



warp and weft

Vol. XXII, No. 7

September, 1969

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A Word from the Editor:

Well, here it is August again, and time to prepare the September issue of Warp and Weft for the printers. And, the summer has been a busy one, and a productive one. We have woven two samples for future issues of Warp and Weft, and have two more in the planning stage, ready to be warped on the loom. We have also planned two samples for our multiple harness bulletin, Drafts and Designs, and they are both being woven.

We still have not recovered from our wonderful trip to Switzerland, and the exciting three weeks that we had there. We have had many reminders of the trip in the past two months, as every day or so, some of the materials that we had ordered on our trip have been arriving in separate packages, and we relive the trip over when we open these.

We found some most unusual items that have come in, and which are on sale in our shop. One of the items which we were looking for was hand-bag handles. We did find one company that was making these, and when we visited them, we found that they were making the UNIQUE AND UNUSUAL STRINGS OF WOODEN BEADS that we saw on sale all over Switzerland in the nicer handcraft shops. I decided to buy some strings of these exotic woods from Africa, and see if we could sell them in our shop. We purchased 25 strings of these, and to our amazement, in the past two months, we have sold 14 strings of them.

Page 2

Also just in, were some beautiful linen placemats, made of handwoven linen, and then hand-blocked in colorful designs representing signs of the zodiac.

Just yesterday, three beautiful handwoven, all linen, damask table cloths came in. These are a very generous size of 56" x 110", and sell for a reasonable price of \$37.50. We weighed one, and found that it was 3¾ lbs. of linen, and this alone would cost about \$22.00 or so just for the linen, so this is an exceptionally good price on these.

We also did purchase some 20 different bag handles, and have these on display in our shop. And just today, we finally received the two dozen beautiful face towels that I think are as striking as any that I have ever seen. One of these came in a two block, 10 harness damask, and is available in red, orange, and blue. Just to say they are available in red, orange and blue isn't enough, as each of these four different towels we purchased (six of each) has two colors in each, and has a rich beautiful sheen, and are made of a cotton warp and linen weft. These are selling for \$2.50 each. They are very generous in size, being 20" x 36". Robin and Janice were both very taken with the Austrian folk costumes woven and worn in many of the villages of Austria. They both got one for themselves, and are delighted with them. Robin found some of that beautiful, light weight Swiss cotton fabric, which is so light, shiny and beautiful that it looks like silk.

And still more things are to come in, as yet, we haven't received the silk that was to be four plied for us and shipped to us. We expect about 500 lbs. of this smooth, glossy, spun silk, in various colors to come in, sometime during the next two months.

Some of the aprons that we purchased in Switzerland are exceedingly beautiful, and we have received about 10 to 15 of these in the shop so far.

So, you can see from the arrival of these things from time to time, that it has been a most interesting summer.

And, we have also ordered another 20 colors in our 2/18's Fabri-type worsteds from England, and probably in three or four

months, we will have 39 different colors in stock. We have been enjoying working with this thread very much, and feel it is one of the best qualities of wool on the market now for the handweavers.

We have also ordered some of the slubby linen from Switzerland, and hope to have more samples to order from in the future.

This summer, we have had three high school students working on sample sheets the entire summer, and to date, they have made about 9,500 sample sheets, and before the month of August is over, we expect they will have finished another 6,000 of them.

We have finally started to make up a set of sample sheets of our 20/2 Egyptian cotton, and these will be available about the first of September, showing about 90 colors in it which are available.

We could go on and on, because so much more has happened, but perhaps we had better close for now and save some for next month.

Russell E. Groff, *Editor*

This Month's Book Review:

A new interesting book which has just recently been reprinted is the book, *DESIGNING WITH STRING*, by Mary Seyd. This book has an interesting approach to producing art objects, wall hangings, and the like with some of our most common strings, threads and ropes that are available on the everyday market. This book explores the many different methods of working and tying fibers that are always commonly available. Emphasis is placed on the ordinary and inexpensive materials which you can find in a hardware store or grocery store, etc.

I think the ideas that this book will inspire and help stimulate children, adults and teachers in working with fibers of all kinds. This work is ideal for the art teacher who has to work with the more and more expensive art materials and will give her another inexpensive and interesting art form to teach.

The first section deals with the many com-

mon materials available, their characteristics and qualities. Then comes a section on experimenting with these commonly available materials and the different backgrounds and adhesives that are available to use with these common strings.

There is a section devoted to stimulation from nature; a section on children's experiments with string.

The book is profusely illustrated with many photographs and line sketches, showing some of the many steps in the use of common strings, ropes, etc. Step by Step procedures are well illustrated and explained. A bibliography and a list of suppliers in the United States and England is given after a section of discussion on possible end results of experimenting with string are discussed. Excellent for teachers.

TITLE: *DESIGNING WITH STRING*

AUTHOR: Mary Seyd

PUBLISHER: Watson-Guption Publications

PRICE: \$6.95 plus 18c postage

AVAILABLE: Available from the publishers or from Robin & Russ Handweavers.

Visit Switzerland and Ireland on a Handweaving Tour with the Editor of Warp and Weft.

Plans are being made now for a tour to Switzerland and Ireland and to finish up the trip have a week's weaving workshop next summer, after school is out. The trip will probably start in the middle of June and will be either five or six weeks long. Tour leader will be Russell E. Groff, Editor of *Warp and Weft*. If you would like a brochure with prices and other facts, be sure to drop a line to Robin & Russ Handweavers, and they will see that a brochure on the trip is sent to you. We will visit some of the places that you will see featured in future issues of *Warp and Weft*. These places were just visited last May, to try and help make arrangements for next year's tour.

ROBIN'S RAVELS

This month's sample is a result of Robin prompting and prodding your editor to experiment with reds, pinks and oranges and I feel her prodding was well worth while with the sample this month, and also one more that we will have in two or three months. We have used in this sample five different threads in the warp, and four threads in the weft.

THREADING DRAFT:

4		O		O		
3		L			L	
2	L		P			L
1	D		C	C		D

Above is one complete repeat of the threading draft, and it begins with a No. 1 harness and ends with a No. 1 harness. So, when you repeat the threading draft over and over, you have two threads on harness No. 1 which appear together.

KEY TO THREADS IN THE WARP:

D – Dark Olive 2/18's Worsted
 L – Light Olive 2/18's Worsted
 O – Sunkiss Gold (Orange) 2/18's Worsted
 P – Ashes of Roses (Pink) 2/18's Worsted
 C – Cerise Loop Mohair

WARP THREADS USED:

More about them.

Four of the five threads used in our warp are the 2/18's Fabri-type worsted which we have had spun to order, dyed to order, and imported from England. It has about 4800 yards per lb., and comes on 1/2 lb. cones. The colors used are Light and Dark Olive; Sunkiss Gold, which is an Orange; and Ashes of Roses, which is a shade of pink.

The other thread used in the warp is a cerise loop mohair which has about 2200 yards per lb.

READ USED:

A 12 dent reed was used, and it was double sleyed, two ends per dent, or 24 threads per inch.

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
					A	B

X – tie-up for Counter-balanced looms.

O – tie-up for Jack-type looms.

SAMPLE:



WEFT THREADS USED:

Four different threads are used in the weft, and they are as follows.

R – 2/18's worsted, Lacquer Red
 C – Cerise loop mohair, the same as was used in the warp.
 X – Rosemary Red New Zealand wool tweed yarn with 2,000 yards per pound.
 A – Rose Cerise Homespun type yarn of 65 per cent wool, 35 per cent orlon.

TREADLING SEQUENCE:

Treadle No. 4 – 2/18's Lacquer Red Worsted
 Treadle No. 3 – 2/18's Lacquer Red Worsted
 Treadle No. 4 – 2/18's Lacquer Red Worsted
 Treadle No. 1 – Cerise Loop Mohair
 Treadle No. 2 – Rosemary Red N. Z. Tweed
 Treadle No. 1 – Cerise Loop Mohair
 Treadle No. 4 – 2/18's Lacquer Red Worsted

Treadle No. 3 – 2/18's Lacquer Red Worsted
Treadle No. 4 – 2/18's Lacquer Red Worsted
Treadle No. 1 – Rose Cerise Homespun Yarn

END OF ONE COMPLETE PATTERN
REPEAT. Repeat over and over as desired.
Note that there are 10 threads in one complete
pattern repeat.

MORE ABOUT THIS FABRIC:

We first thought that we might have a little trouble with this cerise loop mohair in the warp, but it was no problem, and the shed cleared perfectly with the beat that we used. We used a light, double beat, beating with the shed open, changing to the next shed, and beating lightly again, and this of course, helped to clear the shed, so that there was no clinging of warp threads.

Another thing of interest is the strength of the 2/18's worsted, and the elasticity of this yarn. As a result of these two characteristics, we did not have to use any extra threads of cotton or rayon on the edges for a selvage, but just used the 2/18's themselves.

Quite often, on a warp of this type, you have to use a temple or stretcher to keep your fabric out to an even width, so that it does not weave too narrow. However, this is not necessary with this 2/18's worsted because of its strength and elasticity.

In the weft, we had four different shuttles in the weft. On this one, you cannot line up all the shuttles, to follow one after another, but you just decide on the rotation and sequence of the shuttles that will be best for yourself.

Also, I should mention that you want to be careful and not beat this fabric too tightly, or it will tend to be boardy. Do not beat too loosely, or it will be too open.

This month's sample has been washed and pressed. We washed it in the shortest cycle in our automatic washing machine and extracted the water, and then it was steam pressed on both sides.

Be sure to look at the back of this fabric, as well as the front. Some of you might like the back better than the front, and it does

appear as much more of a striped fabric on the back of the material.

COST OF THE THREADS USED:

The 2/18's worsted yarns come on approximately 1/2 lb. cones, and the price is \$6.80 per lb. Most of the cones are 1/2 lb. each, but some of them do vary in weight being eight or eight and a half or nine ounces instead of just eight, so we sell it by the cone weight.

The cerise loop mohair is on about one pound cones, and is \$4.00 per pound. It has about 2200 yards per pound and this item is one that we are limited in having just a few pounds of it available.

The New Zealand Rosemary Red tweed has about 2,000 yards per pound and it is \$3.20 per pound.

The fine Rose Cerise Homespun type yarn of 65 per cent wool, 35 per cent orlon has about 6,000 yards per pound and it is \$3.20 per pound. We have about 10 to 12 colors in this.

COST OF THE FABRIC:

We had a 13 yard warp, 44" wide on the loom. This took two and one third pounds of the fabri type 2/18's worsted, and one and one quarter pounds of the cerise loop mohair. Thus the warp cost for 13 yards, 44" wide was \$19.90, or the cost per yard was \$1.54 per yard.

In the weft, we used one pound, four ounces of the Lacquer Red Fabri-type worsted, nine ounces of the Rosemary Red Tweed, and three ounces of the Rose Cerise Homespun type yarn and one pound, three ounces of Cerise loop fabric, and the cost for the weft threads for this was \$15.65 or \$1.36 per yard.

WARP COST PER YARD – 13 yard warp –
\$1.54 per yard.

WEFT COST PER YARD – 11½ yards of
finished fabric was \$15.65 for the entire
11½ yards or \$1.36 per yard.

WARP COST PER YARD \$1.54

WARP COST PER YARD \$1.36

FABRIC COST PER YARD, 42" Wide \$2.90

This Month's Cover Photograph

We thought that you would be intrigued with the size of this warping mill, and the length of warp which shows on it and a portion of which already has been chained.

This picture was taken at Sanger & Co., in Langau I.E., Switzerland, and was one of the places that we visited in May of this year on our search for some silk threads.

We understand that in many cases, a warp of 200 yards is made and used on this warping mill.

I might also mention that we also purchased some beautiful aprons, towels, some damask linen table cloths, and some damask towels and other items for resale in our shop here from Mr. Sanger. We will tell you more about Sanger & Co. in our next issue of warp and weft, and we have about six more wonderful pictures from here which we will be using in this and other issues of Warp and Weft.

About the Cover of June Warp and Weft

The wall hanging featured on the cover of Warp and Weft in June, 1969, was an unusual and beautiful one. We did not know who had woven it, but since have learned that it was woven by Mrs. Thomas C. Hoering of Washington, D. C.

What was interesting was her description of the materials, etc., which I will quote from herewith. "What I especially think you should know, that with the exception of the heavy wool rug yarn holding the stoneware beads, not wooden, is that the warp and weft is Tus-sah Silk and Linen from your shop! The Tus-sah Silk was dyed with CIBA Benzyl dyes, and I did everything in the book to dye it unevenly. The stoneware beads were given to me by a young potter friend in Walnut Creek, California, Miss Marta Felkman, and the hanging was designed around these beads. I tried to get a Peruvian feeling in it, and would hope that I have succeeded. There was a problem with the beads as they were so heavy, and the whole piece was somewhat of an unknown quantity. The original thought was that the beads could be supported in the center of these sections, but they were so heavy that they sagged. This was O.K. with me, as I like

Page 6

it that way too. Thank you very much for using the picture and the kind words. They have inspired me more than I can tell you."

With these words, a direct quote from Mrs. Hoering's letter, I hope that you will take another look at the cover of the June, 1969 issue of Warp and Weft. It will mean much more to you, and perhaps it will inspire you to make that wall hanging or room divider or other item that you have had an idea about in the back of your mind, and done nothing about.

Pacific Northwest Conference:

There will be a Pacific Northwest Conference in Seattle on the campus of the University of Washington September 11th and 12th, 1969. The speaker for this conference will be Mrs. Mary Pendleton, of Sedona, Arizona, and also, she will conduct two two-day workshops the four days following the conference. It is \$10.00 registration, and if you care to attend, you send your registration to: University of Washington, Office of Short Courses and Conferences, 327 Lewis Hall, Seattle, Washington 98105. You also do have overnight accommodations available for one, two or three nights on the U. of W. campus, at \$3.50 per night per person if you share a room with someone else, or \$5.00 per night per person for a single room.

The International Handweavers Festival

of October 30, 31 and November 1st and 2nd, 1969 at the Stardust Hotel in Las Vegas, will be one of the most thrilling events in weaving history for the weavers of North America. Almost 100 persons have pledged to demonstrate various techniques dear to their heart. Miss Reike Sunami, a graduate of Kiyto Fine Arts University, Japan, will be of special interest. She will demonstrate IKAT or KAS-URI weaving. Nine wonderful workshops will precede the Festival. Three outstanding speakers are scheduled and there will be a Weavers' luncheon followed by an elaborate fashion show. A weavers' breakfast on Sunday, November 2, 1969 will be held to discuss the possibility of forming a National Federation of Handweavers. You do not have to be a member of a guild to qualify for display of your work or entry of a garment in the fashion show.

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.

THE HANDWEAVERS WORKBASKET

are agents for the Macomber, Norwood, and Lerler Looms in the Chicago area. Visit them and see what is available. The Handweavers Workbasket, Box 399, Route 1, West Chicago, Illinois 60185.

15 COLORS IN 2/2 SPUN RAYON

Sample sheets are being made of these 15 colors of 2/2 spun rayon. We have 25 lbs. of each color available. It is smooth, glossy, and has about 840 yards per lb., so it is ideal for weft in many different projects. Available on 1/2 lb. tubes of 420 yards each. The price is \$3.20 per lb. or \$1.60 per 1/2 pound tube. ROBIN & RUSS HANDWEAVERS, 533 North Adams St., McMinnville, Oregon 97128.

STRINGS OF BEAUTIFUL WOODEN BEADS

from Switzerland are now available at the shop of Robin & Russ. Made of Zebra-wood, Rosewood, and other Nut-woods and the woods are imported from Africa. Unique, one of a kind, these are handmade in Switzerland. Price is \$4.95 a string, and they are exceptionally beautiful. Stop in and see them if you can. Robin & Russ, 533 North Adams St., McMinnville, Oregon 97128.

12 WOOL TWEED YARNS IN BEAUTIFUL COLORS

Most of these are made of the New Zealand wool yarn, and are beautiful tweed yarns. Most are about 1800 to 2,000 yards per lb., and come on about 1 1/2 lb. cones. Price is just \$3.20 per lb. Robin & Russ, 533 North Adams St., McMinnville, Oregon 97128.

SPIN YOUR OWN WOOL AND DYE IT AND WEAVE IT

is available once again. This book has just been republished and 100 copies just came in from New Zealand. Price is \$2.95 plus 18c postage. The spinners and dyers will enjoy this one. Robin & Russ, 533 North Adams St., McMinnville, Oregon 97128.

RUG WEAVING FOR EVERYONE IS BACK IN PRINT

Yes, this excellent book on different methods of rug weaving is once again in print at the same reasonable price of \$3.95 plus 18c postage. In stock and ready for shipment. This book has about 30 different rugs explained and directions given for them. Robin & Russ, 533 North Adams St., McMinnville, Oregon 97128.

THE DYE POT

by Mary Frances Davidson was republished in 1967 for the 3rd time. Excellent text for those interested in Vegetable Dyeing. Price is \$2.00 plus 10c postage. Robin & Russ, 533 North Adams St., McMinnville, Oregon 97128.

HANDSPINNERS ATTENTION.

Beautiful white combed ramie sliver is available now from Robin & Russ. Just in from Switzerland, this sliver has a beautiful gloss and sheen, and almost feels like silk. Price is reasonable at \$2.25 per lb. We will put it up in approximately 1 lb. packages for sale here. Robin & Russ, 533 North Adams St., McMinnville, Oregon 97128.

CASTLE TYPE NORWEGIAN SPINNING WHEELS

We just received a shipment of 10 of these castle type wheels, and almost everyone says they are excellent wheels. Price is the same on these as they have been at \$95.00 each, plus shipping. We have been told though, that our next shipment will be more as the price has again been raised. We have 7 of these left now. ROBIN & RUSS HANDWEAVERS, 533 North Adams St., McMinnville, Oregon 97128.

2 PLY YELLOW AND GOLD SLUBBY RAYON IS AVAILABLE AGAIN

This heavy yarn can be used for warp or for weft. It has about 600 yards per lb., and is available on 1/2 lb. tubes. Price is \$3.20 per lb. or \$1.60 per 1/2 lb. tube. Good for mats, for use in upholstery and in drapery, and numerous other uses. Robin & Russ, 533 North Adams St., McMinnville, Oregon 97128.

HARMONY SELECTOR COLOR WHEELS

We have just received a shipment of these inexpensive, good quality, color wheels. They are the same reasonable price of \$1.50 plus 10c postage. Help you in your quest for color understanding. The back has definitions of color terms, relationships of colors shown on the front of the wheel, and gives very good suggestions for the proper use of color. Robin & Russ, 533 North Adams St., McMinnville, Oregon 97128.

EXTRA LONG (13") REED HOOKS

We have these made to order for us in this extra long length. These are straight reed hooks with wooden handle and also with a V cut opening to take the coars heavy threads as well as the fine threads. Some persons like to reach through both the heddle and reed and this is ideal. Also, these are excellent for use on the multiple loom which have 8, 12, 16 or 20 harnesses. Price is \$1.75 plus pp. Robin & Russ, 533 North Adams St., McMinnville, Oregon 97128.

LOOM ANCHORS

Yes, these pressure sensitive felt pads will hold your loom in place so that they will not move across the floor when you beat, no matter how hard you do beat on the loom. Price is \$1.75 per set of 4 of these, and I myself, would suggest that you cut these pads in two and have two sets for the price of one. Just remove the plastic covering on the top and bottom of these pads and put under each corner of your loom, and it will hold it in place. Robin & Russ, 533 North Adams St., McMinnville, Oregon 97128.

The Weaver's Marketplace

warp and weft

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McMinnville, Oregon 97128

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Contains concise directions for weav-
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