

warp and weft

Vol. XX, No. 4

APRIL, 1967

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PUBLISHED MONTHLY (EXCEPT JULY AND AUGUST)
BY ROBIN & RUSS HANDWEAVERS, 533 NORTH
ADAMS STREET, McMinnville, Oregon 97128.

SUBSCRIPTION: \$4.00 PER YEAR.

BACK ISSUES: 40c EACH, PLUS 4c POSTAGE.

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ASSISTANT EDITOR: ROBIN GROFF.

Vol. XX, No. 4

April, 1967

A Word from the Editor:

This is the last month that you'll have to bear with me in hearing about preparation for this trip to the British Isles, and then to Switzerland and Scandinavia, because next month I'll be on my way. That is, if I can get the two issues, the May and June issues written up and to the printers within the next two weeks. Hope that I can, but boy what a job.

We have our projects for the next three months of our two bulletins, Warp and Weft, or Drafts and Designs, in the planning stage. However, the other three are yet to be worked out in sample form. So, you can see that the next month will be a busy one.

We do have a heavy mat pattern in production for warp and weft, as well as two wool fabrics.

It is always harder to design a multiple harness project I feel than a four harness weave. I always want to try and take advantage of the extra harnesses, and with so many of our modern threads being slubby and textured, such threads in many cases do not show you what is possible with all of those different harnesses, as the slubby threads tend to hide any pattern you might do.

We have been pleasantly surprised with my plan of purchasing hand-wovens abroad and having them shipped back to our customers. We've had about 15 persons decide to take part in this, which has been very pleasing.

Robin is going to be swamped with mail while I'm gone for the 2½ months, and it will be quite a task for her to keep up

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with it or even try to do so. If any of you do write in and there are questions that she can't answer, she will drop a card saying that I will take care of such questions upon my return. I know it will be hectic when I do come back, as when I'm away for just a week at a conference, it takes a week to two weeks to catch up, so just think what it will be like after being away for 10 weeks.

You might be interested to know that I have made arrangements to go through the factory that makes the Knox Mercerized Linens, through the Ramie Factory in Switzerland; and also we are going to go through a linen factory, and a silk factory in Switzerland, and then in Sweden we will visit two wool manufacturing plants, a linen plant in Denmark, and another mill where they spin the yarn, weave the thread, and make up suitings all in the same place in Denmark. Besides this, there are many studios we hope to visit of individual weavers in the British Isles, as well as in Scandinavia and Switzerland so you can see how much I'm looking forward to this trip.

Well enough for now, and back to our sample for this month.

Russell E. Groff, Editor

This Month's Cover Photograph:

This month's cover is a picture of a very interesting 8 harness weave that we did for our Drafts and Designs bulletin a couple of months ago. This is a beautiful fabric for drapery, as this wavy line as you see in the photograph shows up very clearly. In fact, this cover photograph is of the fabric up against a window with the light coming through. This was a combination of ramie, slubby silk, rayon boucle, and a rayon & linen combination thread.

It is in shades of oranges and yellows, and I thought it was one of the most beautiful drapery fabrics I have ever woven. The weave is a very popular Scandinavian threading draft, that many fabrics are woven of.

Conference News and Notes

THE PACIFIC NORTHWEST WEAVERS CONFERENCE at Spokane, Washington on May 2th and 28th will exhibit the weaving of twelve northwest guilds, as well as wall hangings, stitchery on handwoven fabrics, and weaving for those not affiliated with a guild. Booths and individual items will be judged and ribbons awarded for outstanding craftsmanship and originality.

The principal speaker will be Cay Garrett of the Yarn Depot. There will be demonstrations of spinning, dyeing, and weaving techniques. A style show will follow the luncheon, and commercial booths will show and sell books, equipment and threads. Everyone interested will be welcome.

Registration

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.....
Registration fee \$7.50 includes luncheon May 27th. Registration fee after May 1, \$8.50. Make check or money order payable to Inland Empire Weavers' Guild. Mail check and registration to: Mrs. V. O. Engebretson, 4820 N. Whitehouse St., Spokane, Washington 99202.

THE MICHIGAN LEAGUE OF HANDWEAVERS Annual Conference will be held at Waldenwoods, Hartland, Michigan, July 12 through 16, 1967. The theme is "From the Primitive to the Contemporary." The theme colors are to be Gold and Jade Green.

This conference will take the form of two workshops and the class work will be 3-1/2 days duration. One workshop will be Primitive Looms and weaving, and the instructor is Mrs. Hallye Spurkel of Honolulu, Hawaii.

The other workshop is a Design workshop conducted by Miss Mary Snyder of Pasadena, California.

The work in this class will be with visual aids and regular class work. Her subject will be to deal with the adapting of an interlacement or weave into a high

fashion fabric design. For further information write to : Mrs. Electa Cramer, Registrar, 322 Maywood Avenue, Rochester, Michigan 48063.

This Month's Book Review:

The serious weaver will be very much pleased with one of the latest monographs by Harriet Tidball, entitled "SUMMER AND WINTER, AND OTHER TWO-TIE UNIT WEAVES."

This has just recently become available and is an excellent study of both summer and winter and some of the two-tie unit weaves.

As I say, this monograph is for the serious weaver who is interested in learning more about this type of weaving, and the possibilities of same.

In this monograph, Mrs. Tidball gives some of the history of Summer and Winter weaves, and then a through explanation of the two-tie unit system of weaves is thoroughly covered. She explains how these drafts are written in profile, and has a section on the tie-ups used for Summer and Winter weaves.

Different methods of weaving summer and winter weaves is explained, and other related subjects such as selvages, balance and yarns to use, drawing down a draft from a pattern are also explained. The largest portion of the monograph is then devoted to drafts and patterns, with an explanation of most of the drafts and patterns also given.

There is a section on working out figures and signs or symbols in this weave, as well as explanations being given for weaving the two-tie units in a crackle weave method; in the opposites method; and in the polychrome weave. There are sections on undulating weft weaves, two element weaves and twill sequences, use of the supplementary warp method of weaving, and summer and winter is explained in creating such fabrics as those with pile weaves, with contemporary effects, with pick up and inlay, and there is an explanation of the double-faced stuffer weave.

As I have mentioned twice, and should

(Continued on Page 6)

Red and White, A Patio Delight

An unusual and interesting pattern that we are suggesting for patio place-mats or a patio table cloth.

Threading Draft:

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

X—8/4 red carpet warp

O—white rayon & cotton rug yarn

Warp:

Two threads are used in the warp. They are as follows:

X—8/4 red carpet warp.

O—heavy white rayon and cotton yarn called a rug yarn.

Weft:

The same two threads that are used in the warp, are also used in the weft.

Reed Used:

An 8 dent reed is used, and it is sleyed 2 ends per dent. Sometimes you have a heavy white with a red carpet warp, and the rest of the time you have 2 ends of red carpet warp per dent.

Treadling Sequence:

1. Treadle No. 2—white rug yarn
2. Treadle No. 3—red carpet warp
3. Treadle No. 4—red carpet warp
4. Treadle No. 3—red carpet warp
5. Treadle No. 2—white rug yarn
6. Treadle No. 3—red carpet warp
7. Treadle No. 4—red carpet warp
8. Treadle No. 5—red carpet warp
9. Treadle No. 6—red carpet warp
10. Treadle No. 5—red carpet warp
11. Treadle No. 4—red carpet warp
12. Treadle No. 3—red carpet warp

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

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Cost of the Threads Used In This Sample:

The red carpet warp comes on approximately 1/2 lb. tubes of 800 yards each, and sells for \$1.06 per 1/2-lb. tube.

The white rug yarn is 75% rayon, 25% cotton, comes in approximately 2 oz. skeins of 70 yards each, and the price is 35c per skein.

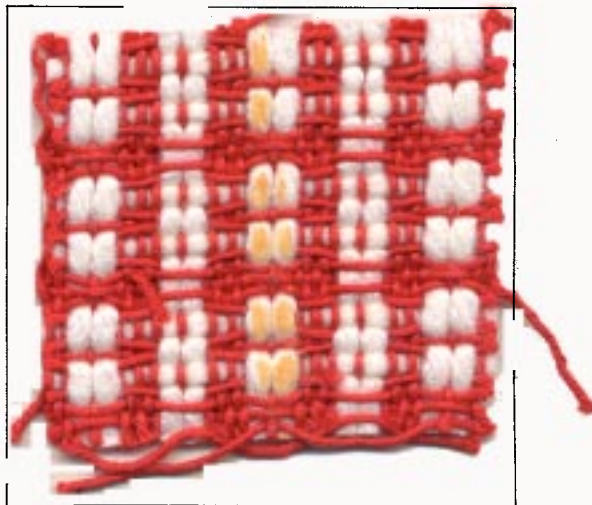
Tie-Up Draft:

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.

SAMPLE:



Cost of this Fabric:

We had a 12" yard warp, 40" wide on the loom. In the warp, it took 3 lbs. and 12 oz. of red carpet warp, and it took 28 skeins of the white rug yarn. Thus, the 12 yard warp cost was \$17.75 and the cost per yard comes to \$1.48 per yard.

In the weft, we used 3 lbs., 4 oz. of red carpet warp, and 14 1/2 skeins of the white rayon & cotton rug yarn. Thus the total weft cost was \$11.97 for 9 and 5/6 yards

of fabric. This makes the weft cost \$1.23 per yard.

WARP COST per yard, 40" wide	\$1.48
WEFT COST per yard,	1.23
FABRIC COST PER YARD	\$2.71

Plan for Place-Mats Of This Project:

1. Thread A to C-14 times equal 224 thds
 2. Thread A to B- 1 time equal 13 thds to balance pattern
- Warp 14- $\frac{3}{4}$ " wide mats equal 237 thds

Cost of Eight (8) Place-mats:

If you have a 5 yard warp, 14- $\frac{3}{4}$ " wide, you will find that it will take about 10 oz. of carpet warp, and about 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ to 5 skeins of the white rayon & cotton rug yarn. Thus your warp cost would come to about \$3.08.

In the weft for eight place mats, it should not take more than 3 skeins of the white rug yarn, and about $\frac{1}{2}$ lb. of the carpet warp. Thus your weft cost should be about \$2.12.

This would make the total cost of eight place-mats, (including loom waste), warp and weft come to approximately \$5.18.

This would make your individual patio mats cost about 65c each.

Alternate Treadling Sequence:

1. Treadle No. 2—heavy white yarn
2. Treadle No. 4—heavy white yarn
3. Treadle No. 6—red carpet warp
4. Treadle No. 4—red carpet warp
5. Treadle No. 6—red carpet warp
6. Treadle No. 4—white heavy yarn
7. Treadle No. 2—white heavy yarn
8. Treadle No. 5—red carpet warp
9. Treadle No. 2—red carpet warp
10. Treadle No. 5—red carpet warp.

END OF ALTERNATE TREADLING SEQUENCE. REPEAT OVER AND OVER AS DESIRED.

Idea For This Sample:

This weave is the "Cannele" weave that Oscar Beriau had in his book HOME WEAVING.

The idea came to me from a sample I saw woven for the guild bulletin for the

WISCONSIN FEDERATION OF HAND-WEAVERS.

First of all, this is an ideal pattern for place-mats or patio mats, and so I have given the threading plan for mats out of this project. If you plan on doing more than 4 mats, you will have to have a device to help take care of the slack in the red threads in the warp, as the white thread will weave up faster and tighter on a long warp than will the red carpet warp. If you plan on doing an extremely long warp of such a project as we did, I would suggest that if possible that you use two warp beams. One would be for the red carpet warp, and the other beam would be for the white rug yarn. On our 12 yard warp for this project, we finished with our red carpet warp, one yard shorter than the white rug yarn. However, on short lengths of 3 or 4 yards for place-mats or just one or two table cloths, you shouldn't have too much trouble. What you could do though is to weave four mats, cut off the finished four, pull up the slack threads, re-tie, and then weave another 4. This would eliminate much or 98% of this problem. We wove our sample on one beam, and did about 3 yards of samples and had no problems, but we did have a problem on the 12 yard warp.

Also, it is very surprising, but we had this material 40" wide on the loom, and when finished, it was 37" wide. That is why I planned the mats to be 14- $\frac{3}{4}$ " wide.

Also, when weaving the sample first, I found this threading very versatile, and worked out three other treadlings. I will give you one of these alternate treadlings, and perhaps you can work out some of the others yourself.

You want to use a firm, even double beat on this weave. You will find that the 14- $\frac{3}{4}$ " width for place-mats will beat up tighter than if you have it a full 40" wide on the loom. Thus, if you make a patio table cloth of this pattern, you will have to use that extra firm, even double beat.

This should be excellent for mats, as it is quite thick, should lay well on the table, and be very satisfactory. You might have a problem with hems on this one, so I'm

going to suggest that you leave a fringe, and then if possible, you could perhaps braid the fringe to keep unravelling when washed, or do something like this to keep the warp from unravelling.

"Book Review" Continued:

(Continued from Page 3)

mention again, this is something that should prove to be of great interest and stimulation to the weaver who is a serious one, who is interested in learning new techniques and methods of doing them.

TITLE: SUMMER AND WINTER,
and other two-tie unit weaves.

Author: Harriet Tidball

Price: \$5.00 plus 10c postage

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Perhaps you'd like a piece of tweed from Ireland; a tartan from Scotland; a honeycomb blanket from Wales; a set of Linen Mats from Denmark; a hand-woven tablecloth from Sweden, or a hand-woven bag from Switzerland.

There will be three different purchase plans. 1. \$12.50 2. \$25.00
3. \$50.00.

Of these amounts, 75% of the money will be used to purchase the item for you and for shipping them home to you. Your editor will try to choose the nicest items possible, and hopes he will be able to please you.

You will have to abide with his choice, as it will be impossible to make a change after a hand-woven piece has been shipped.

If you'd like to have such a woven piece, and help your editor of Warp and Weft to make this trip; send your check for \$12.50, or \$25.00 or \$50.00 to Russell E. Groff, c/o Warp and Weft, 533 North Adams St., McMinnville, Oregon 97128. Also be sure to mention that it is for a piece of hand-woven material from the country of your choice. Be sure to give us in sequence, 3 choices of what you would like to have (such as yardage—place-mats—or table-cloth), and we will try and send you your first choice.

Russell E. Groff, Editor

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A FINE WOOL TWEED YARN IN 3 COLORS:

This fine wool tweed has about 4,000 yards per lb. I'm using one of them for warp right now. Excellent for suiting, sport coats, tailored suits, skirts and the like. Price is \$4.00 per lb. on approx. 1 lb. cones. Free samples on request. Robin & Russ, 533 North Adams Street, McMinnville, Oregon 97128.

HEAVY JUTE AND SPUN VISCOSE BOUCLE:

Extra heavy, this boucle has about 350 yards per lb. and comes on tubes of about 1-1/4 to 1-1/2 lbs. each. Price is high I think at \$4.00 per lb. We have about 30 lbs of 8 different colors, and about 100 lbs. of the natural. Robin & Russ, 533 North Adams Street, McMinnville, Oregon 97128.

ROSEMARY LOOP MOHAIR:

This is a beautiful wine red loop mohair with about 1800 yards per lb. Price is \$3.50 per lb. Two other colors are dark navy, and medium brown. All \$3.50 per lb. while they last. Robin & Russ, 533 North Adams Street, McMinnville, Oregon 97128.

TWO PLY TANNISH BEIGE SLUB YARN:

This one is a beautiful yarn for use in sport coats, suits, etc. It is a combination of rayon with some linen. Has about 1100 yards per lb. Available on approximately 1/2 lb. tubes. Price is \$3.20 per lb. Rich in appearance, it is a slightly variegated yarn. Robin & Russ, 533 North Adams Street, McMinnville, Oregon 97128.

6/1 DARK NATURAL GREY LINEN WITH GOLD TWIST:

This is a slubby, natural grey linen with gold metallic twist. It has about 1800 yards per lb. Price is \$3.20 per lb. Comes on 1 1/2 lb. cones. We will wind off 1/2 lb. tubes for you if you wish. Robin & Russ, 533 North Adams Street, McMinnville, Oregon 97128.

6/1 NATURAL LINEN WITH WHITE RAYON TWIST:

This would be good weft in drapes. It is a fairly smooth thread with about 1700 yards per lb. Available on approximate 1/2 lb. tubes. Price is \$3.20 per lb. Robin & Russ, 533 North Adams Street, McMinnville, Oregon 97128.

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NATURAL NUB RAYON WITH GOLD & SILVER TWIST

This is a variegated gold & silver metallic twisted around a natural nub rayon. Nice for mats, drapes, etc. Has about 1600 yards per lb. Comes on 1-1/4 lb. tubes. Price is \$3.20 per lb. Robin & Russ, 533 North Adams Street, McMinnville, Oregon 97128.

SPIRAL TWIST GOLD ON NATURAL RAYON BOUCLE

This is a beautiful yarn, and has been long popular. Not always available. It has spiral gold twist on natural rayon boucle with about 1600 yards per lb. AVAILABLE ON 1/2 LB. TUBES. Price is \$1.60 per tube. Robin & Russ, 533 North Adams St., McMinnville, Oregon.

WOOL CARDS FOR CARDING YOUR OWN FLEECE:

WE HAVE two (2) kinds of wool cards available. One we import from Canada is fairly course, and are \$6.00 per pair, plus postage. One, we import from Sweden is fairly fine, and a little better made. Price is \$7.00 per pair, plus postage. Robin & Russ, 533 North Adams St., McMinnville, Oregon 97128.

SLOT & GROOVE WARPING PADDLE:

This is made of hardwood, and will handle 16 threads. Eight threads go in round holes and eight go in a groove so you can make a cross at the end of each length of warp if you wish. Price is \$3.50 plus postage. Robin & Russ, 533 North Adams St., McMinnville, Oregon 97128.

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.

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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.

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