



warp and weft

Vol. XXXI, No. 8

October, 1978

warp and weft

Published monthly (except July and August) by
Robin & Russ Handweavers, 533 North Adams Street,
McMinnville, Oregon 97128

Subscription: \$8.00 per year
Back Issues 85¢ each plus 15¢ postage
Editor: Russell E. Groff

Vol. XXXI, No. 8

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A Word from the Editor

Yes, late again. And excuses being what they are, we hope you will forgive us, as, we are working on the next issue and it will go to the printer about two or three days after we take this issue to the printer.

Excuses. Well, we had a 6 week trip to England. Three of these were leading a handweaving tour of 16 persons, and enjoying every minute of it. There were many highlights, and I'll try and give you some of the details in this and later issues. Then, after the three week tour was over, I spent an additional 3 weeks in the British Isles, travelling and looking for bargains in threads. And, actually, I did not have as much luck this year, in finding them as I had in previous years.

Then, in 3 weeks at home in September, I worked like mad, trying to solve all of the problems that had come up in my absence, and really, was not very successful. In other words, I did not catch up. And, because of the fact that I had not been able to find as many threads as I hoped to in the British Isles, I took off for the south and northeastern part of the United States in early October, looking for more threads for the shop. Finally, together with what I found on this 10 day trip, and with what I found in England, I think that we will have enough threads for the coming year. Now, the problem will be to pay for them. They seem to be all coming in at once, and when they do this, it is very hard to satisfy everyone at once and pay for them immediately. I had hoped that there would be some delays in some of these, but so far, all of it seems to have been coming in at once, and all right after my return from the

eastern trip in the U.S.A. And, to top it off, a strep infection that I caught while back east, put me on my back for almost two weeks, so you can see that we are really behind.

I was so fortunate that Robin was able to fill in at the shop while I was away on these two trips and ill, but she has never written Warp and Weft, so this was delayed.

We do have the samples woven for this and the next two issues though, so hopefully, by the first of the year, perhaps we will again be on schedule.

What I can never understand is that as much as I try in the summer time to prepare in advance for these buying trips, I never seem to be able to get far enough ahead that there is no delay.

Enough of that. In England, this trip, and for the first time in 10 to 15 years of making an annual trip, I was able to do some sight-seeing, and I must say that I enjoyed it tremendously. This was because the tour that I was leading was a sightseeing tour. There were many highlights on this trip, and I won't be able to tell you about all of them in this or the next issue.

A visit to one of Scotland's leading textile designers, Mr. Bernat Klein, was most fascinating and stimulating. He was a most gracious host, and explained in great detail his color theories, his method of fabric designing, his work in designing threads and fabrics. He has a most beautiful 2 or 3 story, glass design studio on the top of a hill, outside of Galashiels, Scotland. It is worth the trip just to visit here, I think. And now, Mr. Klein has 9 dress or clothing shops for women in Scotland, and after the visit to his studio, we went to one of the mill shops in Galashiels, where he has a display of both his paintings, his fabrics, and many, many exciting pieces of wearing apparel. He does not stick to just weaving, but has much silk screening and fabric printing done for him, as well as the actual weaving of fabrics.

His fashion flair and styling, is most outstanding, and his is even now about to begin to expand to the U.S.A. I believe that his first fashion fabric store is soon to open somewhere in the Denver area of Colorado.

While we were there, he explained many details of his color theories, and he showed us some of his color charts, with perhaps as many as 10,000 different colors that he has worked with in his own, self-made color charts. It was an inspiration to see just this, and I know that this

must have taken years and years of active work to achieve the color guides that he now uses in his designing.

Mr. Klein is also an avid painter, and he specializes in working with a palette knife in his painting. He will do a large painting, perhaps 30"x40" is size, and then from this, he will take perhaps a 3" square, enlarge it, and develop weaving, silk screen, and printing designs from this enlarged portion of his painting.

And in great detail, he explained his color theory of matching the color of clothing you wear to the color of your eyes, and he showed us the 6 color guides that he developed for this use, and for resale. (We have them in our shop for \$2.95 each). One of these color guides (there are six in all) will somewhere have in it some of the color in your eyes, and then inside he gives suggestions for the color of clothing one should wear, and what colors the matching and blending accessories should be. It is a most fascinating theory, seems to work very well, and it was delightful to us, to have it explained so thoroughly to us.

Well, enough of the story for this time, and in the next issue, we'll give you a little more, of the many exciting experiences on our trip.

Russell E. Groff, *Editor*

This Month's Cover Photograph

I was greatly intrigued by this woven hammock, which was on display at the Northern California Handweavers Conference this year.

It was woven by Orla Poindexter, a member of the Diablo Weavers Guild in Northern California.

It is an 8 harness double weave, done in a polychrome effect, and each of the squares of color has been stuffed slightly, to make a more comfortable hammock.

I'm sorry I don't know what the threads are that were used, but they look about the weight of a carpet warp of a perle 3 cotton.

We've had a sample similar to this in *Drafts and Designs* showing this technique and use of color if any of you are interested in more details.

It was beautifully done, and was in the Diablo Weavers Guild booth at the last Northern California Handweavers Conference.

I do not know where Orla Poindexter got the idea for this, but it shows what you can produce if you use your imagination, and how satisfying your weaving can be, when you have results like this.

This Month's Book Review

We have just published the booklet entitled "ANCIENT EGYPTIAN AND GREEK LOOMS," written by H. Ling Roth, who was the curator of the Bankfield Museum in Halifax, England.

Actually, the book is written to tell about the collection of Greek and Ancient Egyptian weaving artifacts that is part of this museum. The first section is about Egyptian looms of the horizontal type. There are illustrations of these, and very interesting history and theory about them included in this section.

Next comes a section on vertical looms with more drawings and explanations, and after this section on portions of looms which have come down to us, and a description of all of these.

Then, there is a description and photograph of the linen girdle of Rameses III, and then a section is given on 15 specimens of mummy wrappings from various places in Egypt.

Next comes the portion of the booklet devoted to the Greek Loom, which is quite a bit different from the Egyptian ones.

Besides this, there are descriptions of the Scandinavian warp weighted loom found in the Copenhagen Museum, and an excellent diagram and details about an Icelandic loom. Then there are details about these and other looms.

TITLE: ANCIENT EGYPTIAN & GREEK LOOMS

AUTHOR: H. Ling Roth

PUBLISHER: Robin & Russ Handweavers

PRICE: \$5.95 plus postage

Note that this publication is a companion book to the other two which we have published, and which are entitled "Studies in Primitive Looms," by H. Ling Roth, and also *Handspinning and Wool Combing*, by Crowfoot and H. Ling Roth. All three are the same price, at \$5.95 each, and are all published in conjunction with Ruth Bean, and the Bankfield Museum in Halifax, England.

SUNKIST GOLD WOOL SUITING FABRIC

From our Jack Womersley workshop this summer, we took one of the patterns, and experimented with this 4 harness twill, and came up with this suiting fabric design.

TIE-UP DRAFT:

4	X			X		X
3			X	X	X	
2		X	X			X
1	X	X			X	
		1	2	3	4	A B
						5 6

NOTE: This is the tie-up for a counter balanced loom. You could fill in the draft with O's, where there are no X's, and that then would be the tie-up for a jack-type loom.

THREADING DRAFT:

Please note that there are 28 threads in each pattern repeat.

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

WARP:

Two threads are used in the warp and they are different. The main thread is a 2/18 worsted, and the accent thread is one of the new silk and polyester blend yards that we've imported from England.

- X — 2/18's worsted, color #32, Antique Gold
- O — Silk & Polyester blend, color #4, Sienna Brown

WEFT:

Two threads are used in the weft, and one is a 2/18's worsted, color #17, Sunkiss Gold, and the other is the same silk and polyester blend, color #4, Sienna Rust, as was used in the warp.

REED USED:

A 12 dent reed was used, and it was double sleyed, 2 ends per dent, or 24 threads per inch. This was for both of the threads in the warp.

WIDTH & LENGTH, BEFORE AND AFTER WEAVING

Our 13 yard warp was set up 40" wide on the loom. From this length of warp, we received 4" shy of 12 yards of finished fabric, and in the weaving, this came down from 40" width to 38" width on the finished fabric.

Sample



TREADLING SEQUENCE

1. Treadle # 3 — Sunkiss Gold
2. Treadle # 2 — Sunkiss Gold
3. Treadle # 1 — Sunkiss Gold
4. Treadle # 2 — Sunkiss Gold
5. Treadle # 3 — Sunkiss Gold
6. Treadle # 4 — Sienna Brown Silk & Poly.
7. Treadle # 3 — Sunkiss Gold
8. Treadle # 2 — Sunkiss Gold
9. Treadle # 1 — Sunkiss Gold

10. Treadle # 2 — Sunkiss Gold
11. Treadle # 3 — Sunkiss Gold
12. Treadle # 1 — Sienna Brown Silk & Poly.
13. Treadle # 2 — Sienna Brown Silk & Poly.

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

FINISHING OF THIS FABRIC:

My suggestion for the finishing of this fabric before making up is to wash it in luke-warm to hot water, and use a good soap like lux or ivory. Then rinse it thoroughly, allow it to drip dry, and then steam press. It should then be ideal for the making of suits, coats, skirts, and other clothing items.

MORE ABOUT THE FABRIC:

In many cases, you are told not to mix different type threads in the warp or weft as we did in this fabric. However, there were absolutely no problems with this particular mixture of threads.

The only problems that we did meet, was that once in a while, the silk and polyester thread might have a knot in it. When it did, we would wind a new thread on a spool, hang it over the back beam, and put it in as a substitute for the knotted thread, until the original thread was long enough to put back in without tying a knot.

In the 13 yard warp, there were about 2 or 3 threads of the 2/18's that broke in the entire length of weaving. We did the same with these, replacing until the original threads were long enough to put back in without tying a knot.

On our original sample, we wove this so that we had a squared design. However, on the larger sample, the full 40" wide on the loom, we could not get it exactly squared in the weaving as we had done on the narrower sample. So, we wove it, and you see the finished result. It is slightly off the square, and as a result, in making clothing, might be a little harder to match the

patterns than if it were square. Also, we did change out original threadling just slightly, so that it would be more of a squared fabric rather than a rectangular fabric.

In many cases, we use a stretcher or temple on a fabric to keep it wider in the weaving. However, this sample did not seem to take up so much in the width when being woven, so we did not use a temple on this one.

This 2/18's worsted is one of the top quality worsted yarns available, and it seems particularly easy to weave with, without too many broken threads, and we do recommend it highly. And, this is the 2nd or 3rd time, we have combined the silk and polyester with other threads, and had no problems. The only problem is that we are getting low in the amounts of colors of the silk and polyester, while we still do have a fairly large quantity of it in the white. I think that the combination of the two threads in the fabric seems to give it an added depth and appearance to the fabric that we would not have achieved, if we had used another wool thread in place of the silk and polyester blend thread.

COST OF THE THREADS USED:

Our 2/18's worsteds come in 39 colors and are the equivalent of botany worsted. It has approximately 4800 yards per lb., and most of the colors are on approximately 1/2 lb. cones, while a few colors are on 1 lb. cones. We have just received a new shipment of some of the colors, and have about 10 colors on order. This now sells at \$12.00 per lb., or \$6.00 per 1/2 lb. tube.

The silk and polyester blend, we have a total of 7 colors in it at present, and a large stock of white. It sells for \$8.80 per lb., and come on about 1 lb cones, or slightly less. Our most popular color in this was a brown, and we do have more of this being dyed to order in the British Isles.

COST OF THE FABRIC:

In the warp, we used 1 lb. 11 oz. of the 2/18's worsted, Antique Gold, and 6 oz. of the Sienna Brown silk and polyester. At \$12.00 per lb., the 2/18's warp cost was \$20.25. And the 6 oz. of silk and polyester at \$8.80 per lb., comes to \$3.30. So, the total warp cost was \$23.55 for the 13 yard warp, 40" wide on the loom. This makes the warp cost per yard to be \$1.82 per yard.

In the weft, we used 1 lb. 15 oz. of the Sunkiss Orange 2/18's worsted, and at \$12.00 per lb. this comes to \$23.25. And, we used 15 oz. of the silk and polyester blend in the Sienna Brown, at \$8.80 per lb., this cost came to \$8.25. Thus, the total weft cost for almost 12 yards of fabric came to \$31.50, and thus the weft cost per yard for 12 yards was \$2.63 per yard.

Thus, the total fabric cost per yard comes to \$4.45 per yard.

Warp Cost per Yard, 40" wide	\$1.82
Weft Cost per Yard, 12 yards	2.63
Fabric cost per yard, 38" wide	\$4.45
X — 2/18's worsted, color #32, Antique Gold	
O — 3 ply silk and polyester, color #4, Sienna Brown	

NOTE:

All of the shuttle craft handweavers guild monographs are available, including the two latest ones just written. There has just recently been an increase in price for these of \$1.00 per copy over the old prices. If anyone is interested in a listing of these, we will be glad to send you one free of charge. These are the Shuttle-Craft Guild Monographs originally started by Harriet Tidball.

A Second Book Review This Month

There is such a demand for plans for persons to build their own looms, that I wanted to call your attention to a new book on the market. It is entitled, "LOOM CONSTRUCTION," and is written by Jeri Hjert and Paul Von Rosenstiel.

This book contains the complete plans for 5 different looms, and it states that you can build these at about one third to one half of the retail price of comparable looms.

It has plans for two different table looms, an inkle loom, a tapertry loom, and a four harness jack-type floor loom. Besides these loom plans are also the necessary details for making some of your accessories such as stick, boat, and inkle shuttles, warping boards, benches, and other items essential to the handweaver.

In looking over this book thoroughly, it seems as though the plans for each of the looms is very complete. They are very detailed, step by step procedures given for each stage of making these looms, and many, many different diagrams of drawings are given to explain you procedures in great detail. And, a sort of extra bonus is that after each of the plans for the various looms are given, then there is a section giving some basic instruction of setting up and doing a few projects on each of these looms.

This book is available in a paperback edition at \$7.95 or a hard-bound edition at \$11.95.

I think that the two authors have done quite a good job.

TITLE: Loom Construction

AUTHORS: Hjert and Von Rosenstiel

PUBLISHER: Van Nostrand Reinhold

PRICE: paperback-\$7.95 plus shipping
hardbound-\$11.95 plus shipping

AVAILABLE: It is available direct from the publisher or from Robin & Russ Handweavers if desired.

Yarn Dyers, Attention:

We do have about 5 sizes of natural wool, in skeins available. We have a very nice quality smooth, soft, knitting worsted available at \$5.60 per lb. We have a 2/8's worsted, not as nice a quality as the knitting worsted, but good and strong smooth wool at \$5.60 per lb. We have a single ply fairly fine, roving type wool on 1/2 lb. cones, at \$6.00 per lb. It is a soft, nice, quality. We have another strong 6/4's worsted, which is an import from Australia at \$5.60 per lb. And, we have natural, single ply donegal tweed and one or two others for your dyeing processes. Write for samples if you are interested in 100% wool for vegetable or chemical dyeing. ROBIN & RUSS HANDWEAVERS, 533 No. Adams St., McMinnville, Oregon 97128.

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING

Why not advertise your old loom, duplicate equipment, and other such items in this section. Price per 5-line ad is \$6.00. Payment to accompany your advertising copy.

LOOP WOOL, NATURAL WITH A SLIGHT BRUSHED EFFECT

Just in from Scotland, this one has approximately 600 to 650 yards per lb. It came on cones of about 2 lbs. each, so we can wind off 1/2 lb. tubes if you wish. The price is \$9.60 per lb. or \$4.80 per 1/2 lb. of 325 yards. Robin & Russ, 533 N. Adams St., McMinnville, Ore. 97128.

20/2 NATURAL DURENE COTTON, MERCERIZED

We have a limited amount of this on sale at \$3.20 per lb., on about 3 lb. cones, in the natural, mercerized color. It is on sale at this price only when sold by the whole cone. If you just want 1/2 lb. or 1 lb. of it, then we have to wind it, and the time involved makes us have to ask \$2.40 per 1/2 lb. tube or \$4.80 per lb. when you order less than 1 lb. Robin & Russ Handweavers, 533 No. Adams St., McMinnville, Oregon 97128.

24/2 NATURAL DURENE COTTON, MERCERIZED

Yes, besides the 20/2, we also have a limited amount of the 24/2 Natural Mercerized Durene on sale at \$3.20 per lb. This price only applies when a whole cone is ordered. If you want 1/2 lb. or 1 lb., then it is \$2.40 per 1/2 lb. tube, or \$4.80 per lb. We have perhaps 25 of each of these two sizes available. Robin & Russ Handweavers, 533 No. Adams St., McMinnville, Ore. 97128.

ASHFORD SPINNING WHEEL, JUMBO HEAD

for spinning those extremely heavy threads on your Ashford Spinning Wheel. These are made by the Ashford Company, and all you need to do to put this on your Ashford Wheel is to take out 2 screws, and then put them back on with the new head. The new Jumbo Flyer Unit spins soft, bulky wool by lowering the ratio of twists. It fits all of the traditional Ashfords made since 1965. This unit consists of a jumbo flyer, 4 jumbo bobbins and upright with large hole. The orifice on this new unit is 5/8's inch, while the standard is 3/8's inch. The jumbo eye is half-inch while the standard is 5/16's. And the new larger bobbins will hold 8 oz. of yarns while the older ones would hold just 3 to 4 oz. Price is \$29.50 plus shipping. Robin & Russ Handweavers, 533 No. Adams St., McMinnville, Oregon 97128.

2 PLY, NATURAL, LAMB'S WOOL, ANGORRA RABBIT AND NYLON

in a soft warp thread, about 14/2 in size. It is 63% Lamb's Wool, 22% Angorra, and 15% Nylon, and can be used for either warp or weft. Comes on 2 1/2 to 3 lb. cones, and is \$6.00 per lb., by the cone. One 1/2 lb. tubes, it is \$3.40 per 1/2 lb. tube. Has approximately 3600 yards per lb. Good warp at approx. 20 ends per inch. Robin & Russ Handweavers, 533 No. Adams St., McMinnville, Oregon 97128.

NATURAL BLACK ALPACA WITH KEMP

This single ply yarn has approximately 1200 yards per lb. You should be able to use it for warp as well as weft. Price is \$6.00 per lb. on about 1 lb. cones. It is an English import. Robin & Russ, 533 No. Adams St., McMinnville, Ore. 97128.

6/2 SPUN RAYON WARP, IN A LIGHT TAN AND A LIGHT GOLD COLOR

I purchased this as it seems a very tight twist, and an excellent warp as well as weft thread. Approximately 2500 yards per lb., on about 1 1/2 lb. cones, a very, very good but at \$3.20 per lb. Excellent Warp. Robin & Russ Handweavers, 533 No. Adams St., McMinnville, Oregon 97128.

12 COLORS IN BRUSHED WOOL, 9 IN VARIEGATED COLORS, PLUS NATURAL, WHITE, AND TAN.

We are making a sample sheet of these 12 colors, and if interested, send a self-addressed stamped envelope, and we will send you one. About 950 to 1000 yards per lb. On 1/2 lb. tubes, and the price is \$8.00 per 1/2 lb. tube. Robin & Russ Handweavers, 533 No. Adams St., McMinnville, Ore. 97128.

LUMINEX, FINE, METALLIC BOUCLE IN 8 COLORS

This is a very nice lurex metallic boucle, fine weight, with 500 yards per tube. Price is \$1.95 per tube. Sample sheets being prepared on these. If you'd like samples, send a self-addressed stamped envelope, and we will send you a sample sheet. Robin & Russ Handweavers, 533 No. Adams St., McMinnville, Oregon 97128.

ANCIENT EGYPTIAN AND GREEK LOOMS

by H. Ling Roth. Just republished by Robin & Russ Handweavers. And it contains excellent drawings, diagrams, and details of many of these ancient looms. It is reprinted in conjunction with the Bankfield Museum in England. Price is \$5.95 plus postage. Robin & Russ Handweavers, 533 No. Adams St., McMinnville, Oregon 97128. This book is a companion book to the other two publications in this same series, STUDIES IN PRIMITIVE LOOMS, and also HANDSPINNING AND HAND WOOD COMBING by Crowfoot and Roth. All three are priced at \$5.95 plus shipping.

TWILLS AND TWILL DERIVATIVES

by Lucille Landis. This continues to be one of the best sellers in books. Has 150 Black and White Photographs and nearly 300 patterns for 4 and 8 harnesses. The price is \$8.00 plus shipping. Robin & Russ Handweavers, 533 No. Adams St., McMinnville, Oregon 97128.

JACQUARD WOVEN PICTURES OF BIRDS OR ANIMALS FROM ENGLAND

These beautiful pictures of birds or animals are woven of silk and rayon, and are so realistic, many many do not realize that they are woven until they look closely. These are also framed in a very nice frame, ready for hanging. We purchased 10 from England, and have more on the way. Price is \$25.00 plus shipping. These are similar to the famous Stevenographs, woven scenes of 100 years ago, which sell for \$100.00 to \$200.00 each. Robin & Russ, 533 No. Adams, McMinnville, Oregon 97128.

BEAUTIFUL BOBBIN LACE BOBBINS FROM SWITZERLAND

These beautiful bobbins are available in Walnut, Rosewood, or Palisander wood. Have a very nice finish and are beautifully made. Price is \$3.50 each for these exotic wood bobbins. Robin & Russ, 533 No. Adams St., McMinnville, Oregon 97128.

The Weaver's Marketplace

warp and weft
 533 NORTH ADAMS STREET
 McMinnville, OREGON 97128

<p><i>John Tovey's</i></p> <p>WEAVES AND PATTERN DRAFTING</p> <p>This is an excellent study for the serious weaver, with outstanding directions for understanding various weaves and pattern drafting.</p> <p>\$11.95 plus shipping</p> <p>ROBIN & RUSS HANDWEAVERS 533 N. Adams St. McMinnville, Oregon 97128</p>	
<p><i>Paula Simmon's</i></p> <p>RAISING SHEEP THE MODERN WAY</p> <p>One of the most interesting and informative books you will ever find on this subject. Most interesting reading, even to those not interested in raising sheep. This soft-covered book is most outstanding.</p> <p>\$5.95 plus shipping</p> <p>ROBIN & RUSS HANDWEAVERS 533 N. Adams St. McMinnville, Oregon 97128</p>	
<p>Compact Folding</p> <p>NORWOOD LOOMS</p>	<p>Five Widths 16" — 22" — 30" — 40" — 50"</p> <p>Made of Cherry</p> <p>The Norwood Loom Co. P. O. Box 167 Fremont, Michigan 49412</p>
<p>16 HARNESS PATTERNS The Fanciest Twills Of All</p> <p>Written and compiled by Irene Kl Wood of Minneapolis, Minnesota, this book has 150, 16 harness patterns, a photograph of each, and weaving directions.</p> <p>\$8.95 plus shipping</p> <p>ROBIN & RUSS HANDWEAVERS 533 N. Adams St. McMinnville, Oregon 97128</p>	

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