



warp and weft

Vol. XXIII, No. 4

April, 1970

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Editor: Russell E. Groff,

Assistant Editor: Robin Groff

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A Word from the Editor:

Yes, the time does fly and here it is again, in time to put out another issue of Warp and Weft.

Another busy month has gone since this last issue, and we will try and tell you of a few activities.

One of the things that has pleased me most, is the activity of our daughter, Janice, in sewing this past month. Our Portland Handweavers Guild will have their annual fashion show this month, and Janice has made four items for display in the fashion show of some of our woven yardages from Warp and Weft, and from Drafts and Designs.

One of her outfits has a vest and skirt combination from our Warp and Weft wool and mohair sample in yellow gold we had about a year ago. Another outfit is a jump suit (is that name right) which she has made from an all ramie fabric we had in Drafts and Designs some time ago.

The third outfit she made was a very striking jumper from one of our Warp and Weft samples, and last but not least, was a teeny, weeny, bikini, which she made from one of our Drafts and Designs samples.

Now, the problem is, can she model them in the fashion show. She was out for girl's track at school, and broke a ligament in her ankle, and has been on crutches for 10 days, and has to use them for another 20 days, so now she is hesitant about her ability to model them in the fashion show. Time will tell, and it will not be long, just about five days away.

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Robin has been busy tending the shop, when I went wandering to the Southern California Handweavers Conference at the Disneyland Hotel in Anaheim, California. With the flow of incoming mail that has been appearing lately, she worked evenings while I was gone, to try and keep up with some of the work.

And your editor had a van full of yarns that he put on display in his booth at Anaheim, and sold yarns from, and tried to show the latest threads that were available from Robin & Russ.

Our shipment of spun silk has come in from Switzerland, and are the colors ever beautiful in this odd lot we purchased of spun silk. It came on about 6 oz. cones, and there are from three to five pounds of most of the colors. It is just about impossible to advertise this, as there is so little of the various colors (2 to 10 lbs.) of a color, so we will just have to sell it from the shop and at conferences. There seems to be from three to eight shades of many different colors in this spun silk, and it does have about 5200 yards per pound, just a little finer than the threads used in our sample this month. Would make beautiful dress and suit material, and I surely do wish there was some way to advertise it other than tell you about it, but I do not know how. Perhaps we will be able to use it for a Warp and Weft project, even though the colors are limited.

And your editor did work hard, and we have finally gotten out our 1970-1971 catalogue of weaving accessories, books, and related items for handweaving. We are in the process of addressing these now, and hope to mail them out to you sometime during the next month.

And great excitement also in the fact that our new shipment of 2/18's worsted yarns made to resemble the old Bernat's Fabri, should have arrived in Portland yesterday. We are eagerly waiting these 20 new colors and some 1500 lbs. of 2/18's worsted. The main thing is that we want to see if the dyers in England were able to match our colors as closely as we hope or if they are off on any of the colors.

I might say that this yarn has been so well received, that we have almost sold out our first 1,000 lbs., or 19 colors, and have re-ordered all of these 19 colors again. I suppose it will take about 10 days to two weeks to clear

customs and get down to us, and as soon as it does, we will start making up sample sheets of these new colors.

And, of course, plans for our trip to Switzerland and Ireland this June also take up some of the time, so you can see that there are no spare moments at the shop of Robin & Russ Handweavers.

Russell E. Groff, *Editor*

This Month's Book Review:

This month I want to review a book that I don't think I ever reviewed before, but the main thing is that I want to review it because of its popularity. It is the publication entitled "YOUR HANDSPINNING," by Elsie Davenport.

You all know how popular handspinning has become lately, and so I wanted to tell you about this book which has been reprinted two or three times in the last couple of years.

First of all, I feel it is the best book available for the person who wants to learn to spin. It has 96 different diagrams of instructions and five plates of instructions.

It has 12 chapters in the book, and let me tell you of these 12 chapters.

Chapter one tells about wool, its nature, how it grows, and the construction of it.

Next comes the description of sheep, the kinds, and types, and terms used to describe sheep, and notes about the British breeds and their fleeces.

Chapter three tells you how to sort a fleece, and the variations you will find in one fleece, and the terms used.

Next is the instruction part of how to use a hand spindle. How you can make a continuous yarn, how to prepare the fibers, how you move your hand, and how you can get an S or Z twist, and then how to skein your wool.

Next comes the art of spinning wool, and the two major methods used of Worsted and Woolens.

Chapter six is devoted to the spinning wheel, how it is constructed, its use and also how to maintain a spinning wheel.

If you are interested in buying a spinning wheel and want to know what to look for, then chapter seven is of interest to you.

The next chapter is devoted to flax, and how to spin it into linen thread, and how and what the problems of spinning flax are.

Chapter nine tells you about spinning silk, angora rabbit, camel hair and others. It also tells how to spin cotton and other vegetable fibers.

In the tenth chapter, you learn how important the spinning wheel is in helping to design new threads, how to fold yarns, how to mix them, and more information about other fancy yarns.

Chapter eleven is important also as it tells you how to prepare your handspun yarns for use in knitting or weaving. It tells of wool scouring, linen finishing and bleaching, cotton bleaching, how to wash silk and angora, and how to scour a fleece.

Chapter twelve tells you more about machine spun yarns, how to measure yardage, and counts, and quality of yarns, and more about fiber identifying.

You can see from all of this content that this is an outstanding book on hand-spinning.

TITLE: YOUR HANDSPINNING

AUTHOR: Elsie G. Davenport

COST: \$3.95 plus 18c postage.

AVAILABLE: Robin & Russ Handweavers

This Month's Cover Photograph

This photograph was taken at the International Weaving Festival at Las Vegas in November, 1969.

As many of you know, there has been a great revival and interest in many, many of the different thread crafts.

This picture shows the results of the efforts of one person in BOBBIN LACE or PILLOW LACE, as it is sometimes called.

These all are handkerchief edgings which were made in bobbin lace by the lady pictured on the right, Mrs. John Berggreen of Santa Barbara, California.

Mrs. Berggreen teaches this craft, and is
(Continued on Page 6) **Page 3**

AVOCADO AND MINT:

This interesting and unusual four harness pattern and fabric was planned for women's suiting material.

THREADING DRAFT:

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

KEY TO THREADS IN THE THREADING DRAFT

O — 10/2 Avocado Cotton
X — 10/2 Mint Cotton

TIE-UP DRAFT:

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

Note: Tie-up is for Jack type loom.

WARP USED:

Our warp used was two colors in size 10/2 Mercerized Cotton. The colors were as follows:

O — 10/2 Avocado Mercerized Cotton
X — 10/2 Mint Mercerized Cotton

WEFT USED:

The two threads used in the weft were the exact same two threads as was used in the warp.

REED USED:

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

WIDTH OF FABRIC:

This fabric was set-up 42" wide on the loom.

LENGTH OF WARP:

A 10½ yard warp was used, and from it we received nine and a half yards of the finished fabric.

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TREADLING SEQUENCE:

There are 10 shots in each complete pattern repeat. On your last repeat, you have to add one more thread, the first one in the pattern, to balance the pattern.

1. Treadle No. 5 — 10/2 Mint Cotton
2. Treadle No. 1 — 10/2 Avocado Cotton
3. Treadle No. 2 — 10/2 Mint Cotton
4. Treadle No. 3 — 10/2 Avocado Cotton
5. Treadle No. 4 — 10/2 Mint Cotton
6. Treadle No. 5 — 10/2 Avocado Cotton

SAMPLE:



7. Treadle No. 4 — 10/2 Mint Cotton
8. Treadle No. 3 — 10/2 Avocado Cotton
9. Treadle No. 2 — 10/2 Mint Cotton
10. Treadle No. 1 — 10/2 Avocado Cotton

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

IMPORTANT WHEN YOU START TREADLING

We feel that it is important that when you do start your treadling sequence, that you start the 10/2 Mint thread on No. 5 treadle, that you start it from the left side. When you start your 10/2 Avocado Cotton, on treadle No. 1, start it from the right side.

MORE ABOUT THIS FABRIC

The threading of this set-up is really just a double point twill and the key to the pattern is in the sequence of colors and the tie-up that is a little different than normal. It is a sort of slow fabric to weave, but it is a very challenging one, and you might like it for suit material, as we suggest.

Also, I do feel that with much heavier threads, you could use this, and get a very interesting effect in a rug, and I wish that I had the time to experiment with it further and try a rug, as I feel it would be quite interesting.

You will note that the float thread is longer on the back than on the front, but several persons who have seen the back have stated that they thought it could also be used as the outside of a fabric if desired. Of course, on much heavier threads, say 10 times heavier, the float would then have to be the underside or back of the fabric.

It is important, I feel, to use a firm, even, double beat. You should beat with the shed open, change to the next shed, and beat again before you do throw the shuttle the next time. This makes a much firmer, and more satisfying fabric.

I think that you can obtain many interesting color effects with this pattern, and I can imagine so many different threads being used in it. I think that the fine-weave cotton or 50/3 sewing cotton, set closely, would also make a very small but interesting pattern for both warp and weft.

And, if you wanted to accentuate the pattern more on say a fine thread like the 50/3 cotton, you could double all of the threads used in the weft, and this would elongate the pattern a little, and make it stand out more.

The selvage on this isn't always the most pleasing thing in the world, so you can sometimes improve this by having an extra thread or two in the warp outside on both selvage edges, about two dents away from the rest of the threads. Have this in the warp, and do not have it threaded through the heddles, but just through the reed, and come around it every time, and this is another method of helping to obtain a better selvage edge.

COST OF THE THREADS USED:

The 10/2 mercerized cotton we used comes

on 1/2 lb. tubes with 2100 yards per tube. It is \$5.00 per lb., or \$2.50 per 1/2 lb. tube. There are about 65 different colors available in this size of thread. We keep many in stock, but not all of them. Can order for you and have it in about two weeks or so from the date we receive the order in any of the colors available.

COST OF THE FABRIC:

We had a 10½ yard warp, 42" wide, and including both the warp and the weft threads used in our 9½ yards of the finished fabric we received, we used two pounds and 15 oz. of each of the two colors. Thus the total cost for these 9½ yards of finished fabric, and also including the loom waste, was \$29.38. Thus, I figure that the cost of this fabric per yard was \$3.01 per yard.

EDITOR'S NOTE:

ERROR IN TREADLING IN THE MARCH ISSUE FOR THE SAMPLE GIVEN.

We gave only 30 threads in the treadling sequence, and it should have been 40 threads in one complete sequence, so we will give you the correct sequence here, as it should have been given in the last issue for the March, 1970 sample. We will number each of the 40 threads, so that you will be able to follow the sequence, and then after we do give this completely, we will also write it out a shorter way for your greater ease and convenience, if you should decide to try this shadow weave.

1. Treadle No. B — 2/18's Lt. Turquoise
2. Treadle No. A — 2/18's Natural White
3. Treadle No. B — 2/18's Lt. Turquoise
4. Treadle No. A — 2/18's Natural White
5. Treadle No. B — 2/18's Lt. Turquoise
6. Treadle No. A — 2/18's Natural White
7. Treadle No. B — 2/18's Lt. Turquoise
8. Treadle No. A — 2/18's Natural White
9. Treadle No. B — 2/18's Lt. Turquoise
10. Treadle No. A — Gold Boucle with Gold
11. Treadle No. B — 2/18's Lt. Turquoise
12. Treadle No. A — 2/18's Natural White
13. Treadle No. B — 2/18's Lt. Turquoise
14. Treadle No. A — 2/18's Natural White
15. Treadle No. B — 2/18's Lt. Turquoise

16. Treadle No. A — 2/18's Natural White
17. Treadle No. B — 2/18's Lt. Turquoise
18. Treadle No. A — 2/18's Natural White
19. Treadle No. B — 2/18's Lt. Turquoise
20. Treadle No. A — 2/18's Natural White
21. Treadle No. 4 — 2/18's Lt. Turquoise
22. Treadle No. 2 — 2/18's Natural White
23. Treadle No. 4 — 2/18's Lt. Turquoise
24. Treadle No. 2 — 2/18's Natural White
25. Treadle No. 4 — 2/18's Lt. Turquoise
26. Treadle No. 2 — 2/18's Natural White
27. Treadle No. 4 — 2/18's Lt. Turquoise
28. Treadle No. 2 — 2/18's Natural White
29. Treadle No. 4 — 2/18's Lt. Turquoise
30. Treadle No. 2 — 2/18's Natural White
31. Treadle No. 4 — 2/18's Lt. Turquoise
32. Treadle No. 2 — 2/18's Natural White
33. Treadle No. 4 — 2/18's Lt. Turquoise
34. Treadle No. 2 — 2/18's Natural White
35. Treadle No. 4 — 2/18's Lt. Turquoise
36. Treadle No. 2 — 2/18's Natural White
37. Treadle No. 4 — 2/18's Lt. Turquoise
38. Treadle No. 2 — 2/18's Natural White
39. Treadle No. 4 — 2/18's Lt. Turquoise
40. Treadle No. 2 — 2/18's Natural White

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

Now, here is a shorter method of writing this treadling. It is divided into 4 parts.

1. Treadle No. B — Lt. Turq.
Treadle No. A — 2/18's Nat. White
Repeat these two, 4 times or 8 thds.
2. Treadle No. B — 2/18's Lt. Turq.
Treadle No. A — Gold Boucle with gold
Do these two threads just one time.
3. Treadle No. B — 2/18's Lt. Turquoise
Treadle No. A — 2/18's Natural White
Repeat these two 5ive times or 10 thds.
4. Treadle No. 4 — 2/18's Lt. Turquoise
Treadle No. 2 — 2/18's Natural White
Repeat these two, 10 times or 20 thds.

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

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(Continued from page 3)

outstanding in her efforts. She is one of the most eager pupils and is always ready to learn and try something different, and loves to share her craft with others.

When we lived in Santa Barbara, Mrs. Berggreen was one of our most eager students and one of the first we ever had tin the classes we taught in Adult Education, and at that time she was weaving, and not doing much bobbin lace. However, I believe she had been first taught bobbin lace in Denmark as a child, and so she eventually sold all of her looms and went back to this craft, which she loves dearly.

She, with a friend, had a booth at the International Festival in Las Vegas, and they demonstrated this craft for all who were interested.

If you would ever like to take lessons in Bobbin Lace, and are out in California Way, I would suggest that you contact Mrs. John Berggreen, 1814 De La Vina St., Santa Barbara, California.

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.

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.

20/3 BLEACHED WHITE RAMIE

on 1/2 lb. tubes. This is a nice quality ramie, and it has 2,000 yards per lb. comes on 1/2 lb. tubes, and can be used for warp or weft. A reasonable price at \$1.80 per 1/2 lb. tube, or \$3.60 per lb. Extra strong because it is 3 ply. Excellent warp for mats of all kinds at 15 or 24 threads per inch. Robin & Russ, 533 North Adams St., McMinnville, Oregon 97128.

LAPEL SHUTTLE PINS.

These beautiful, miniature replicas of shuttles have an actual bobbin with thread in them. Each pin is about 2 3/4 to 3" long. Made of exotic hardwoods, and made by hand. Price \$2.25 each, plus postage. Robin & Russ, 533 North Adams St., McMinnville, Oregon 97128.

LOPI — HEAVY ICELANDIC WOOL,

is available in 6 natural colors and ten dyed colors. It does not have much twist, but can be used as warp or weft. Has 119 yards per skein of 3.6 ounces each. Price is \$1.90 per skein. Excellent in ponchos, afghans, in the crocheted vests the young girls are wearing, etc. Sample sheets of the natural colors and dyed colors will be available soon. Robin & Russ, 533 North Adams St., McMinnville, Oregon 97128.

10/2 NATURAL IRISH LINEN.

This one we had spun for handweaving in Ireland. It is 2 ply, is excellent for warp or weft, and comes on 1 lb. tubes. Price is \$4.25 per 1 lb. tube plus shipping. 1500 yards per pound. Use for warp and set it at anywhere from 15 to 24 threads per inch, depending upon usage. Robin & Russ, 533 North Adams St., McMinnville, Oregon 97128.

S TYPE BRASS SLEYING HOOK.

We had these especially made for us, and they are so easy and convenient to use in sleying the reed. About 5" long, and you can use either end. Makes sleying the reed much faster and easier. \$1.00 each, plus postage. Robin & Russ, 533 North Adams St., McMinnville, Oregon.

4 CASTLE TYPE SPINNING WHEELS AVAILABLE

We had 17 of these come in recently, and have four still available. Made in Norway, these are compact, well made spinning wheels. Price is \$110.00 plus crating and shipping. Robin & Russ, 533 North Adams St., McMinnville, Ore. 97128.

CARDWEAVING BOOK

with 53 patterns and complete directions has just been reprinted. Price is \$3.50 plus 12c postage. Robin & Russ, 533 North Adams St., McMinnville, Ore. 97128.

METALLIC BOUCLE FROM ENGLAND.

This is called Luminex, and we have it available in 11 exciting colors. It is a metal boucle, and is non-tarnishable and washable. Comes on 500 yard tubes. Gold and Silver and 9 exciting colors. Price is \$1.35 per 500 yard tube. Robin & Russ, 533 North Adams St., McMinnville, Ore. 97128.

18/6 and 18/8 NATURAL IRISH LINEN.

These are heavy, natural linens in 6 and 8 ply. Excellent for rug warp, can be used in Macrame. Available on 1 lb. tubes. The 18/6 is the same as 9/3 which used to be available. It has 900 yards per lb., and is used for warp in rugs at 10 or 12 per inch. Price of both sizes is \$3.80 per lb., plus postage. 18/8 has 875 yards per lb., and is used at 6 or 8 inch for rug warp. Can be used in mats, and other uses. Robin & Russ, 533 North Adams St., McMinnville, Ore. 97128.

12/1 BLEACHED WHITE LINEN, SPUN IN USA

This is a beautiful quality linen that can be used for warp or weft. It has 3600 yards per lb., comes on 2 lb. tubes, and is \$3.20 per lb. Use it as warp at 30 per inch in table cloths, drapes, etc. Robin & Russ, 533 North Adams St., McMinnville, Ore. 97128.

RAYON and SILK FRILL.

A beautiful white yarn with 1,000 yards per lb. About 85% rayon 15% silk, it comes on 1/2 lb. tubes at \$3.20 per lb. or \$1.60 per 1/2 lb. tube. Postage extra. Robin & Russ, 533 North Adams St., McMinnville, Oregon 97128.

45/3 BLEACHED WHITE BARBOUR LINEN

We had this in 50/3 and 45/3 but have sold out all the 50/3. This 45/3 has 4,500 yards per lb., and is on sale at about 1/2 of its normal price, selling at \$3.20 per lb. Comes on 1 lb. tubes. Excellent for table mats, linens, etc. Robin & Russ, 533 North Adams St., McMinnville, Ore. 97128.

SET OF 5 NETTING OR PICK-UP SHUTTLES

We have these in 5 different sizes, up to 10" in length. Price is \$2.50 per set of 5 different ones, or if you wish, you can purchase them individually 60c each. Robin & Russ, 533 North Adams St., McMinnville, Oregon 97128.

EXTRA LONG REED HOOKS, 13" LENGTH

This reed hook is ideal in particular for multiple harness looms. It is 13" long, which includes a small wooden handle. Has a V cut opening, so it will handle the heavier, textured threads, as well as fine smooth ones. \$1.75 each, plus shipping. Robin & Russ, 533 North Adams St., McMinnville, Oregon 97128.

ORANGE, 2 PLY, SLIGHTLY TEXTURED WOOL

It has about 1,000 yards per lb. We have this in a 2 ply, with 2 shades of orange twisted together. Price is \$4.00 per lb., and it seems to be quite popular. Also, we have 5 other color combinations in this same weight if you'd like samples. Robin & Russ, 533 North Adams St., McMinnville, Oregon 97128.

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warp and weft

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