

warp and weft

VOL. XXVII, No. 5

May, 1974

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A Word from the Editor

Well, the Peter Collingwood workshop is over, and everyone felt it was a great success. And besides that, the trip to Convergence 74 was a hectic and busy one, and it too, was so successful, businesswise, that it is hard to tell you about it.

We had a booth at Convergence 74, featuring yarns in one booth, and books and our Oregon Trail Loom in the other, and enough help to run the two booths, so it too, was a great success. But, has anyone ever told you how much work it is to mark everything, as to weight and price, pack it, and drive 700 miles to display it, put it up in a limited time, display and sell it, and then repack it in boxes and cars, and drive back 700 miles to unpack what is left and put it away.

Well, let me tell you how much work it is. As most of you know, I'm sort of fat and jolly, and pretty good natured, etc. And, you can tell by looking at me that I like to eat a good steak. Well, at San Francisco one of the four days, after working until 8:00 in the evening, and then going out to dinner at 9:00 at night, I was sitting at dinner, with a nice steak before me with two bites I had taken out of it, when LO AND BEHOLD, I fell asleep sitting up and never did finish that steak. That gives you an idea of how tiring it can be.

I honestly was so busy that I didn't have much time to look at the other booths, so I could see what types of yarns other yarn shops were selling. However, it was an experience that I'll always remember and Beverly Eppick

(the woman who used to work in our shop) and her husband Bill were such good help, that I couldn't have asked for more.

And, so much more yet to do. This is the May issue, and I must finish the weaving of the fabric for the June issue. And, I hope to be able to deliver about five looms down in California and come back and get out another issue of Warp and Weft, before I head off to England for that annual buying trip.

Tomorrow and the rest of this week, will be busy also, as we are now starting to warp 20 looms for the Sallie O'Sullivan workshop, which will go on during all of next week, Monday through Friday. From all that I hear, her workshop is one of the most stimulating you can have, and so we are already thinking of possibly having her again next year or the year after if all plans do work out.

And I must tell you how nice it is to have friends. One of our best friends and weaving customers volunteered to do all 20 warp chains for the Sallie O'Sullivan workshop. This is 20 different warps, with 20 different color combinations, and last week, when I stopped in to see her, Mable Gaddie, a member of the Portland Handweavers Guild, had all 20 warps of six yards length each, all ready to start using and putting them on the loom. Not only that, she has also recruited three or four other members of the guild, and they are coming tomorrow to help set up the 20 looms for the workshop, and you don't know how big a sigh of relief I gave, when Mable Gaddie did volunteer to help on this. And, the sad part is that because of vacations, Mable Gaddie will be unable to attend the workshop.

While at the midwest conference, I was able to take a series of photographs, and I'm so pleased that they turned out so well, as now I should have enough photographs to use as covers for the coming year. I had a friend take one roll of pictures at Convergence 74 also, and we have about three or four outstanding photographs from this, that we will be using for cover photographs.

Russell E. Groff, *Editor*

This Month's Cover Photograph

One of the very striking items on display at Convergence 74 was this lampshade which is shown on the cover.

I might mention that this had been mounted on a shade, and the light was on when this picture was taken.

I'm hoping that someone who knows of this fabric will write and tell us who the weaver was, so that we can share it with you in a future issue.

What is so interesting is the variety of techniques that are illustrated in this lampshade.

On the bottom you have a variation of Greek lace, in a slightly untraditional way which is very nicely done. Then, in the center is a version of what could possibly be called Leno, or Mexican lace or pick-up-lace. And this was done with a plain weave background, which I feel adds to the lace. Also, the undulating weft effects in the top portion are very interestingly done, with areas of warp being woven separately, and then being woven together. Perhaps you will think more of this cover, after you read this description.

This Month's Book Review

This month, we want to tell you about a book which we have been waiting to be reprinted for a couple of years, and which has now just become available, and which we, ourselves, published. It is primarily a spinning book, and it is a combination of two studies, one on spinning and one on a hand-wool combing.

This booklet has two titles, as there are two separate portions to the book. The first part is entitled "METHODS OF HAND SPINNING IN EGYPT AND THE SUDAN." It deals primarily with the use of the hand spindle and not the spinning wheel, and tells of the various techniques used in some of the many different countries in Africa. There are 28 black and white plates in the book, showing various equipments used and also the different methods used in the various countries. I think this is an excellent text, and that many interested in the use of the hand spindle will find some aids, shortcuts and good suggestions in the text of this book.

Also, this first portion of the booklet deals with the spinning of flax on the hand spindle, as well as with the spinning of wool.

There are illustrations of the many different types of hand-spindles, spinning sticks, and many different types of whorls that are used in the ancient times, and which are still being used to some extent today.

And, the section of the book entitled Hand-wool combing, is an explanation of how wool was combed and prepared for the spinning process in England before the beginning of the industrial revolution. Of course, all of the preparation in those days was by hand, and included in the directions are drawings or pictures of the tools that were used in this process.

TITLE: HAND SPINNING IN EGYPT AND THE SUDAN, HAND-WOOL COMBING.

AUTHOR: Grace M. Crowfoot is the author of Hand-spinning in Egypt and the Sudan, and H. Ling Roth, was the author of Hand-wool combing.

This book has been reprinted from the Original Bankfield Notes from the Museum of Textiles at Halifax, England, and also the original plates have been used.

PRICE: \$4.25 plus postage.

PUBLISHER: Robin & Russ Handweavers

AVAILABLE: Available from Robin & Russ Handweavers.

A Second Book Review

One of the nice little new publications is a paperback just out which was written by Cay Garret, and is entitled, "WARPING ALL BY YOURSELF."

Cay Garrett has done an excellent job with this little publication, and we must commend her highly.

This is primarily a book which teaches you to warp your loom, using a chain warp. And, the diagrams and explanations and drawings are very clear, concise, and easy to understand. Cay Garrett has been teaching weaving classes and workshops for some 20 years, and the methods that she tells about and illustrates in her book are the methods that she has been using with great success in her classes and workshops.

She starts out by teaching you the names

(Continued on Page 5)

IRISH LACE

Yes, this is being called Irish Lace, because it is made of linen from Ireland. But, the pattern is a Huck variation, and we were inspired by the sample in a book from Norway.

THREADING DRAFT:

4			○		○
3				○	○
2	X			X	
1		X	X		

X — 18/2 Raw Grey IRISH Linen

○ — 10/2 Bleached White IRISH LINEN

WARP:

Two threads are used in the warp. One is a size 10/2 bleached white Irish linen, and the other is a size 18/2 raw grey Irish linen thread.

WEFT:

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

REED USED:

A special sleying of the reed is done here with the two different sizes of thread being sleyed differently. The heavier 10/2 bleached white linen is sleyed two ends per dent (4-3 in first dent and 3-4 in the second dent), and the 18/2 grey Irish linen is threaded with all four ends together in one dent. An eight-dent reed is used. So, in your reed you have two threads of white in the first dent, two threads of white in the second dent, and four threads of grey in the third dent, and this is repeated over and over. AND, remember, an eight-dent reed is used.

WIDTH IN LOOM: LENGTH OF WARP:

Our warp was set-up on the loom for a 40" wide warp, and we did a 14-yard length of warp.

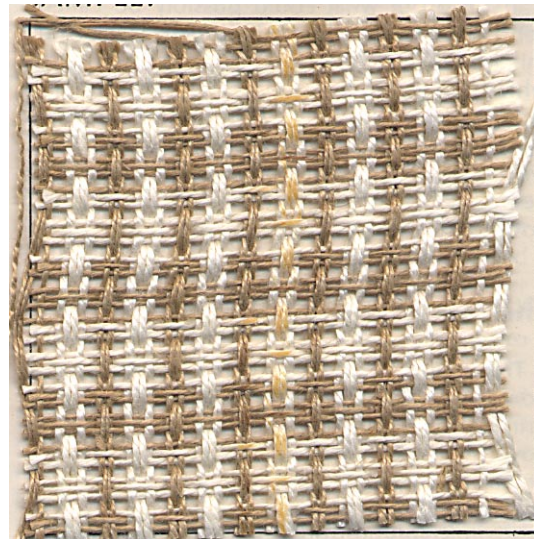
The finished width when woven and off the loom was a little over 38" wide without any tension, and the length of finished fabric re-

TIE-UP DRAFT:

4	○	○		
3		○		○
2			○	○
1	○		○	
	1	2	3	4

ceived from our 14-yard warp was 13 yards and 12 inches or 13 1/3 yards of finished fabric.

SAMPLE:



MORE ABOUT THIS FABRIC:

One of the most important things about this fabric is the fact that it is so easy to weave. We wove it without the use of a stretcher or a temple, and found that it was about 39" wide on the loom, and it came down to slightly over 38" wide when there was no tension whatsoever, and the fabric was completely off the loom.

And, I was particularly pleased at how little waste there was in the warp ends, when we finished weaving this piece.

It is IMPORTANT THAT YOU USE A FIRM, EVEN, DOUBLE BEAT. Open your shed, and

throw the shuttle, beat and then change to the next shed and beat again, and then throw your shuttle. This will give you a firm, even, regular fabric, and the lace openings seem to remain quite constant.

Some of you will ask what you will use this type of fabric for, and I feel that it has many uses. One of the most common would be for use in drapes and curtains. For those curtains which you want to be able to see out of and yet not have outsiders able to see in, this would be ideal.

And, you don't have to stick to linen as we did in this sample. It could be woven out of cottons in varying weights, in spun rayons, in novelties, and I think it would be very interesting in some of the slub linens and rayons also.

I think it could be used for table linens, and for mats in particular. You could use a bright and dull, a thick and a thin, a slubby and smooth, and many, many other combinations of thread to make a most interesting fabric. In the right materials, I can see it being used as wallpaper. And with a proper lining, it could be used in a multitude of other uses, such as bedspreads, in bags, and in very finer threads in clothing materials.

OH, YES, I almost forgot. You will find this fabric much easier to weave if you take the first four threads on both selvage edges and thread them, 4, 3, 2, 1. This will help the edges to weave much easier, and on certain or all treadle combinations, it will be weaving on the first or second thread instead of perhaps skipping in to the fifth thread as it would do if you did not try this selvage.

COST OF THE THREADS USED:

This is our recent shipment of Irish linen, and we are pleased to find that we do not have to sell this as high as some companies. We found two companies selling the natural for \$9.60 per lb., and the white for \$11.20 per but our price while our 100 lbs. of each lasts is less. The 18/2 raw grey Irish Linen comes on about 1 lb. tubes, and it is \$6.00 per lb. It has approximately 2700 yards per lb. And, the 10/2 bleached white linen also comes on 1 lb. tubes or slightly more, and it is \$6.80 per lb. It has 1500 yards per lb. I might say that our natural and white in this size 10/2 line linen

is one of the nicest qualities that we have ever had. These are both BARBOUR Linens from Northern Ireland.

COST OF THE FABRIC:

In our 14 yard warp of 40" width, we used 3 lbs. and 10 oz. of the 10/2 bleached white linen, and 2 lbs. 6 oz. of the 18/2 natural grey linen. Thus, our total warp cost was \$38.90 or the cost per yard was \$2.78 per yard.

In the weft, of 13 1/3 yards of finished fabric, we used 2 lbs. 11 oz. of the 10/2 bleached white linen, and 2 lbs. of the 18/2 natural grey linen. Thus, our total weft cost was \$30.28, for the entire 13 1/3 yards.

WARP COST PER YARD, 40" wide	\$2.78
WEFT COST PER YARD	\$2.27
FABRIC COST PER YARD	\$5.05

A Second Book Review

Continued from page 3

of all loom parts, and explains the two major kinds of looms in use in the U.S.A. I often think that if all weavers knew the names and parts, they would find it much easier to work on the loom.

After this, she teaches you how to plan a warp, and explains most of the problems and situations that might occur with your warp. She tells you how to solve these problems, and then goes on and teaches you how to prepare your warp. She tells you many different items you can use in your warping, to make it easier (especially if you are lacking the regular warping equipment). She explains the loom parts, and helps you understand where your warp threads go, and in what sequence, and shows you how she does it. She tells and shows you how the warp is put on the loom, threaded, and tied up; how you put the heading in, and get ready for your actual weaving. I've all kinds of recommendations for this little book, and if you are a beginning weaver, and particularly with a loom and not much equipment, then you will find this book a great help.

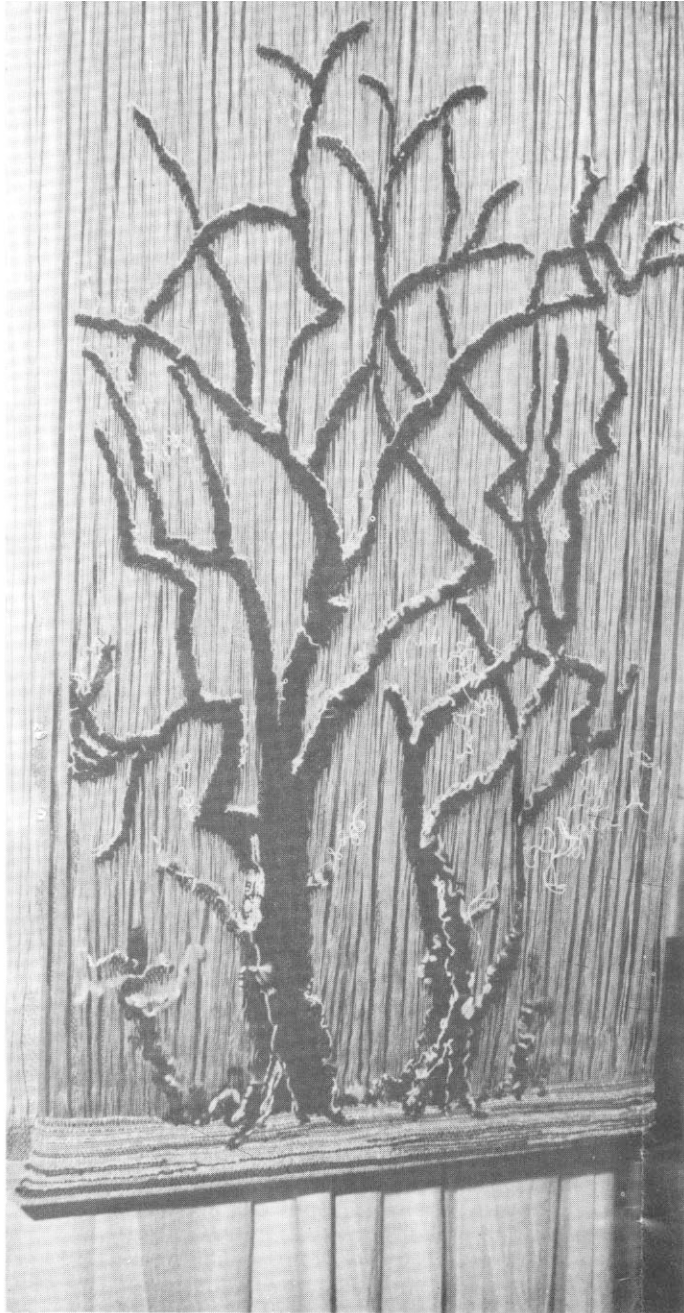
TITLE: WARPING ALL BY YOURSELF

AUTHOR: Cay Garrett

PUBLISHER: Thresh Publications

PRICE: \$2.95 plus postage

AVAILABLE: Directly from the publisher or from Robin & Russ Handweavers if desired, or from Cay Garrett in the Yarn Depot in San Francisco.



Yarn Special in Pleasing Colors

We have a limited amount of 8/2 spun rayon in about 15 colors. Just 25 lbs. of each color. Has 3360 yards per lb., is 2 ply for warp and weft, and is just \$3.20 per lb. Yummy colors, too. Free samples upon request.

A Tapestry from the 1974 Midwest Weavers Conference

I was very much intrigued with the beauty of this tapestry at the midwest weavers conference in St. Paul, Minn. this past summer, and thought that you might enjoy it also.

I can't remember with any clarity, if this tapestry was the one that had another figure on the back, corresponding to this one, to tie the front and back together, but I do think that this was the one.

Notice how this is divided at both the top and bottom, with two layers of warp, so I do think that this was the one with the pattern on both sides.

We do not have the name of the weaver, so hope that some of the midwest weavers do let us know who did this piece, so that we can share her name and address with you.

Yarn Special for the Month

The outstanding buy for the month is this 10/1 Bleached Linen from DENMARK. It came to us on tubes of about 1 lb. 10 oz. to 2 lbs. each in weight. It has 3,000 yards per pound, and I believe that you can use it for warp without any trouble. (See sample in April, 1974 issue of Warp and Weft out of a similar linen from Belgium). We have this on sale, by the tube only at \$2.40 per lb. With the linen shortage that exists in the world today, this is one of the best buys that I know of. It will also dye beautifully. Remember, the price is \$2.40 per lb. when you buy it by the tube of about 1 lb. 12 oz. If we have to wind it off for you onto 1/2 lb. tubes, then it is \$1.60 per 1/2 lb. tube of 1500 yards.

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.

NUBBY, SHINY AND DULL COTTON AND RAYON COMBO

I purchased this one because it is so unusual to have a shiny and dull combination in one thread. It looks like a combination of cotton and rayon, is quite heavy and bulky, and interesting in appearance. It is cotton for a while, and then rayon for awhile, and is on special at \$2.40 per lb. We have about 100 lbs. of this one. Quite heavy, with about 400 yards per lb. Should dye beautifully and have two color tones, as it is cotton and rayon. Robin & Russ, 533 N. Adams St., McMinnville, Oregon 97128.

NATURAL RAYON BOUCLE WITH SILVER TWIST

This used to be available from many manufacturers, but seems to be no longer available. Located 100 lbs of it in skeins, and now available in 3 to 5 oz. skeins. About 1500 yards per lb., and price is \$4.00 per lb. Robin & Russ, 533 North Adams St., McMinnville, Ore. 97128.

8 CUT RAYON CHENILLES

In a recent shipment of yarns, we did receive about 250 lbs. of rayon chenilles in eight cut size. The trouble is that there are from 3 to 10 lbs. of a color, and we do have about 30 to 35 colors available. If you are really interested, we will make up a special sample sheet and send to you, if you promise to return it. And remember, some colors only 3 to 4 lbs. and others up to 10 or 12 lbs. Price is \$4.00 per lb. while they last. Robin & Russ, 533 North Adams St., McMinnville, Oregon 97128.

HEAVY, IRISH RUG WOOLS WITH LINEN CORE

Just in a short time, this is a beautiful yarn, very very heavy, with two linen threads in each for strength. Twisted blends of browns and naturals. We will send a couple of samples upon request, but oh, the price is so high, I wonder if we will ever sell it. It is \$12.00 per lb., and we will make up 4 oz. skeins for you upon request. Robin & Russ, 533 N. Adams St., McMinnville, Oregon 97128.

TEXTILES OF ANCIENT PERU AND THEIR TECHNIQUES

In print once again, it is available in the hard-bound edition at the same price before it went out of print at \$20.00 per copy. But, harrah, it is also available in paperback, at a good reasonable price of \$8.95 per copy. ROBIN & RUSS, 533 N. Adams St., McMinnville, Ore. 97128.

8/2 SPUN RAYON IN 14 GAY COLORS

Excellent for warp, and reasonable in cost at \$3.20 per lb. Has slightly over 3,000 yards per lb. or 3360 yards per lb. 14 colors are bright and gay, and we have just limited amounts of these, so will not make out a sample sheet to advertise them. You would like these, I'm sure. Robin & Russ, 533 N. Adams St., McMinnville, Ore. 97128.

DESIGNING ON THE LOOM

By Mary Kirby, has been reprinted in paperback edition and is for sale for \$6.00 per copy. I think it is excellent for some unusual 4 harness and multiple harness patterns. I spent two years trying to get it reprinted, and then someone else beat me to it. But, I'm pleased that it is once again back on the market. Robin & Russ, 533 N. Adams St., McMinnville, Ore. 97128.

NOTES ON WEAVING TECHNIQUES

By Florence House is also available in spiral bound, paper back edition. These are the notes she used in her teaching for many years, and I find the projects and ideas quite good and stimulating. You might like this in your library. Price \$6.00 per copy, plus postage and insurance. Robin & Russ, 533 N. Adams St., McMinnville, Ore. 97128.

DELUXE, LARGER KNITTING BAG HANDLES

Made here in Oregon. Much more room for the hand, and nicely made and finished, these sell for \$4.50 per pair. They are made just about 10 miles from our shop, by a man who specializes in Myrtlewood novelties. These are Oregon Fir, but quite heavy and durable and well finished. Robin & Russ, 533 N. Adams St., McMinnville, Oregon 97128.

BAMBOO, U-SHAPED, TOTE OR CARRYALL BAG HANDLES

These are very nicely made bamboo bag handles with removeable rods on them, so that you can remove one bag from these, slip another on, and have an entirely different bag, using the same handles. U-shaped with rods through the open end of the U, and a very, very good price at \$2.50 per pair. Robin & Russ, 533 N. Adams St., McMinnville, Oregon 97128. P.S. They are 7" wide.

UNIQUE SLUB RAYON

In 2 different colors. The slub is so heavy and unusual on these that it makes you want to experiment with same. One of these is a nice orange with a faint touch of yellow blended in the orange. The other is a good Nile or spring green with a touch of yellow. Yardage per lb. is about 600 to 700 yards and it comes on about 1 lb. 8 to 10 oz. tubes. Slub is so heavy, I doubt if we can rewind onto smaller 1/2 lb. tubes. Price is \$3.50 per lb. A most unusual yarn. Robin & Russ, 533 N. Adams St., McMinnville, Ore. 97128.

16 PLY, SMOOTH, SCRUNCHY, TUSSAH SILK

This is the natural tan color of the tussah silk, and is a very strong warp thread as well as weft. It has 2400 yards per lb., and comes on about 1/2 lb. tubes. Price is \$12.00 per lb. for this beautiful silk yarn. Limited to about 35 lbs. left on hand. Robin & Russ, 533 N. Adams St., McMinnville, Oregon 97128.

SHINY TAN RAYON WITH A GOLD TWIST

It comes on tubes of about 2 1/2 to 3 oz. each, on little cardboard tubes. It is a very shiny, glossy tan rayon almost the color of gold, with a gold metallic twist on the outside of it. A very nice accent yarn for many uses. Price is \$1.00 per tube, and we have about 150 tubes of this on hand.

