

warp and weft

Vol. XX, No. 1

January, 1967

warp and weft

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BY ROBIN & RUSS HANDWEAVERS, 533 NORTH
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ASSISTANT EDITOR: ROBIN GROFF.

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A Word from the Editor:

Another Christmas Season has come and gone, and we have a bright new year to look forward to.

Your editor is particularly looking forward towards this year, as there is a chance that he will be able to go on a trip (a business trip and pleasure trip combined), which will visit the different weaving centers in England, Scotland, Ireland, and Wales. Then, if plans work out satisfactorily, I hope to visit Switzerland and to tour the factory which produces the ramie we purchase from that country. Then, after that, if all works out well, I hope that I will then be able to visit Sweden and Denmark, and visit some of the places where we purchase supplies and accessories. This has been a long, long, ambition and while it definitely is not yet a reality, there is hope that I can do it.

However, this means that we will probably have to mail one issue of Warp and Weft a month in advance, and also the same will apply to Drafts and Designs. The tentative plans are for Robin to keep the shop open while I'm gadding about and seeing the sights. I also have hopes of finding some yardages of Swedish or English hand-woven textiles that we might possibly share a couple of them with you in a future issue of Warp and Weft. Here's hoping that all of these tentative plans work out. Still is a dream, but there is a good chance it might become a reality.

We have been busy here in the shop, as we've just had about 1,000 lbs. of a 2 ply silk come back from the dyers, and we

also had a shipment of about 400 lbs. of wool tweeds come in. Of this wool tweed, 100 lbs. is a beautiful lot of two colors that we imported from Italy. We hope to feature the wool tweed from Italy in a sample next month, and have a warp on the loom now incorporating this thread.

We three, Janice, Robin and I have had a wonderful Christmas Season (and I'm sure that I gained several pounds from all those good holiday meals), and now we're back working inventory. To me, this is the worst part of your business. The actual counting and weighing of all the different yarns that we have to obtain a physical account of what is on hand. However, it is a good excuse for use to clean up our shelves, and we do this when we take inventory, dusting and washing when necessary. A lot of this falls on the shoulders of Janice now, and it certainly is a help to have a 14 year old daughter who is willing to work (for pay).

We also have just warped the loom for what I think will be an interesting baby blanket and this will be forthcoming in a couple of months.

Perhaps I'd better close this rambling with the wish of *A HAPPY NEW YEAR TO ALL OF OUR SUBSCRIBERS, AND WE HOPE THAT ALL OF YOUR WEAVING PROJECTS AFFORD YOU MANY HOURS OF BOTH PROFIT AND PLEASURE.*

Russell E. Groff, *Editor*

This Month's Book Review:

One of the latest monographs by Harriet Tidball is monograph no. 16, which is entitled "COLOR AND DYING."

This is an extremely well written monograph which should be quite a stimulous to the weaver who is interested in obtaining his own colors.

This has an interesting section on the history and development of color and studies of it. And this is very interesting and informative reading.

There is a section on the main types of dyes used. Sources of these dyes are given. Also, the different chemicals that the dyer uses are also explained. There is a complete explanation of the equipment need-

ed for dyeing and good photographs showing some of this equipment.

Next is a section on preparing the yarn for dyeing, preparing the dye solution, preparing the dyebath, and the actual dyeing of the yarn. A series of 10 photographs is given which illustrate some of these various stages.

Also such subjects as dyeing animal fibers and nylon with benzyl dyes; dyeing vegetable fibers and rayon with chlorantine dyes; bleaching fibers and yarns; and explanations of these techniques are given.

Ten different methods of dyeing are explained, and then there is a very complete section on home dyeing with natural dyes. Equipment, steps, and supplies are also explained in this section on the use of natural dyes, and methods for mordanting the yarns are also given. Directions are given for about 12 natural dyestuffs that are commonly available.

This seems to be one of the better studies of dyeing that is available. The price is \$5.00 plus 15c postage.

TITLE: COLOR AND DYEING

AUTHOR: Harriet Tidball

PRICE: \$5.00 plus 15c postage

AVAILABLE: Robin & Russ
Handweavers

This Month's Cover Photograph:

The cover photograph this month is a picture of a weave called "CANNELLE" which is one of the weaves in the out of print book HOME WEAVING, by Oscar Beriau. It is a 4 harness weave which has a long float thread, but which makes a very decorative fabric for specific uses such as drapes and for decorative fabrics as lamp shades, covers for baskets, etc. It is a four harness weave, and we will soon feature a sample somewhat similar to this in Warp and Weft.

OUTSTANDING

15" SAMPLE LOOM AVAILABLE

Robin & Russ Handweavers now have available an excellent 15" weaving width table loom, which can be used for mats,

scarves, samples and any other use for 15" width material. It is available in 4 harness, 8 harness, 12 harness, and 16 harness models. It has a regular metal reed, features 9" wire heddles, and is reasonably priced for such a width loom.

15", 4 harness,	400 heddles	\$42.50
15", 8 harness,	500 heddles	\$67.50
15", 12 harness,	720 heddles	\$89.50
15", 16 harness,	960 heddles	\$115.00

These looms are made of good hardwood, with an easy to release trip lever for the harnesses, fold slightly, and you can purchase them with a rod for ready warped spools for \$6.50 extra. SHIPPING CHARGES ON ALL MODELS ARE EXTRA, and on the 15" 4 harness model shipping comes to approximately \$4.00. Delivery can be made on these in approximately 2 to 4 weeks from the date your order is received. A 15 dent reed normally comes with the loom, and other special reeds are available upon order at \$3.50 each. It comes equipped with a thread hook, crank, warp rods, steel cross bars, canvas aprons, and a small manual of instructions. This loom has been available for about a year now, and from our shop, we have sold about 40 of them. These looms are available from Robin & Russ Handweavers, 533 North Adams St., McMinnville, Oregon 97128.

This Month's Second Project:

This month, as a second project, we'd like to suggest a Honeycomb and plain weave combination pattern for use as upholstery.

For the warp, use a 20/2 Egyptian Cotton in an old gold color, or medor yellow. Use a 12 dent reed, and double sley it, 2 ends per dent, or 24 threads per inch.

In the weft, you will use 4 different colors of thread. Use a 2/16's or 2/18's worsted for the honeycomb spot in a natural or white color. Use a black 2/16's or 2/18's worsted to set off the honeycomb block. And you will use a gold color and a yellow gold 2/18's or 2/16's worsted as

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SCANDINAVIAN SIMPLICITY:

This semi-sheer linen fabric was designed for kitchen curtains. However, because of its sheerness, it would be interesting for table-mats, etc.

THREADING DRAFT:

4	N	N	N	N	N					C	C					C	C					N	N	N	N	N
3	N	N	N	N	N					C	C					C	C					N	N	N	N	N
2										C	C					C	C					C	C			
1										C	C					C	C					C	C			

TIE-UP DRAFT:

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

Key To Colors In The Warp:

C—40/2 Crabapple color linen
N—40/2 Natural colored linen

WARP:

There were two colors of 40/2 linen used in the warp. They were:

N—natural 40/2 linen
C—crabapple 40/2 linen

WEFT:

In the weft, we used a 20/1 linen in natural for the plain weave areas and for a 2 thread shot between each color used in the weft. Also for pattern threads in the weft we used 3 colors in a 10/1 linen. We used pink, peach, and crabapple.

Source of Idea for this Sample:

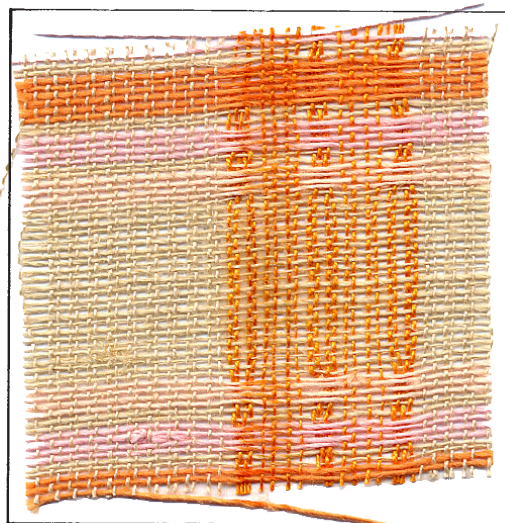
We liked some of the swedish samples of a rib type weave in the Swedish book which is in english and is entitled SMALL WEBS, and by Lundback and Ramsback. We experimented with one of the threadings given in this book, and then from this, revised the threading draft, and thus our sample of the month.

Reed Used:

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

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SAMPLE:



Note About Tie-Up Draft

I did not change the entire-tie-up but just changed treadles No. 3 and No. 4 to a single tie-up where one treadle is tied to one harness. Thus later, if you want to go back to a standard tie-up, you will just have to change treadles No. 3 and No. 4 to change it to a standard tie-up.

TREADLING SEQUENCE:

Treadle No. 3—peach 10/1 linen
Treadle No. 4—peach 10/1 linen
Treadle No. 3—peach 10/1 linen
Treadle No. 4—peach 10/1 linen
Treadle No. 5—20/1 natural linen
Treadle No. 6—20/1 natural linen

Treadle No. 3—pink 10/1 linen
 Treadle No. 4—pink 10/1 linen
 Treadle No. 3—pink 10/1 linen
 Treadle No. 4—pink 10/1 linen
 Treadle No. 5—20/1 natural linen
 Treadle No. 6—20/1 natural linen
 Treadle No. 3—crabapple 10/1 linen
 Treadle No. 4—crabapple 10/1 linen
 Treadle No. 3—crabapple 10/1 linen
 Treadle No. 4—crabapple 10/1 linen
 Treadle No. 3—crabapple 10/1 linen
 Treadle No. 4—crabapple 10/1 linen
 Treadle No. 5—20/1 natural linen
 Treadle No. 6—20/1 natural linen
 Treadle No. 3—pink 10/1 linen
 Treadle No. 4—pink 10/1 linen
 Treadle No. 3—pink 10/1 linen
 Treadle No. 4—pink 10/1 linen
 Treadle No. 5—20/1 natural linen
 Treadle No. 6—20/1 natural linen
 Treadle No. 3—peach 10/1 linen
 Treadle No. 4—peach 10/1 linen
 Treadle No. 3—peach 10/1 linen
 Treadle No. 4—peach 10/1 linen

Then treadle 24 shots of No. 5 and No. 6 treadles using the 20/1 natural linen for the tabby thread.

END OF ONE REPEAT. Repeat over and over as desired.

MORE ABOUT THIS FABRIC:

This sample was a particular pleasure to weave for your editor as it is much more open and sheer than I normally weave a fabric. I notice that I tend to weave tighter and firmer on almost all fabrics, and so usually do not have this open a fabric. So, the difference did prove to be pleasant, easy to weave, and different from what our usual samples are.

This is a 20/1 and 10/1 linen that is used in the weft. It is stiffer than most cottons and rayons and does not tend to bend easily. So, I found it much easier to weave if I wound my bobbins only $\frac{1}{2}$ full and then a little more in the center. This tends to stop the weft thread from unwinding, and as a result, winding around the pirn or metal rod in the shuttle and causing a slowdown or delay in the weaving until it is straightened out again. Also I find that with something like this, I tend to catch the shuttle and turn it sideways so that when the bobbin is unwinding, it tends to unwind towards the center of the bobbin and not cause the backlash problems. Also, I find that if I pull the shuttle

up in the air about 2 or 3 feet and pull that much more weft off the bobbin as I catch it; that I can throw it $\frac{1}{2}$ to $\frac{3}{4}$ of the way across on the next shot and not have the bobbin start to unwind until it reaches this point. This eliminates many of the backlash problems also. I hope that you understand what I mean by this description. Also, we had two sizes of thread in the weft. One was a 10/1 linen and the other was a 20/1 linen. I notice that the finer the thread is, the more careful you should be with it, to eliminate tangling and backlash.

I was also surprised and immensely pleased at how far the 20/1 linen went, as I did not even use a full pound cone in nine yards of finished fabric. Thus, the cost should be much less.

You do want to be sure to use a firm, even, double beat. It doesn't have to be a hard beat, but a consistent beat is much more helpful in such a fabric.

This fabric is very much similar to some of that which we saw in Sweden many years ago used in kitchen curtains in several different homes. It should tend to allow light in, and yet stop a person from seeing in through the fabric.

COST OF THREADS USED:

The 40/2 linen in natural is \$5.50 per pound on 1 lb. cones, or it is 78c per 2 oz. tube if you want less than 1 lb.

The 40/2 colored linen is \$7.60 per 1 lb. cone, or \$1.00 per 2 oz. tube if you desire less than 1 lb.

The 20/1 natural linen is \$3.90 per lb. on 1 lb. cones or 62c per 2 oz. tube.

The 10/1 colored linens are \$5.30 per lb., or 80c per 2 oz. tube in lots of less than 1 lb. of a color.

COST OF THIS FABRIC:

It took 12 oz. each of 40/2 natural and 40/2 crabapple colored linen for warp. The warp this time was 42" wide, and we had a 10 yard warp. The total warp cost was \$9.84, so the warp cost per yard was 99c.

In the weft it took the following a-

mounts of thread for 9 yards of finished fabric.

- 10 oz. of 20/1 natural linen
- 4 oz. of 20/1 crabapple linen
- 5½ oz. of 10/1 peach linen
- 5½ oz. of 10/1 pink linen

Thus, the weft cost for 9 yards of finished fabric was 9.50 or the cost per yard was \$1.06.

WARP COST PER YARD99
WEFT COST PER YARD	1.06
<hr/>	
FABRIC COST PER YARD	\$2.05

(Continued from Page 3)

This Month's Second Project Continued:
the weft thread for the other plain weave areas.

THREADING DRAFT:

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

TIE-UP DRAFT:

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

X—tie-up for counter-balanced looms
O—tie-up for jack-type looms

TREADLING SEQUENCE:

1. Treadle No. 4, black 2/18's doubled
2. Treadle No. 3, gold 2/18's doubled
3. Treadle No. 4, gold 2/18's doubled
4. Treadle No. 3, gold 2/18's doubled
5. Treadle No. 4, black 2/18's doubled
6. Treadle No. 3, yellow gold 2/18's doubled
7. Treadle No. 4, yellow gold 2/18's doubled
8. Treadle No. 3, yellow gold 2/18's doubled
9. Treadle No. 4, black 2/18's doubled
10. Treadle No. 1, white 2/18's singly
11. Treadle No. 2, white 2/18's singly
12. Treadle No. 1, white 2/18's singly
13. Treadle No. 2, white 2/18's singly
14. Treadle No. 1, white 2/18's singly
15. Treadle No. 2, white 2/18's singly

16. Treadle No. 1, white 2/18's singly
17. Treadle No. 2, white 2/18's singly
18. Treadle No. 1, white 2/18's singly
19. Treadle No. 2, white 2/18's singly
20. Treadle No. 3, black 2/18's doubled
21. Treadle No. 4, yellow gold 2/18's doubled
22. Treadle No. 3, yellow gold 2/18's doubled
23. Treadle No. 4, yellow gold 2/18's doubled
24. Treadle No. 3, black 2/18's doubled
25. Treadle No. 4, gold 2/18's doubled
26. Treadle No. 3, gold 2/18's doubled
27. Treadle No. 4, gold 2/18's doubled
28. Treadle No. 3, black 2/18's doubled
29. Treadle No. 2, white 2/18's singly
30. Treadle No. 1, white 2/18's singly
31. Treadle No. 2, white 2/18's singly
32. Treadle No. 1, white 2/18's singly
33. Treadle No. 2, white 2/18's singly
34. Treadle No. 1, white 2/18's singly
35. Treadle No. 2, white 2/18's singly
36. Treadle No. 1, white 2/18's singly
37. Treadle No. 2, white 2/18's singly
38. Treadle No. 1, white 2/18's singly

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

In a weave such as this, you want to be sure to use a firm, even double beat. Do not use a light single beat, as it is important to beat as tightly as is possible.

Notice that in the weft threads, all of the weft threads except the white were used double or 2 ends wound together on the bobbin. Only the white is used singly.

Also, I have recommended 2/18's or 2/16's worsted yarns here, but you could use 2/20's worsted as the weft thread if desired. Also, other combinations of colors other than the ones suggested can be used.

Only one side of this fabric will be usable as on the back, you will have a long float of the white threads which do not catch in the weaving, but skip the warp threads, causing the pockets of honeycomb to form.

On a narrow width, this piece will beat much firmer, and be more satisfactory than on a much wider piece. Thus, if you can get by with 24" width material do it this width rather than 40" or wider. This makes it much firmer and more durable for upholstery use. This also gives a type of 3 dimensional effect, as the recessed honeycomb cells look and are lower than the plain weave portion of the material.

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.

15" 4 HARNESS TABLE LOOMS:

This is an excellent loom in 15" width, with 400 heddles in 9" length, regular 4" high metal reed. Price is just \$42.50 plus shipping. Will fold slightly also. Shipping is usually about \$4.00. Also available in 8, 12, and 16 harness sizes in the 15" width. For more details, write to: Robin & Russ, 533 North Adams St., McMinnville, Oregon 97128.

9" CURVED BLADE REED HOOKS:

The most popular of all the reed hooks available, these have a wooden handle and are priced at 90c each plus postage. If just a reed hook is ordered, allow 10c postage. Robin & Russ, 533 North Adams St., McMinnville, Oregon 97128.

THREAD NIPPERS:

There are two styles of these thread nippers available. Either a blunt point or a rounded tip are available. Can easily be held on one finger. Used in textile industry. Price is \$3.50 per pair plus postage. Robin & Russ, 533 North Adams St., McMinnville, Oregon 97128.

COMMERCIAL YARDAGE COUNTERS WITH RESET:

This is the best yardage counter we have ever seen, and we import these from England. It has an instant reset lever, and measures up to 999 yards. All metal, including metal grooved wheel. Price is \$47.95 plus postage and insurance. Robin & Russ, 533 North Adams St., McMinnville, Oregon 97128.

LARGE SWEDISH OPEN BOTTOM SHUTTLES:

This is one of the more popular swedish shuttles called the S-15. It is 15" long, by 2" wide by 1-1/8" high. It will hold up to a 6" length bobbin. Price is \$2.95 plus postage. Robin & Russ, 533 North Adams St., McMinnville, Oregon.

MINATURE, 8" SWEDISH SHUTTLE:

These are excellent for sample looms such as the structo 8" or other sample looms. Closed bottom, price is \$1.85 plus postage. Robin & Russ, 533 North Adams St., McMinnville, Ore.

CASHMERE AND SILK:

This is a 4 ply yarn, 50% cashmere and 50% silk, in a natural tan color. Excellent for warp or weft. It has about 2400 yards per lb., and can be used for sport coats, suits, tailored women's suits and skirts. AN EXCELLENT BUY AT \$4.80 per lb. on approximately 1 lb. cones. Robin & Russ, 533 North Adams St., McMinnville, Oregon 97128.

8 COLORS IN TWO PLY SILK:

Just back from the dyers are 8 colors in the 2 ply slubby silk with 4400 yards per lb. It is a 5 1/2/2 douppioni silk. A good price on this one is also available on this at \$4.80 per lb. while it lasts. We have 75 lbs. of each of the eight colors. Robin & Russ, 533 North Adams St., McMinnville, Oregon 97128

POISON GREEN HEAVY SILK WITH BLACK FLECKS:

This is the same heavy silk that we had previously and which was so popular. It has 1200 yards per lb., is a 2 ply thread and can be used for warp or weft. Price is \$6.00 per lb. on cones of about 1 lb. 2 oz. each. Robin & Russ, 533 North Adams St., McMinnville, Oregon 97128

SEVEN PROJECTS IN ROSEPATH:

Available once again in this excellent manual by Berta Frey. Price is \$2.50 plus 10c postage. In stock for immediate shipment. Robin & Russ, 533 North Adams St., McMinnville, Ore. 97128

WOOL AND ORLON YARN AVAILABLE IN FINE WEIGHT:

We have about 500 lbs. of a yarn which is 65% wool, 35% orlon in a single ply with 6,000 yards per lb. It is a 3 3/4 run yarn, and while a single ply, it can be used for warp or weft. Price is \$3.50 per lb., and there are limited amounts of some colors. About 20 colors available in all. Robin & Russ, 533 North Adams St., McMinnville, Oregon 97128.

10/2 NATURAL LINEN:

Is available on 1 lb cones. It has 1500 yards per pound and is \$3.80 per lb. Postage is extra. Robin & Russ, 533 North Adams St., McMinnville, Oregon 97128.

TWO COLORS

IN A 2 PLY RAYON & LINEN THREAD:

This two ply rayon & linen comes on 1/2 lb. spools, has 600 yards per spool and is 3.20 per lb. Can be used for either warp or weft. Available in dark chartreuse with slubs of brown at irregular intervals and also in pimento orange with brown slubs at irregular intervals. If you'd like samples, we'll be pleased to send them. Robin & Russ, 533 North Adams St., McMinnville, Oregon 97128

SPINNING WHEELS—SPINNING WHEELS

Beautifully made spinning wheels are available from Robin & Russ in Cherry, Black-Walnut, Maple and Oak. Maple and Oak are \$105.00 each, Cherry is \$115.00 and Black-Walnut are \$125.00. On display at Robin & Russ studio. If ordered to be shipped to you, there is a \$5.00 crating charge. Robin & Russ, 533 North Adams St., McMinnville, Oregon 97128

HAND-SPINDLES, for HAND SPINNING:

Made by a friend of ours here in Oregon, these are made of Oak, and the price is \$2.50 each, plus shipping. Robin & Russ, 533 North Adams St., McMinnville, Oregon 97128

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warp and weft

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