

warp and weft

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Editor: Russell E. Groff

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A Word from the Editor

Lots of things always seem to happen in between issues of Warp and Weft. Of course here in Oregon, the biggest thing is the eruption of Mt. St. Helens, which is just 83 miles as the crow flies from our shop.

Luckily, we are south of the mountain, and most of the effects of this "blow-up" were felt north and northeast of the mountain. From the pictures of what we see, the results of this are so bad it is hard to even accept them. We in McMinnville had one day of volcanic ash. The prevailing winds here blow from the south, southwest, to the north and northeast, and it is only because of this that we have not been seriously affected.

Janice (our daughter) lives in Tigard, and one day she had problems with quite a bit of volcanic ash, and they were inside one whole day. It was so dark from the ash in the air, and the driving that day was 15 miles per hour. Most of the stores and businesses were all closed there also.

It is hard to believe that the Mt. St. Helens is now about 2,000 feet and more lower than it was before the eruption; and when you see pictures of it before and after, you can certainly understand where all of the volcanic ash came from.

I feel so sorry for those areas that had so much ash, like Yakima and Ritzville, Washington, and hope and hope that nothing else like this happens again.

That is way off the subject of weaving, so I must get back to it.

I want to mention that my response to my inquiry for weavers was so great that I have just not had a chance yet to answer everyone who said they would like to weave or be willing to weave the samples for us for Warp and Weft and Drafts and Designs. As soon as I finish this, I will be working on some experimental weaving for Warp and Weft and for Drafts and Designs, which I have put on the loom. These are our samples we always weave before we do the 14-yard length that is required for Warp and Weft.

We have one Warp and Weft miniature over-shot sample on the loom that will eventually be in it, and also another Drafts and Design sample in progress. So far, we have chosen one person to do some weaving for us and have given her a project, and we will also choose two or three others, and see if we can get caught up during this summer vacation.

Luckily, this year we have not scheduled a workshop, nor will I be away at any more conventions; so I think this will proceed fairly well the next two months.

And with a slow-down in business that all weaving shops seem to be experiencing, that will give us more time to do the experimental weaving and samples for the two bulletins.

Also during this past month, we have been working on sending out samples to our mailing list. We try to do this once or twice a year, and it is a tremendous task, as we have about 7,000 names to send two sample sheets to.

When a person purchases a set of our samples, we automatically add their name to our mailing list and send them samples at least once a year for a 5-year period. And, if we can, we sometimes send them two different mailings, or four sample sheets a year.

Because of raises in costs, we've had to raise the cost of a set of our samples to \$2.25, and now it takes about \$1.25 to \$1.50 to just mail them. So, we've had to revise our sample sheet costs to \$2.25 plus \$1.50

postage. We hate to do this, but with increased costs in labor, in printing and yarns, and a 50% increase in scotch tape for example, and others, we just have to do this.

Also, we are still opening the boxes of our last shipment of yarns from England. Our last shipment was 133 cartons, or one full container, and it is a tremendous task to open all of these, mark the yarns accordingly, and store them in the right places. We have probably opened about 65 to 70 boxes so far, and have tried to avoid opening the boxes with more of the same yarns in them. We have four more sample sheets of these yarns at the printers, and will probably have four more to go after those are finished.

Some days it is almost like Christmas every day when you have packages to open and new yarns to enjoy.

Also, since the last issue, I did go to the Northern California Handweavers Conference, while Robin and Janice ran the shop while I was away at this. I'm just about caught up from that, but still Warp and Weft suffers. The next three weeks will be dedicated to getting caught up on Warp and Weft.

Russell E. Groff, *Editor*

This Month's Cover Photograph:

The cover this month is of an interesting, padded or stuffed (whatever you want to call it) double-weave in an interesting color blending. Note that the threads are all smooth, to help make the technique that much more distinctive.

If I have room, I'll show you another picture of the wall hanging itself. If we do not get it in this issue, we will feature it again in a later issue.

This was displayed at the "NORTHERN CALIFORNIA HANDWEAVERS CONFERENCE," which was just held at Fresno, California, in April of this year. It was woven by Frances McSweeney of the Loom & Shuttle Handweavers Guild.

This Month's Book Review:

There is a new publication out which was written by Jean Wilson, who has written such books as WEAVING IS FOR EVERYONE, WEAVING YOU CAN WEAR, WEAVING YOU CAN USE, THE PILE WEAVES, and others.

This new book lets all weavers know that they can plan and weave clothing for themselves. As a result of wanting to tell this to the beginning and the advanced weaver, Jean Wilson has come up with this new book entitled: WEAVE WITH STYLE.

There is quite a bit in this new book, and there are subjects covered that the weaver normally does not think about. There is a section about style and fashion. A section of notes and thoughts is given on weaving handwovens.

One of the important sections is the one entitled "Total Design and Handcraft Finishes," in which she gives you ideas as to how to plan, how to measure the loom shaped garments, facts about fabrics both on the loom and off the looms. Construction of clothing is covered in this book. I kind of like what Jean Wilson says, that the intent of this book about handwoven clothing is to: 1) Emphasize style and not fashion. 2) Present an approach to planning and choosing different weaves for clothing. 3) Provide a starting point and to act as a guide for one to make wearable handwovens. 4) Give pointers on the planning and the actual weaving of some woven garments. 5) To try and encourage one to go much further than is covered in this book, and to be yourself in the planning, weaving, and making of woven garments.

She says that each picture and illustration has been chosen to emphasize a point regarding planning and doing, and this book is to suggest the various directions one can pursue in making up loom shaped and also woven garments.

Actually, there are three books in this series altogether. Besides this one by Jean

(continued on page 5)

WARP RASCAL

This sample was inspired by a sample from "The Contemporary Handweavers of Texas" bulletin. While it looks completely different than theirs, it is the same pattern they used with different warp and weft threads and a different treadling.

We have done this sample to suggest the use of this for a lap robe or car robe, or a couch throw.

WARP:

3/2 Worsted, in a color called tide-pool green.

WEFT:

Our weft is the 3/2 Worsted, also in a color called Kelly green.

REED USED:

A 10 dent reed was used, and it was single sleyed, one end per dent, or 10 ends per inch.

THREADING DRAFT:

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

TREADLING SEQUENCE:

There are 8 shots in each complete treadling repeat. Repeat over and over as desired. Here is the sequence:

1. Treadle #2 — Kelly Green Worsted
2. Treadle #1 — Kelly Green Worsted
3. Treadle #2 — Kelly Green Worsted
4. Treadle #3 — Kelly Green Worsted
5. Treadle #4 — Kelly Green Worsted
6. Treadle #3 — Kelly Green Worsted
7. Treadle #4 — Kelly Green Worsted
8. Treadle #3 — Kelly Green Worsted

End of one complete pattern repeat. Do repeat over and over as desired. On your last pattern repeat of your fabric, to make the pattern balance, be sure to treadle 2 - 1 - 2 with the Kelly Green Worsted to balance the pattern.

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TIE UP DRAFT:

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

X—tie-up for Counter-balanced looms.

O—tie-up for Jack-type looms.

LENGTH AND WIDTH OF WARP BEFORE AND AFTER:

We had a 14-yard warp on the loom, and it was 40" wide on the loom. From this 14-yard length, we received 12½ yards of finished fabric.

Our width was 40" on the original set-up, and when finished, it wove down to 35" wide when off the loom. This was woven by a weaver with not too much experience, and if she had had more experience, she would have used a stretcher or temple, and had a fabric about 38" to 39" from this width warp.

Sample



MORE ABOUT THE THREAD USED:

We have 7 colors on hand in this 3/2 worsted yarn from England. The colors are Tide-pool green, Sea-urchin Purple, Sea-lavender, Misty Grey, Camel Down, Tansy Gold, and Fire Engine Red. This yarn is in skeins of about 1/2 lb. each, and it seems to have about 950 yards per pound. Actually, on checking on all 7 of the colors, I see it has from 850 to 950 yards per pound, depending upon the color. And hurrah! The price is a most reasonable one at \$8.00 per pound.

COST OF THE FABRIC:

In our 14-yard warp, we used 7 pounds, 1/2 ounce of the Tide-pool green color in our warp. So, our warp cost was \$56.25 for the 14-yard warp, 40" wide on the loom. This made the cost per yard come to \$4.02 per yard.

In the weft, we used 7 pounds 11 ounces of the weft thread, so the total weft cost was \$61.50, and we received a total of 12 yards 18 inches of finished fabric. So, dividing the total cost by the number of yards of finished fabric, we find that the weft cost is \$4.90 per yard.

Warp cost per yard	\$4.02
Weft cost per yard	<u>4.90</u>
FABRIC COST PER YARD	\$8.92

MORE ABOUT THE FABRIC:

This 3/2 worsted is a little bit fuzzy, so you want to be sure not to sett too close. We wove a sample first with 12 epi, but found that too close, and that the warp tended to cling together.

Even at 10 ends per inch, if you do a plain weave, you will find this close, and fairly hard to weave. If you weave a twill or pattern variation at 10 ends per inch, it is much easier than if you want to do a plain weave. If you want a plain weave with this 3/2 worsted, it should be done in 8 or 9 ends per inch.

This fabric was evidently fairly easy to weave. It was woven by a weaver with not too much experience, and she didn't have much trouble, except in the weaving down

of the width. If you do weave an all-over pattern without a tabby like this one, then your fabric will often weave down to about five or six inches narrower than what it is set-up in the reed, as did this sample. However, this is when you should use a temple, and it would then give you only one or two inches of loss in the width.

On this fabric, our weaver used a double beat. First she opened the shed, beat, and then changed to the next shed, and beat again.

Also, I think that this is a little too coarse a thread for this pattern. If you use finer threads and sett closer than this, I think you have a resulting nicer fabric. And there are several other treadling variations that work on this weave. I'll give you two other treadling sequences that I liked with this pattern. Each number will represent one shot of weft.

Treadle 3, 4, 3, 2, 1, 2, 1, 2.

Treadle 3, 4, 3, 2, 1, 2, 1, 2, 1, 2, 1, 2.

If you have a finer thread and more threads per inch, then you have less float threads or less length in the float threads, and thus have a more practical fabric.

This Month's Book Review

(Continued from page 3)

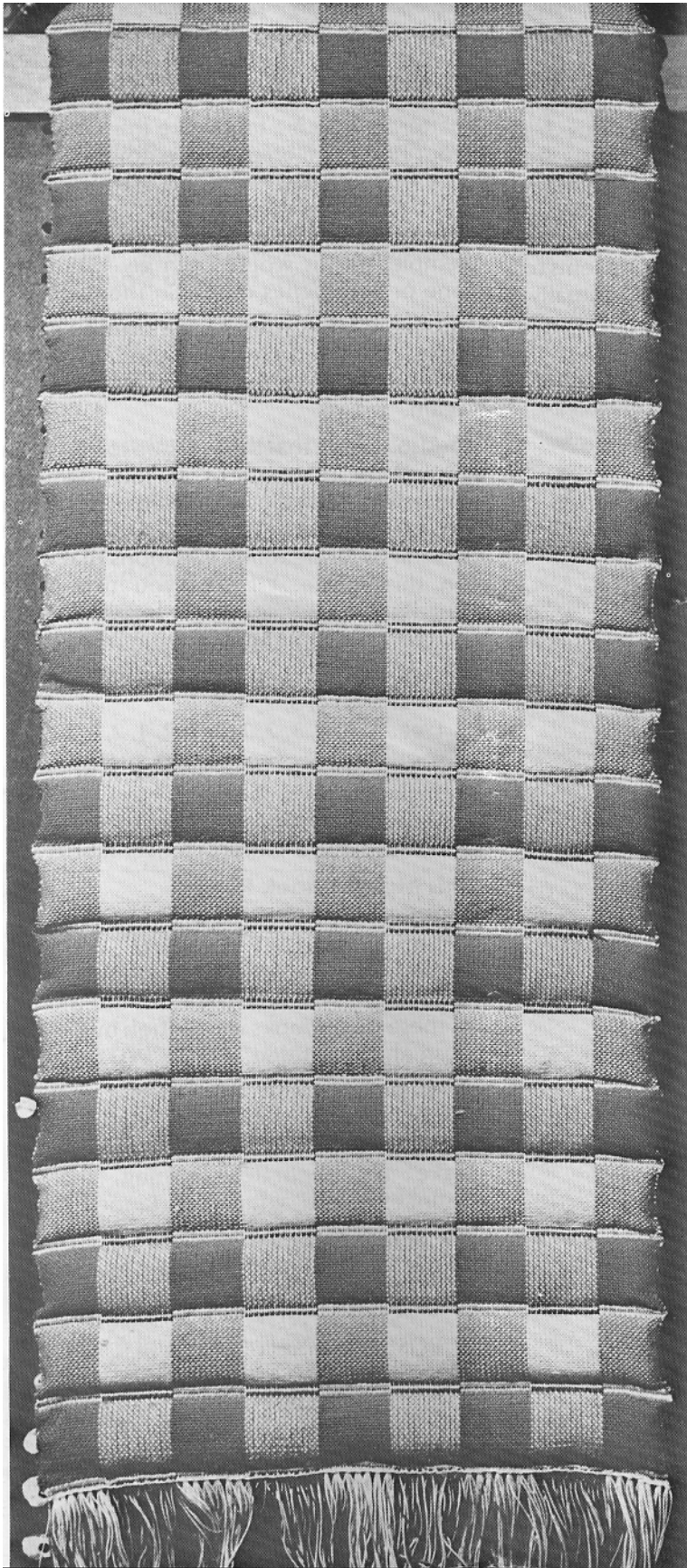
Wilson, entitled WEAVE WITH STYLE; the second one is by Ferne Geller Cone, and it is entitled KNIT WITH STYLE. And the last of these three books was written by Beverly Rush and is entitled STITCH WITH STYLE.

All three of the authors of the three books in this series are well known teachers, and their aim is to show how to make or decorate clothing that is distinctive, and which is planned for a specific person.

TITLE: WEAVE WITH STYLE, by Jean Wilson
KNIT WITH STYLE, Ferne G. Cone
STITCH WITH STYLE, Beverly Rush
PUBLISHER: MADRONA PUBLICATIONS,
Seattle.

COST: Each book is \$7.95, and all three of them are paperbound.

AVAILABLE: From Robin and Russ, 533 North Adams St., McMinnville, OR 97128.



This is an overall view of the padded, double-weave wall hanging that is featured on this month's cover of *Warp and Weft*.

It was woven by Frances McSweeney of the Loom and Shuttle Handweavers Guild.

It was very striking and should be most interesting to many persons who are not handweavers and do not know how to weave such fabrics.

The light that comes through the pegboard on which this is mounted is very distracting to this fabric, which is beautifully done.

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.

FOUR COLORS IN 3-PLY FRENCH SILK NOIL.

We had advertised three colors of this, and when opening our shipment from England, we found another in this 3-ply silk noil. The three colors we advertised were on sample sheet #248; and they were MEADOW-LARK BROWN MIXED WITH NATURAL, BLUE-BIRD BLUE MIXED WITH NATURAL, and SUCCULENT GREEN MIXED WITH NATURAL. This fourth color is a RUST BROWN MIXED WITH NATURAL. This is all on about 1-lb. cones, seems to have 1100 yards per lb., and can be used for warp or weft. The price is \$13.60 per lb. Seems to be liked by those who have purchased and woven with it. Robin & Russ, 533 N. Adams St., McMinnville, Oregon 97128.

2 NATURAL SILK NOILS

One a 3-ply and the other a 4-ply. The 3-ply has about 1350 yards per pound, comes on 14 oz. cones, and is \$13.60 per lb. The 4-ply natural is called "Crane-White," and it has about 1650 yards per pound. It came on 14 to 18-oz. cones, and it too is \$13.60. Both of these can be used for warp or weft. Robin & Russ, 533 No. Adams St., McMinnville, OR 97128.

12 colors in SCoured AND UNSCoured, BLENDED YARN FROM ENGLAND.

It is 25% ALPACA, 25% MOHAIR, 30% WOOL, and 20% NYLON, in a 2-ply yarn for warp or weft. There are five shades of washed and scoured yarn, and seven colors which are spun in oil and still have the oil in them. The washed and scoured yarn is \$9.60 per lb., the yarn in oil is \$8.00 per lb., all are on about 1-lb. cones, and have approximately 1600 yards per pound. It can be used for warp or weft, and I'd suggest a setting of 16 epi, 2 per dent in an 8 dent reed. Write for a free sample sheet. All colors are natural, beiges, and greys. Robin & Russ, 533 North Adams St., McMinnville, OR 97128.

24/2 LUSTERITE MERCERIZED COTTON in 6 COLORS

There is a nice medium light blue, a light yellow green, 2 different shades of lavender, and there are 6 colors. The colors are Lavender, Frosty Pink, Baby Blue, Mauve, Buttercup, and Icicle Pink. On cones of about 2 to 3 lbs. each. If ordered by the cone, a special price of \$4.00 per lb. If you just want 1/2 lb. or 1 lb., we will have to wind it, and it is \$3.00 per 1/2-lb. tube. Excellent for warp or weft. And a good, good buy at \$4.00 per lb. Robin & Russ, 533 North Adams St., McMinnville, OR 97128.

2-PLY, NATURAL, 63% LAMB'S WOOL, 22% ANGORA, and 15% NYLON.

This nice, soft natural can be used for warp or weft. It came on about 2 1/2 to 3-lb. cones, and has about 4,000 yards per pound; and we can wind off 1/2-lb. tubes if you want less than a cone. This is from Belgium and is a very nice quality yarn. Robin & Russ, 533 North Adams St., McMinnville, Oregon 97128. \$6.00 per lb.

THREE HEAVY, PLIED BERBER WOOLS.

Actually, two of these are 3-ply, and one of them is braided about the same size as the 3-ply. It seems to have about 200 to 250 yards per pound, came on about one-lb. cones, and is \$6.40 per pound. The colors are VARIEGATED NATURAL, BRAIDED BEIGE, and the third is COFFEE BEAN BROWN. These are all slightly variegated colors or blended shades of the same color, as are most Berber yarns. Robin & Russ, 533 North Adams St., McMinnville, Oregon 97128.

60% TUSSAH SILK, 40% WOOL

In a single ply yarn that can be used for warp or weft. This blend is from England and has the tannish tussah silk color. It has 1450 yards per pound, and is \$6.80 per pound. Robin & Russ, 533 North Adams St., McMinnville, Oregon 97128.

6-STRAND COTTON FLOSS SPECIAL

We have 5 colors on sale at \$6.00 per lb. of 6-strand cotton floss. A bright red, a silver tan, a bright orange, a dark avocado green, and a light fuchsia, all on cones. Regular price seems to be about \$16.00 per lb. now. Some of this is on skeins, and 2 colors are on about 1-lb. cones. Shipping extra. Robin & Russ Handweavers, 533 North Adams St., McMinnville, OR 97128.

16/2 COTTON, NATURAL and CELADON GREEN and MUSTARD YELLOW.

This is unmercerized cotton in these 3 colors, at \$4.80 per lb. The Celadon Green is a light grey green, and very nice; and the mustard yellow is a yellow, fairly bright, with a touch of mustard. It has about 6500 yards per lb., can be used for warp or weft, and is a good buy. About 50 lbs. of each of the 3 available. Robin & Russ, 533 North Adams St., McMinnville, Oregon 97128.

5/2 SPUN RAYON, IN NATURAL, IN WHITE, and IN BLACK.

This is a very nice quality rayon for either warp or weft. It has about 2,000 plus yards per lb., comes on about 1/2-lb. skeins, and is \$4.80 per lb. A comparable cotton in the same size is now \$12.00 per lb. About 50 lbs. of each of these three colors, and remember \$4.80 per lb. Robin & Russ, 533 North Adams St., McMinnville, Oregon 97128.

SHEEPSCOAT #2, NATURAL WORSTED WOOL FLAKE

This is almost identical to Sheepscot #1, from Belding-Lily. It came to us on cones of about 1 1/2 lbs., and in skeins of about 14 to 18 oz. each. Price is most reasonable for this exotic yarn. A beautiful quality wool, with very, very thick slubs and thin spots. About \$5.00 per lb. below the normal market price. We have about 100 lbs. on hand. The price is \$9.60 per lb., and I've been seeing it on sale for \$7.00 per 1/2-lb. skein. Robin & Russ, 533 No. Adams St., McMinnville, Oregon 97128

100% NATURAL COTTON SEINE TWINE

Excellent for warp on tapestry and frame looms, and it has about 450 yards per lb. We have about 50 lbs. at \$4.80 per lb. while it lasts. Also excellent for macrame and many other techniques. Robin & Russ, 533 No. Adams St., McMinnville, OR 97128.

The Weaver's Marketplace

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Compact Folding NORWOOD LOOMS	Five Widths 16" — 22" — 30" — 40" — 50" Made of Cherry The Norwood Loom Co. P. O. Box 167 Fremont, Michigan 49412
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