

warp and weft

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Editor: Russell E. Groff

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December, 1972

A Word from the Editor

About the time you receive this issue, it will be just a few days before Christmas, so with all our best wishes, a MERRY, MERRY CHRISTMAS, AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR, from the staff at Robin & Russ Handweavers. Greetings from Beverly, Kathy, Cindy, Mary, Marsha, Beth and Russ. We hope your new year is filled with inspirational weaving, and a successful completion of all weaving projects that you might start.

It has been a busy month, but still, we have not received many of the hand-weaving yarns that were ordered in September in England, Switzerland, and Germany. It looks as though my worst fears will be realized, and that the four large shipments will all arrive at once, and all four companies will want their payment all at once, along with the customs broker, and U. S. customs. Thank goodness, I have a sympathetic friend in the bank, who will help me with a loan. I'm sure it will come to this, as I went overboard the month I was away.

I'm glad now that I ordered all of these items though, as the price increases continue to come in. We have the beautiful Irish or Dutch brushed mohair, and I have just been notified that the price increase on it was \$1.80 per lb. on the new lot that I have ordered from Holland. And all of the companies from Europe that I've been dealing with are writing about the tremendous increases in the price of wool, and many of them are having trouble even getting wool.

And the situation on the delivery of looms is becoming a problem all over the U.S.A. The demand is so great that most companies are unable to keep up with the demand, and de-Page 2

livery time is anywhere from four months to two and one half years that is being quoted by one company.

Our Portland Handweavers Guild had the opportunity of having as a speaker, Barbara Mullins from England, one of the persons that I met on my trips to England. It was a most outstanding program on her studies in Peru, studying about the natural dyes that are used by the various tribes of natives of that country. Her color slides enhanced her program, and if you ever have the opportunity of having her for a program, your guild will really enjoy it, I'm sure. She is just now going to Peru to spend another year or so with her friends there learning more and teaching as she has in the past.

We are busy in the shop making up new sample sheets, and we have started mailing out some of these to our mailing list. We will continue to work on these for the next few months until all of the names on our list do receive our latest two sample sheets.

And we have received a shipment of 30 colors of dyed wool tops from England, and this too is a problem of packaging, as it all has to be unwound, and packed into about 1 lb. packages. The colors on this wool tops are beautiful, as we now have orange, purple, dark blue, medium and light blue, heather blue, heather grey, heather green, gold, a good wine color, natural, and several shades of greens, and a new burgundy red, and still others. We are still working on the packaging of this, and it will probably take us another month or two until these are all packed in the one pound packages. This wool tops is wool ready to be spun into yarns, or ready to be used in wall-hangings, and in the weaving of the unspun wool rugs, which seem so popular. One of the girls here in the shop, Beverly Eppick is weaving one here of natural and tan, and combining it with the rya technique in the ryagarn in natural. It is a beautiful rug, and will be a present for her husband for Christmas.

We've just received a large shipment of nine colors of rayon chenille in the eight cut size, and also a shipment of natural ryagarn on 1/2 lb. cones, and also some of the Irangarn on 1/2 lb. cones from England. These latter two are mostly used as rug yarns, and are beautiful quality yarns.

We have also heard from England that one lot of rug yarns that we are going to have to have spun and dyed to order, will cost 70¢ per lb. more than anticipated, as this is the increase that has come about in the cost of their raw materials.

Well, enough of the things happening here, and back to the sample for this month.

Russell E. Groff, Editor

This Month's Cover Photograph

While in England this past trip, I was able to visit a spinning company that specializes in Mohair and Alpaca. I was able to borrow the four pictures or photographs used on this cover to share with you. The more I think about it, the less I know whether to call these animals Alpaca or Llamas. I will call them Alpaca although they are both of the same family, and both native of South America.

These four pictures are taken at an elevation near a town in the Andes named "Puno, Peru." This is near Lake Titicaca. I was told that here is the native habitat of the Alpaca, and that they exist best at an altitude of 11,000 feet or higher.

It was most interesting to see this yarn being blended and spun, and when I was in England at the factory I was visiting, they showed me 24 different shades of natural colors of Alpaca yarn, and it is my hope that sometime next year or the year after that I will be able to stock most of these natural colors.

The alpaca is sheared every two years and the resulting fleece is from 6 to 7 lbs. in weight. It is extremely soft, and you can understand why an Alpaca yarn is more expensive than other yarns are.

Many of these animals will be one solid color, while others can have shades of natural, brown, grey, white and black all on one animal

I looked up in a couple of encyclopedias and dictionaries and there was very little information about the Alpaca. It did say that they are a semi-domesticated animal, and that they are a member of the camel family. That is all I have about same.

This Month's Book Review

This month, we want to tell you about the new book entitled "SWEDISH WEAVING," edited by Thelma M. Nye.

One of the exciting things about this book are the 24 pages of color illustrations, plus the many, many black and white photographs that are given. These pictures themselves are very descriptive.

This book can be considered a sort of project book, as there are about 30 or more different projects given, and the draft is given for each, plus the size and color description of each of the threads is also given.

Also, these seem to be fairly contemporary projects for such items as jumpers, handbags, wall hangings, table linens, place mats, small tapestries, and other related projects. The threading, tie-up and treadling are given on all the projects, so I would definitely consider it a project book.

And as the pictures are so clear, it should inspire them to work out a new treadling, pattern arrangement, or similar.

This book seems to be a collection of pieces of Swedish weaving, woven by about 20 to 30 Swedish weavers, and is not the work of just one or two individuals. So, because of this, the variety of projects, and the colors are extensive, and it is well worth seeing. A good book for the beginning, and intermediate weaver.

TITLE: SWEDISH WEAVING EDITOR: Thelma M. Nye

PRICE: \$8.95 plus postage and insurance

PUBLISHER: B. T. Batsford, Ltd., and Van Nostrant Reinhold Company.

AVAILABLE: From Robin & Russ Handweavers if desired, or directly from the American Publishers, Van Nostrand Reinhold Company.

STORM AT SUNSET

An interesting material designed for a woman's coat material, and woven on a traditional overshot weave in a non-traditional way.

TIE-UP DRAFT:

4		0	0			0
3	0				0	0
2		О		0	0	
1	О		0	0		
	1	2	3	4	5	6
	Α	В				

THREADING DRAFT:

4	x x x x x x x	x x x x x	X X	X X
3		X X X X X X		XXXXX
2	X X X X	XXXX	x	XXXXXX
1	x x x x x x x x x x x x x	X X X	X	XXXXX

WARP:

Our warp is the 2/18's English worsted in black.

WEFT:

There are three threads used in the weft. One is the 2/18's Black English Worsted. The second thread is the heavy Dutch wool and mohair brushed nub yarn as the main pattern thread, and then the orange rust nub wool with a black core was used as a binder thread.

REED USED:

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

TREADLING SEQUENCE:

There are 50 total shots in one complete pattern repeat. Of these 50 shots, some of them are tabby shots, and some are pattern shots, as indicated below. Please note that on this tie-up, the treadles we normally call 1 and 2 are the A and B tabby treadles, and the 3, 4, 5, 6 treadles are the pattern treadles. This is done primarily for the greater speed and ease in treadling.

- 1. Treadle #1 Orange and black nub wool
- 2. Treadle #2 Orange and black nub wool
- 3. Treadle #6 Thick orange and red novelty
- 4. Treadle #1 Orange and black nub wool
- 5. Treadle #2 Orange and black num wool
- 6. Treadle #4 Thick orange and red novelty

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- 7. Treadle #1 Orange and black nub wool
- 8. Treadle #2 Orange and black nub wool
- 9. Treadle #4 Thick orange and red novelty
- 10. Treadle #1 Orange and black nub wool
- 11. Treadle #2 Orange and black nub wool
- 12. Treadle #1 Orange and black nub wool
- 13. Treadle #1 Glange and black hub v
- 14. Treadle #1 Black 2/18's worsted
- 15. Treadle #2 Black 2/18's worsted
- 16. Treadle #1 Thick orange and red novelty
- 17. Treadle #2 Black 2/18's worsted
- 18. Treadle #1 Black 2/18's worsted
- 19. Treadle #2 Black 2/18's worsted
- 20. Treadle #6 Thick orange and red novelty

- 21. Treadle #1 Orange and black nub wool
- 22. Treadle #6 Orange and black nub wool
- 23. Treadle #2 Black 2/18's worsted
- 24. Treadle #1 Black 2/18's worsted
- 25. Treadle #6 Thick orange and red novelty
- 26. Treadle #1 Orange and black nub wool
- 27. Treadle #2 Orange and black nub wool
- 28. Treadle #6 Thick orange and red novelty
- 29. Treadle #1 Black 2/18's worsted
- 30. Treadle #2 Black 2/18's worsted
- 31. Treadle #6 Thick orange and red novelty
- 32. Treadle #1 Orange and black wool nub
- 33. Treadle #2 Orange and black nub wool
- 34. Treadle #6 Thick orange and red novelty
- 35. Treadle #1 Black 2/18's worsted
- 36. Treadle #2 Black 2/18's worsted
- 37. Treadle #6 Thick orange and red novelty
- 38. Treadle #4 Thick orange and red novelty
- 39. Treadle #1 Orange and black nub wool
- 40. Treadle #2 Orange and black nub wool
- 41. Treadle #1 Orange and black nub wool
- 42. Treadle #2 Orange and black nub wool
- 43. Treadle #1 Black 2/18's worsted
- 44. Treadle #2 Black 2/18's worsted
- 45. Treadle #4 Thick orange and red novelty
- 46. Treadle #6 Thick orange and red novelty
- 47. Treadle #1 Orange and black nub wool
- 48. Treadle #2 Black 2/18's worsted
- 49. Treadle #1 Black 2/18's worsted
- 50. Treadle #6 Thick orange and red novelty

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

MORE ABOUT THIS FABRIC:

We are sorry to have to cut up the samples this month, as the cutting into the smaller pieces definitely cuts down from the beauty of the large piece of material.

This should make outstanding coat material, and from the smaller sample, you cannot get a true idea of how attractive the fabric is.

The material is farily easy to weave, and there were only one or two minor problems.

First of all, I do think it is essential that you use a temple or stretcher on this fabric, so please do remember this. It gives you more width in weaving, and it eliminates the fuzzing and fraying that can happen to woolen or worsted yarns near the selvages.

You need to see about 5 to 8 inches of length of this fabric to get a good idea of it.

And, I do think that the beat is important on this fabric. You do not want to beat it so

hard that you pack in the heavier yarn more than the others, but you want to develop a medium, even, double beat.

You should open your shed, throw the shuttle and then beat lightly, change to the next shed and open it, and then beat lightly again, before you throw the shuttle.

If you do it this way, there will be less movement of the heavier thread, and a more even and uniform fabric will result.

COST OF THE THREADS USED:

The English 2/18's worsted yarn comes on approximately 1/2 lb. cones, and is \$6.80 per lb. It has 4800 yards per lb. and 39 colors are available.

The orange rust nub wool has 2400 yards per lb., is priced at \$4.80 per lb., and comes on cones of about 1 lb. 2 oz. each. There are nine colors with a black core, and nine colors with a natural binder, so there are 18 colors in all available.

The heavy Dutch mohair and wool novelty has approximately 275 yards per lb., and is available in five colors. Price on it is now \$9.60 per lb., and we can wind it off onto about 1/2 lb. tubes if you wish. It came to us on four to five lb. tubes, and we have to rewind it. A new stock of all five colors is due in here in late December, and the price of it was increased \$2.06 per lb., so thus the price of \$9.60 per lb.

COST OF THE FABRIC:

We had a 14 yard warp, 40" wide, and it took 3 lbs. 5 oz. of 2/18's worsted for the warp. The total warp cost was \$22.53, so the cost per yard was \$1.61 per yard.

In the weft, we used 7 oz. of black 2/18's worsted, 8 lbs. 11 oz. of the thick wool nub yarn, and 1 lb. 6 oz. of the orange rust mohair loop. Thus the total weft cost for 12 yards of finished fabric was \$95.98, or the cost per yard for each of the 12 yards of weft was \$8.00 per yard.

WARP COST PER YARD	
WEFT COST PER YARD	.\$8.00
FABRIC COST PER YARD	

END OF YEAR CLEARANCE SALE

These offerings are good for the month of January, 1973 and for the month of February 1973 only. After that time, if any left, regular prices will apply on all of these items. We are having this sale because of the arrival in 6 to 8 weeks of about 10,000 lbs. of yarns from England, Scotland, Switzerland and Germany.

- 1. SILK TWEEDS, size 11/1 and 12/1. These silk tweeds have been selling at \$3.20 per lb. normally, and we now have them on sale at 1/2 price. PRICE IS NOW \$1.60 per lb. while they last. They have about 10,000 to 12,000 yards per lb., and there are about 10 differenc colors available.
- 2. 4 PLY, BRAID TYPE WOOL, on 4 oz. tubes. This is on sale also at 1/2 of the regular price. The regular price is \$4.00 per lb., and IT IS NOW ON SALE AT \$2.00 per lb. These are four colors of wool twisted together in a braid type twist, to act as one thread. Fairly heavy, and we have about 10 colors available. Good for ponchos, can be used in inkle and card weaving, etc.. Example, gold, yellow, orange and natural, twisted together as one thread. And another example, fuchsia, red, gold and beige. These were used by one manufacturer in making of very high priced women's coats.
- 3. **RAYON BOUCLES IN COLORS:** This rayon boucle sold for many years at \$3.50 per lb., and we now have it on sale at 85¢ per 1/2 lb. spool of 700 yards. We have such colors as black, golden brown, light green, dark turquoise, kelly green with gold twist, orange rust, light aqua, and perhaps one or two others. Also, we have some of it in skeins, and the skeins we will sell at \$1.60 per lb. Some gold, with gold twist, and dark turquoise with gold twist also.
- 4. 50% SILK, 50% LINEN, in 8 different colors. This is a single ply blend which has about 4,200 yards per lb. It sold for \$3.20 per lb., and we are putting it on sale at 1/2 price at \$1.60 per lb. while it lasts. There is a light green, medium green, yellow, medium blue, medium dark blue, sand, sort of a rose color, and a chartreuse green. Limited amounts of all colors.
- 5. HEAVY, RAYON AND NYLON SLUBBY YARN IN ABOUT 6 COLORS. Price on this has been \$3.50 per lb., for this yarn with 650 yards per lb. ON SALE AT \$1.75 PER POUND while it lasts. This is 50% rayon, 50% nylon combination, and we still have these colors available. Delft Blue, Field Blue, Sandy Natural, Melon Orange, Spring Nile, Canton Green, and Chartreuse Selabon. This should be excellent for many different kinds of placemats, could be used in bedspreads, drapes, and many, many other uses.
- 6. **FINE WOOL AND ORLON COMBINATION**. This yarn is 65% wool, and 35% orlon, and was used for several years in women's dress and suitings. It has about 6,000 yards per lb., comes on cones o 1½ to 2 lbs. each in weight. Price was \$3.20 per lb., and **we have it on sale at 1/2 price at \$1.60 per lb.** We still have light heather grey, kelly green, light green, medium brown, a grey blue with a lavender cast, and also a hunter dark green.
- 7. 1½ LEA, BOILED SINGLE PLY LINEN. We have a limited amount of this available. It comes on tubes of about 1 lb. 12 oz. to 2 lbs. each in weight. PRICE ON THIS WHILE IT LASTS IS \$1.60 per lb. Sold by the tube only. This linen has 450 yards per lb.
- 8. 10/1 NATURAL GREY, OR BROWNISH GREY, DRY SPUN LINEN. We discovered we had another box of 150 lbs. of this linen. We had been selling it at \$2.40 per lb., but have decided to close it out at \$1.60 per lb. On tubes of 1½ to 3½ lbs.

SPECIAL OFFER. For anyone who orders \$50.00 of these sale items or over, we will include 3 lbs. of yarns of our choice free of charge.

EXTRA SPECIAL OFFER. For anyone who orders \$100.00 worth of these sale items, we will include 7 lbs. of yarns of our choice free of charge.

Shipping charges are extra on all orders. Make allowances for shipping charges, and include with your remittance. If you have any credit left, under \$1.00, we will refund in stamps, and over \$1.00, we will hold as credit unless you tell us to send you a refund. We will ship via U.P.S., if possible, and if not, then PP., Insured.

REMEMBER, THESE SALE PRICES ARE IN EFFECT FROM NOW UNTIL FEBRUARY 28th, 1973. After that, sale prices will not apply.

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING

Why not advertise your old loom, duplicate equipment, and other such items in this section. Price per 5-line ad is \$5.00. Payment to accompany your advertising copy.

PINK SUPPORTED LUREX WITH SUPPORTING PINK THREAD

This very nice quality lurex comes on 2 oz. tubes, at \$1.50 per tube. This is the 1/64 size, and the pink supporting thread makes it very attractive. Robin & Russ, 533 N. Adams St., McMinnville, Oregon 97128.

SWISS STRAW, WHITE

On tubes of 8 oz. to 14 oz. in weight, this beautiful nylon white straw should be useful in many different projects. Price is \$3.20 per lb., plus postage. Robin & Russ, 533 N. Adams St., McMinnville, Oregon 97128.

WHITE, 3 ply Sisal Laid Twine.

This comes on 5 lb. balls, and is \$4.00 per ball plus shipping. Seems to be very popular in Macrame, plus it would be excellent in Rya and Flossa Rugs, as the thread between the knots. Robin & Russ, 533 N. Adams St., McMinnville, Oregon 97128.

9 COLORS IN 8 CUT RAYON CHENILLE

Plus limited amounts of 3 or 4 colors in 8 and 12 cut rayon chenille. Free samples upon request. Price is \$4.00 per lb., and most of this is on tubes of from 8 ounces to 1 lb. in weight. Robin & Russ, 533 N. Adams St., McMinnville, Oregon 97128.

15 CORN DOLLS LEFT OUT OF 150.

These beautifully made corn dolls are mostly the single figure, and are beautifully made in Czechoslovakia. Price is \$3.50 each, plus postage while they last. I tried to get more, but they are now costing more than what we are selling these for, so I didn't purchase anymore. Robin & Russ, 533 North Adams St., McMinnville, Oregon 97128.

6 STRAND SILK FLOSS ON WOODEN SPOOLS

The silk on these spools is from Switzerland. We have perhaps 150 colors left, and there are from 1 to 4 oz. of silk on most of these spools. Why not order an assortment of 5 or 6 colors (1 lb.) at 99.60 plus postage. We will try to give you colors you want, but we do have to adjust sometimes. Very few reds, but many greens, browns, greys, yellows, roses, etc. The wooden spools are well made, and they alone are being sold by several companies at 50 to 75– each. There is no charge for the spools, but just the silk on each. Robin & Russ, 533 N. Adams St., McMinnville, Oregon 97128.

4 PLY SMOOTH GLOSSY NATURAL TUSSAH SILK

We have just about 35 lbs. of this beautiful natural tan tussah silk left. It has 7600 yards per lb., and comes on cones of from 1 lb. to 1½ lbs. in weight. Price is \$8.00 per lb. while it lasts. You couldn't duplicate this type of silk for less than \$20.00 per lb. in Europe if you can get it for that. Robin & Russ, 533 N. Adams St., McMinnville, Oregon 97128.

SILK TWEEDS AT 1/2 PRICE

We have perhaps 100 lbs. of assorted colors in silk tweeds on hand. Will close them out at \$1.60 per lb. while they last. We must make room for new items coming in, and are trying to clear our shelves of several slow moving items. At one time this tweed sold for \$8.00 per lb. or more, and we have limited amounts still available. On cones varying from 1 to 2 lbs. in weight, the price is \$1.60 per lb. now. ROBIN & RUSS, 533 N. Adams St., McMinnville, Oregon 97128.

9 BRIGHT COLORS IN FINE NUB WOOL OR MOHAIR WITH A BLACK CORE.

This yarn is a good buy at \$4.80 per lb., and it has 2400 yards per lb., and comes on cones of about 1 lb. and 2 oz. each. Fuchsia, Gold, Turquoise, Clear Rust, Light Aqua, Turquoise Blue, Olive Green are some of the colors. Robin & Russ, 533 N. Adams St., McMinnville, Ore. 97128.

24/2 ALPACA IN OLIVE AND LIGHT BEIGE OR TAN

Limited amounts of these two yarns at a very, very reasonable price of \$4.80 per lb. Should make very nice women's coating, suiting or skirt materials. Just two colors. Price is \$4.80 per lb. and there are just 15 to 20 lbs. of each color. Robin & Russ, 533 N. Adams St., McMinnville, Ore. 97128.

NATURAL RYAGARN AND IRAGARN

On 1/2 lb. cones. This beautiful wool yarn is made in England normally for companies in Sweden for use in their famous rya and flossa rugs. We have it in the natural, on 1/2 lb. cones, at \$5.60 per lb. Makes the most beautiful flossa and rya rugs, and has many, many other uses. Fairly heavy, the ryagarn has 550 yards per lb., and the irangarn has 275 yards per lb. Can be used for warp or weft, and dyes beautifully also. You'll be delighted in the appearance of this yarn. Robin & Russ, 533 N. Adams St., McMinnville, Ore. 97128.

WOOL TOPS NOW AVAILABLE IN 25 COLORS

This beautiful, dyed wool has been carded and is ready for spinning, for use in non-loom weaving, and for hangings, and for the unspun wool rugs. If interested, write for samples which we will ask you to return. Price is now \$4.80 per lb. while it lasts. Also available in natural, as well as 25 colors. Purples, blues, greens, heathers, reds, roses, greys and others. Robin & Russ, 533 N. Adams St., McMinnville, Oregon 97128.

INSPIRATION FOR EMBROIDERY

By Constance Howard. This is one of the most inspiring books on embroidery you will ever see. Profusely illustrated, it has many ideas, designs, and directions, and should inspire almost any embroider. Price is \$14.95 plus postage for this outstanding book. Robin & Russ, 533 N. Adams St., McMinnville, Oregon 97128.

STEP BY STEP KNITTING

By M. W. Phillips. This golden press paperback is just \$2.50, plus postage, and seems to be an excellent beginning knitting instruction book. Robin & Russ, 533 N. Adams St., McMinnville, Oregon 97128.

The Weaver's Marketplace

HANDWEAVING

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A wide variety of distinctive yarns, developed especially for handweaving is available for prompt shipment in quantities to suit your needs.

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Five Widths

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NORWOOD

LOOMS

The Norwood Loom Co. P. O. Box 272 Baldwin, Michigan

9 COLORS IN EIGHT CUT RAYON CHENILLE

Just in, this exciting thread is available on 1/2 lb. tubes. Price is \$4.00 per lb., and there are approximately 500 yards per 1/2 lb. tube.

COLORS ARE:

- 1. Rose Beige
- 2. Golden Brown 3. Natural White
- 6. Navy Blue
- 4. Rich Chocolate
- 7. Smoke Grey

5. Velvet Purple

8. Burgundy 9. Golden Olive

ROBIN AND RUSS HANDWEAVERS

533 N. Adams St., McMinnville, Oregon 97128

4 EXOTIC ENGLISH BRUSHED MOHAIR YARNS

Exciting just to look at, these space dyed mohair yarns were dyed three times to get these color combinations. One is shades of Reds and Oranges One is shades of Light and Dark Blues, One is shades of Nile Greens, some Aqua and Dark Green, and the last is shades of Golden Brown with Gold and Peack. On cones of 5 to 12 oz. Price is \$12.00 per lb. Limited amounts of all colors.

Robin & Russ Handweavers

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McMinnville, Ore. 97128 BULK RATE U. S. POSTAGE Permit No. 12