

warp and weft

Vol. XXI, No. 8

October, 1968

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Assistant Editor: Robin Groff

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October, 1968

A Word from the Editor:

Yes, time does fly, and almost 30 days have elapsed since last I wrote in this column.

It has been a busy time, particularly for Robin, as we have had visitors for this whole month, and it has been so pleasant to have these visitors. From the male point of view, it has been pleasant, but I sometimes wonder about the female point of view, as most of the extra work does fall on Robin and not on me.

It sounds like our house is a menagerie as besides the two cats, and a horse that Janice has, now a Norwegian Elk-Hound puppy has been added to the family. She is just 10 weeks old and is called Misty. I did receive a sort of shock last evening though when I saw one of the Norwegian Elk Hounds in its full growth, and discovered it was almost as big as a Collie. Janice keeps saying that the parents of this puppy were not as big by any means and so this one will be smaller than the one I saw, but time will tell.

I was surprized at how beautiful a dog this one will be when I saw the full grown one. My first reaction was a sort of fear when I saw the full grown one, as they have silvery black head and usually white shoulders, and then my second reaction was, my, what a beautiful dog. Well, as I said before, time will tell.

Janice is back in school, and has a full schedule from 7:40 in the morning to about 5:30 in the afternoon. She is out for gymnastics again, and in order to qualify and take gymnastics, she has to take track and do extra

exercises at home. With all of this exercise, she is unbelievably strong for a 16 year old. What is funny, is that she always wants Robin to exercise with her, and as a result, Robin is worn out when she does this. (And your editor is just too fat to do some of these exercises, as I've tried it).

In the shop, we have a new high school student helping part time, and also have our excellent college student helping again. I'm sorry so say so but as of January 1st, we will lose or miss the work of Miss Susan Farmer, as she will graduate from college and then be married a few days later. We have been most fortunate to be able to obtain student help from LINFIELD COLLEGE here in McMinnville, and every person we have had since 1962 has been an outstanding worker. We have been lucky in being able to make such a contact, but the weaving instructor at the college took a class at the shop, and she has found students interested in textiles to help us out, and it has been such a great help.

Also, during this time, we have finished the current sample sheets we were working on, and two sample sheets were mailed to everyone on our list in the past two months. This is a monumental task, and already we have addressed the envelopes for the next mailing, which will take place in two or three months.

One thing that has suffered, is that I had time in the summer to do some weaving, and set-up some looms with four different projects for warp and weft or drafts and designs. Now that they are all set-up and ready to go, I haven't had a chance to touch them for the past month.

The outside maintenance of the lawn here at the shop and at home has been more than usual this summer. We had almost 5" of rain here in Oregon in August which is almost unheard of. Since they began keeping records in about 1890, they have never had more than 3" in August until this year. As a result, this has been a disaster to the farmers in the area, as much of the wheat, rye, grass seed, barley, and clover has been ruined by the continual rains, and much of it started sprouting from the grains of wheat, etc. The canneries are behind schedule because of this, much of the

Blue Lake bean crop could not be harvested, and the fields were so wet that the corn picking machines could not be run in the fields. As a result of this unseasonal rain, much of the crops were ruined and much will be entirely wasted.

I have two friends with whom I golf and bowl. One is a farmer, one is the owner of a grocery store and a butcher, and I am the weaver. Some of the bowlers call the three of us, the cleaver, the weaver and the griever and sometimes I give thanks that I am the weaver.

Russell E. Groff, *Editor*

This Month's Book Review:

A very interesting book is the text **NATURAL AND MANMADE TEXTILE FIBERS, Raw Material to Finished Fabric**. It is written by George E. Linton, who was Textile Editor of American Fabrics and has taught at Hunter College, Fordham University, and is well qualified in his subject matter in this book. He was awarded in 1965 the Bronze Medal, the highest honor of the American Association for Textile Technology.

The book is divided into two major parts. Part one is devoted to "The Natural Fibers, and it covers all of the natural fibers, and is most interesting to read. Covers thoroughly the fibers such as linen, wool, silk, cotton, and covers the bast fibers such as ramie, hemp, jute, etc.

It is an outstanding **text** for those interested in almost any phase of threads in the textile industry, and the serious weaver will enjoy reading and learning about the threads he is using from this text.

The second part is devoted to the manmade textile fibers, and tells the basic differences between natural and manmade textile fibers.

This section covers all of the different kinds of manmade fibers, and it gives a history of the newer manmade fibers. It explains the terms used in the production of these fibers, and covers such manmade fibers as Acrilan, Arnel, Creslan, Dacron, Glass Fibers, Asbestos, Metallic yarns, Plastics, Rayons and Nylons.

In both of these sections you will find information about the history, classifications and grades, manufacturing processes, finishing of fabrics, and the use of these materials in the textile and apparel trades.

The book is fully illustrated with many, many drawings, tables, and pictures to aid the reader.

This book also has a companion book which is entitled **Applied Basic Textiles**, and the two books were written to be used together. Price is \$7.95 for either or both of these, plus 30 cents postage.

TITLES: Natural and Manmade **TEXTILE FIBERS. Raw Material to finished fabric.**

AUTHOR: George E. Linton

PUBLISHER: Duell, Sloan & Pearce,
an affiliate of Merideth Press

PRICE: \$7.95 plus 30 cents postage

AVAILABLE: From the publisher of from
Robin & Russ

This Month's Cover Photograph:

We thought you might enjoy seeing some of the details in this tapestry or wall hanging which was on exhibit at the 15th Annual Northern California Handweavers Conference in Sacramento, California. This was one of the tapestries which I thought was outstanding, and so thus the cover photograph. I'm sorry that I do not know who the weaver was, but if we do hear as a result of using this cover photograph, we will share it with you in our next issue.

A Second Book Review:

Because of the great interest in Macrame and knotting, I thought you might like to hear of a book used by fisherman and net-makers. It is the book entitled "FISHERMAN'S KNOTS AND NETS." It was written by Raoul Graumont and Elmer Wenstrom who also wrote *The Square Knot Handcraft Guide* and *The Encyclopedia of Knots and Fancy Rope Work*.

This book was written with the sport fisherman and the commercial fisherman in mind. The first chapter is devoted to knots used

Continued on Page 6

ASHEN WHITE:

A fabric of near white color in an interesting texture effect which we suggest be used to make table-mats and other related items.

THREADING DRAFT:

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

WARP:

Two threads are used in the warp and they are as follows:

- X – Shiny, smooth, glossy 2 ply rayon
- O – Natural linen and rayon flake boucle

WEFT:

In the weft, we have used the same two threads as were used in the warp. The smooth, 2 ply, glossy rayon is an easy thread to work with. The linen and rayon combination yarn has both a flake and a boucle effect, so we called it a flake-boucle.

REED USED:

There is a special sleying in the six dent reed that we used. We have marked it on the threading draft above, and we will also give it a second time here for your reference. Remember, first of all that you read the pattern from right to left, and this is how the sleying starts for the pattern above.

1. Two threads in the first dent
2. Two threads in the second dent
3. Two threads in the third dent
4. Two threads in the fourth dent
5. Five threads in the fifth dent
6. Two threads in the sixth dent
7. Two threads in the seventh dent
8. Two threads in the eighth dent
9. Two threads in the ninth dent
10. Four threads in the tenth dent
11. Two threads in the eleventh dent
12. Two threads in the twelfth dent

Page 4

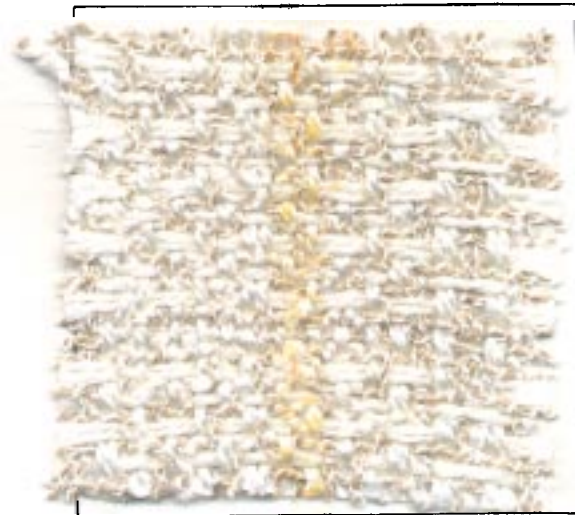
TIE-UP DRAFT

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

X – tie-up for Counter-balanced looms. A B
O – tie-up for Jack-type looms.

SAMPLE:



13. Two threads in the thirteenth dent
14. Four threads in the fourteenth dent

END OF ONE COMPLETE PATTERN REPEAT. Remember that this is one of the most important parts of weaving this fabric, so do not make any mistakes in this.

TREADLING SEQUENCE:

The treadling is also a little involved, but it makes the fabric an effective one. Treadle as follows:

1. Treadle No. 1 – 2 shots of glossy rayon
2. Treadle No. 2 – 1 shot of flake-boucle
3. Treadle No. 3 – 1 shot of glossy rayon
4. Treadle No. 4 – 1 shot of flake-boucle
5. Treadle No. 3 – 1 shot of glossy rayon

6. Treadle No. 2 – 1 shot of flake-boucle

Repeat the above six shots a total of four times, until you have 24 threads. Then, proceed as listed below.

25. Treadle No. 1 – 2 shots of glossy rayon

26. Treadle No. 5 – 1 shot of flake-boucle

27. Treadle No. 6 – 1 shot of flake-boucle

28. Treadle No. 5 – 1 shot of flake-boucle

End of one complete pattern repeat. Repeat over and over as desired.

Also, note that whenever Treadle No. 1 is used, the shed has two shots of the glossy rayon. You can do this in either of two ways. You can throw the shuttle once with the glossy rayon and then come up over and around the outside thread and down into the shed again and make your second shot in the same shed. Or, if you wish, you could use two shuttles, and throw both of the shuttles through the No. 1 shed and thus have a double thread. However, if you do this, you will have one fairly long float thread on the selvage of the glossy rayon. It is up to the individual as to what they think best about this.

Please note that there are actually 33 threads in one repeat of the pattern, but this is achieved by using only 28 repeats of the various treadles. This is caused by the fact that on No. 1 treadle, you have two threads each time.

WARPING PLAN FOR PLACE-MATS:

I am going to suggest that you set up your warp for place-mats a total of 15½" wide in the reed.

A. Do six complete pattern repeats or a total of 210 threads.

B. Repeat A to B to balance the pattern or 21 more threads.

TOTAL THREADS IN 15½" WIDTH IS 231.

When woven, this should weave down to about 14 to 14½" width, which seems to be an ideal width for mats. Make these about 14"x20" when they are finished and hemmed.

MORE ABOUT THE FABRIC:

One of the important things that I do want to mention is that we wove this on a 42"

width. If you do it on a 14" width for place-mats, the weft threads will pack in tighter and firmer than in the 42" width, and this will result in more durability in place-mats. You can never beat a fabric say 36" or wider as firm as you can a fabric that is about 14".

I was surprized as to how easy it was to use this linen rayon flake boucle in both the warp and weft. I thought it might give some trouble in the warp, and especially as in some dents at intervals there were four or five threads in one dent. However, the problems were eliminated I feel, with the use of the coarse six dent reed.

The only problem we had with the warp at all, was when there was a knot in either of the two warp threads. These do not seem to want to go through the reed easily, so when we do come to these knots, I suggest that you cut the thread and hang a new thread over the back-beam of the loom on an add a warp clip spool, and put it in the warp in place of the one that had a knot in it. Then, when the original thread is long enough to put back into the weaving without tying a knot, I do so, and while still in front of me on the loom, I take a large tapestry needle and weave both ends, one end of the original thread in and one thread or end of the supplementary thread. I weave over and under in the proper sequence about six threads each way, and then the knot is mended and no problems will result from the fact that you did have a knot.

Also, we have just had some 16 colors come in in a heavy 2/2 spun rayon thread, and I wish that we would have had these earlier that I could have tried one of these in the warp and in the weft, to see what effects you can achieve. I mean by this that I would have liked to use a color 2/2 rayon with the flake-boucle thread in both the warp and the weft. I imagine that you would have an even more striking pattern.

While I planned this fabric to be used for place-mats, we have to weave it about 40" wide to have enough for samples. So, when I see this wider fabric, I feel that this would make excellent drapery material also. It is a good color for drapes, and also should have a pleasing effect when the light shows through

it, because of the way it is sleyed in the reed. Perhaps you might like to use it as a drapery rather than in the narrow width for place-mats.

In our weaving of this fabric, three shuttles were used for the weft. Two of these were used where the double thread of the 2 ply, smooth glossy rayon was called for, and then the other shuttle was used for the linen rayon flake boucle.

I'm almost tempted to think that if I were making place-mats, that I would use just two shuttles, and either have just one shot of the glossy rayon where two are called for, or I would loop the weft thread around one of the selvage warp threads and throw it back through the same thread instead of using the extra shuttle.

COST OF THE THREADS USED:

The 2 ply shiny, glossy spun rayon has about 1,000 yards per lb. It comes on tubes of about 14 oz. each. The price is a very reasonable one, as it is \$2.40 per lb.

The linen and rayon flake boucle is a yarn that we used to stock and which sold at \$4.00 per lb. However, we found a good buy in this yarn which has about 1200 yards per lb., and we are able to sell the 300 lbs. we purchased at \$2.40 per lb. It comes in skeins of about 1/2 lb. each.

COST OF THE FABRIC:

I cannot give you the cost of the individual place-mats, as we wove it in a wider width, 42", and so I will give you the cost per yard for the warp and weft of the 42" wide fabric.

We had an 11 yard warp, 42" wide and it took 3 lbs. 1 oz. of the smooth, 2 ply spun rayon, and it took 2 lbs. 14 ounces of the linen and rayon flake-boucle thread. The warp cost for 11 yards was \$14.40, or the cost per yard was \$1.31 per yard.

In the weft, we used 3 lbs. 13 oz. of the smooth, 2 ply glossy rayon and 2 lbs. 4 oz. of the linen and rayon flake-boucle. Thus, the total weft cost was \$14.55. From the 11 yard warp, we had 9 and 2/3rds yards of finished fabric. Thus, the weft cost per yard was \$1.51.

WARP COST PER YARD, 42" wide..	\$1.31
WEFT COST PER YARD.....	\$1.51
<hr/>	
FABRIC COST PER YARD,	
40" width	\$2.82

A Second Book Review (Continued)

mainly by the still fisherman and angler, and then the second chapter is devoted to the commercial fisherman's knots and what is most interesting is that there are pages after pages of these various knots illustrated, and most of us could tie most of these knots from just seeing the illustrations alone.

Chapter three is devoted to fishing traps and seines, and then of interest to the weaver, and macrame enthusiast is the section on net-making and repairing. Mesh weaving, or making the nets is explained in detail in both words and pictures.

TITLE: FISHERMAN'S KNOTS and NETS
AUTHORS: Raoul Graumont and
Elmer Wenstrom
PRICE: \$3.50 plus 12 cents postage
AVAILABLE: From the publishers, The Cornell Maritime Press, or from
Robin & Russ Handweavers

The Book Corner:

There are so many interesting books becoming available to the weaver, that it is hard to decide which ones to tell you about.

With the revival of knotting, macrame, etc., one that takes my fancy is a book printed in Norway with the text in English entitled Primitive Scandinavian Textiles in Knotless Netting. It is explained completely, the technique of knotless netting that was used in Norway in ancient times. Price of this one is \$9.95.

A new Finnish book that perhaps not many have heard about or seen is the book entitled "Nauhoja." It is in Finnish text but you can follow the directions for the card-weaving, the finger-weaving of narrow pieces, and the inkle-type weaving that is found in this text. It is \$3.95.

Another outstanding one has Japanese text and is entitled NIHON-NO-KOGEI. It really is a picture book filled with wonderful pictures of weaving in Japan.

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2/2 SPUN RAYON IN 16 COLORS:

This is a heavy, glossy spun rayon in 16 colors That just came in. Has about 840 yards per lb. Available on 1/2 lb. tubes at \$1.60 per 1/2 lb. tube. Will not be a permanent stock item. Robin & Russ, 533 North Adams St., McMinnville, Oregon 97128.

SPECIAL, 10/2 NATURAL MERCERIZED COTTON:

A very nice quality natural 10/2 mercerized cotton is available at a good price of \$2.00 per lb. It has 4200 yards per lb. and comes on tubes of about 1 lb. 2 oz. to 1 lb. 4 oz. each. In quantities of 10 lbs. or more, the price is \$1.80 per lb. Robin & Russ, 533 North Adams St., McMinnville, Oregon 97128.

ENCYCLOPEDIA OF KNOTS AND FANCY ROPE WORK

is an outstanding book, and almost a must for those highly interested in Macrame, and other types of knotting. It is now in it's 4th edition. Price is \$12.95 plus 30c postage. Robin & Russ, 533 North Adams St., McMinnville, Ore. 97128.

RED and ORANGE, 2 PLY SLUB RAYON

This is a combination of red and orange slub yarns plied together. Comes on 1/2 lb. tubes of 275 yards per tube. Just 30 pounds available. Price is \$3.20 per pound on 1/2 lb. tubes. Robin & Russ, 533 North Adams St., McMinnville, Oregon 97128.

18/6 IRISH LINEN WARP

This is the same as the 9/3 linen in size, and is an excellent warp for rugs, heavy mats, and other uses. Has 900 yards per lb. on 1 lb. tubes. \$3.60 per lb. Robin & Russ, 533 North Adams St., McMinnville, Oregon 97128.

MEDIUM BLUE LARGE LOOP MOHAIR

A very nice quality mohair that has about 675 yards per lb. About delft blue in color. Price is \$4.00 per lb. It is available on 1/2 lb. tubes, or 2 lb. cones. Robin & Russ, 533 North Adams St., McMinnville, Oregon 97128.

WEAVING WITHOUT A LOOM,

by S. Rainey is an outstanding book. Full of ideas in particular for teachers and instructors in craft work. Price is \$7.95 plus 24c postage. Robin & Russ, 533 North Adams St., McMinnville, Oregon 97128.

DRAFTS AND DESIGNS

is the multiple harness bulletin with large sample swatch published by Robin & Russ. Complete directions for each swatch. 10 issues per year. \$5.00 per year. Features patterns of 5 to 8 harnesses with one 10 or 12 harness pattern each year. Robin & Russ, 533 North Adams St., McMinnville, Oregon 97128.

8 COLORS IN HEATHER MOHAIR & RAYON

This heather yarn has 500 yards per lb., and the persons liking heathers will be delighted with these colors. \$5.60 per lb. on 1/2 lb. tubes. Free sample upon request of this yarn. Robin & Russ, 533 N. Adams St., McMinnville, Oregon 97128.

6/1 NATURAL GREY SLUB LINEN WITH GOLD TWIST

This one has about 1800 yards per lb., comes on cones of about 1 lb. 4 oz. each, and is \$3.20 per lb. Just 30 lbs. left. Robin & Russ, 533 North Adams St., McMinnville, Oregon 97128.

10/2 MERCERIZED BLEACHED RAMIE

This is the same size as a 10/2 linen, and has been mercerized and has a sheen. 1500 yards per lb. on 1 lb. cones, and the price is \$4.50 per 1 lb. cone. Use for warp at 15 per inch in mats. Robin & Russ, 533 North Adams St., McMinnville, Oregon 97128.

NATURAL COTTON BOUCLE WITH GOLD TWIST

This is a heavy cotton boucle that would make good weft in drapes, in mats, and other items. Has about 500 yards per lb. A REASONABLE PRICE AT \$2.40 per lb. On cones of 12 to 16 oz. each. Robin & Russ, 533 North Adams St., McMinnville, Oregon 97128

STITCHERY FOR CHILDREN

is another outstanding book by Jacqueline Enthoven. It is an excellent book by the author of THE STITCHES OF CREATIVE EMBROIDERY. The book for children is \$7.95 plus postage of 24c on either book. Robin & Russ, 533 North Adams St., McMinnville, Oregon 97128.

4 COLORS IN NEW ZEALAND TWEED WITH REINDEER HAIR

This is a heavy wool slub tweed with about 1100 yards per lb. Comes on 1 1/2 to 2 lb. cones and is priced at \$4.00 per lb. Natural with gold flecks, yellow gold, beige or tan color, and gold with brown flecks are the 4 colors. Excellent in coats of all kinds. Robin & Russ, 533 North Adams St., McMinnville, Oregon 97128.

CREATIVE DESIGN IN WALL HANGINGS

by Lili Blumenau is an outstanding book, and to my way of thinking, one of the best to be published in the past 2 or 3 years. Full of ideas of all kinds. Price is \$6.95 plus 24c postage. Robin & Russ, 533 North Adams St., McMinnville, Oregon 97128.

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