we have developed in 18 years of weaving of dressing the loom completely.

The price is \$2.50 plus 10 cents postage.
TITLE: SECTIONAL WARPING MADE EASY

AUTHOR: Russell E. Groff

PRICE: \$2.50 plus 10 cents postage.

AVAILABLE: Robin & Russ Handweavers



CHRISTMAS IS COMING, AND BECAUSE IT IS, WE THOUGHT WE SHOULD BEGIN TO GIVE YOU SOME IDEAS FOR CHRISTMAS DECORATION. These two wall or door hangings were displayed at the last conference we attended, the Pacific Northwest Handweavers Conference in Portland, Oregon. Notice that the wall hanging on the right is woven with a dark background, and the entire Christmas Tree pattern was inlaid

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with a little heavier metallic thread than usual. The wall hanging on the left has a little more interest with actual decorations being inlaid to decorate the tree, box, background of the hanging, and also the bottom of the hanging, where you notice the little bells and bulbs which are a fringe for this piece of material. If you have a yard of warp left on a 14" to 24" width piece of material, why not try to design something that you can use for a Christmas decoration or door or wall hanging.

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HANDWEAVING:

by Iona Plath continues to be a popular weaving book with many illustrated fabrics with easy to follow directions. Picture and directions for every fabric in color and black and white. Price is \$8.95 plus 20 cents postage. Robin & Russ, 533 North Adams St., McMinnville, Oregon.

TWO COLLECTORS ITEMS

are the J. & R. Bronson book which is \$7.50 and the Worst Book of How to Weave Linens, which is \$5.50, and postage on both is 20 cents. Both books are out of print and when current stocks are sold, no more will be available. Robin & Russ, 533 North Adams St., McMinnville, Oregon.

HANDMADE RUGS:

A small manual with directions for braided, hooked, and frame woven rugs. Good directions and instructions. \$1.75 plus 15 cents pp. Robin & Russ, 533 North Adams St., McMinnville, Oregon.

6/2 SILK IN FOUR COLORS.

This is a 4 ply silk, excellent for warp or weft. Available in 4 colors; dark turquoise, mame pink, golden brown, olive. 5,000 yards per lb. Price is \$7.00 per lb., or \$2.00 per 4 oz. spool. Also bleached white, royal blue, and two other colors are at the dyers now. Robin & Russ, 533 North Adams St., McMinnville, Oregon

SECTIONAL WARPING MADE EASY:

This is our new manual on dressing the loom with a sectional warping method. It is completely illustrated. Price is \$2.50 plus 10 cents postage. Robin & Russ, 533 North Adams St., McMinnville, Oregon.

NAVAHO WEAVING,

Its Technic and Its History, is one of the most outstanding works on this subject. Written by Charles A. Amsden with excellent History and study of the subject. Price is \$12.00 plus 20 cents postage. Robin & Russ, 533 North Adams St., McMinnville, Oregon.

THE RECIPE BOOK,

by Mary Atwater is an outstanding book with both 4 and 8 harness patterns. Each page gives a complete project. Of particular interest to the weaver with a multiple harness loom. Price \$8.00 plus 20 cents pp. Robin & Russ, 533 North Adams St., McMinnville, Oregon.

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THE HANDLOOM WEAVES:

An explanation of some 50 different weaves. Excellent for study groups and the serious weaver. Written by H. Tidball. \$3.00 plus 10 cents postage. Robin & Russ, 533 North Adams St., McMinnville, Oregon.

RUG WEAVING FOR EVERYONE:

Is an exciting book devoted to rug weaving. Has about 25 to 30 different types of rugs explained with a pattern for each. Price is \$6.50 plus 20 cents pp. Robin & Russ, 533 North Adams St., McMinnville, Oregon.

3 PLY TUSSAH SILK.

This tannish beige silk has about 4600 yards per lb., and is excellent for warp or weft. Use at 20 or 24 per inch. Available on approximately 4 oz. spools. \$4.80 per lb. Excellent for sport coats, tailored suits, skirt materials, etc. Robin & Russ, 533 North Adams St., McMinnville, Oregon.

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warp and weft

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