



# warp and weft

Vol. XXXIII, No. 6

June, 1980

## 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. XXXIII, No. 6

June, 1980

---

### A Word from the Editor

Yes, this is the June issue, and it brings us up to date for the first time in a long time. Now, I'll work on the September issue and other issues for this year, and try to keep up to date.

We are still behind 2 issues in Drafts and Designs, but now I can concentrate on this for the next few weeks and get up to date on everything.

I guess that I just try to do too many things, and so this year, have cut down some and only attended one convention, and we are having no summer workshop for the first time in 10 to 12 years. And, I'm catching up, and that was the reason some of these cut-backs.

The thing that I like best, is that I've been able to plan some projects in advance, and actually get them started, and this is the first time that I've been able to do this in many years.

And, we'll have to face facts. I'm now 55 years young, but somehow or other, I seem to have slowed down from what I used to do. If only I could have stuck to that diet last year!!!!

We are so enjoying our new home on the hill. Every day, we observe more of nature. Yesterday, on the way to work, two deer were seen alongside the road and I slowed down, and sure enough, one of them jumped right in the middle of the road. And on the way home last evening from work, I had to stop because there were 4 deer right in the middle of the road, and they were right between two cherry orchards. We have 2 families of

goldfinches, that we observe every evening when we eat our dinner on the small front enclosed porch we have. Besides these, we watch the valley quail, the song sparrows, and the swallows every day. This morning on the way to work, a beautiful ringneck pheasant flew across the road, and then right behind him came the female member of the family. I observed one farmer was harvesting his wheat. he is the first one that I've seen, and I think he is about a week or two ahead of most farmers.

The fields in the valley below our hill are a crazy patch-quilt of gold and green, now that the wheat, oats, and barley is ripening very quickly. Some of the fields are rows of filbert, english walnut, peach, cherry, and plum trees.

On the night of July 4th, I looked out the window after dark and watched firework displays from three different towns.

Robin loves the challenge of all the things that grow, the gophers that make her so mad, and she seems to thrive working in her garden and planting trees. She has planted 1,000 Douglas firs the past two winters, and quite a few other trees besides.

Janice too, seems to be enjoying the tasks of home-making. She has a nice apartment in Tigard, about 35 miles from the shop, and she commutes each day. She has taken up playing the flute after playing the clarinet in high school and college. She is now playing in a McMinnville city band during the summer, and she plays at 3 different church services on Sundays. And this is in 3 different churches, not the same one. Janice and Robin jog three times a week at the Amity High School track, and seem to enjoy this.

My hobbies of bowling and golfing and reading also keep me busy in the spare time.

No new yarns or changes in this month, but I have just gone overboard and ordered a tremendous lot of size 45/3 natural grey, Irish Linen. It is a line of quality linen, is wet spun, and will come to

us on 1 lb. cones. I did order this because it is such a good buy, and I'll be paying for it for the next several months, but there is so much we can do with this. It has 4500 yards per lb., and depending upon what it costs to have it 3 plied, we hope to see it for somewhere between \$8.00 and \$9.60 per lb. I have an experimental warp of this 45/3 on a loom right now, and it seems to be an outstanding quality yarn. The only way that I could swing this large lot was to be able to have the person whom I'm buying it from let me purchase it and make payments monthly until it is paid.

We did have one other nice item come in this month. It is a very nice wool tops in Romney from New Zealand, and it is available in one lb. bags, at \$8.00 per lb. The other wool top that came in was also from New Zealand, and it is a sort of natural tan heather blend of wools, in 1 lb. bundles, and it sell for \$6.00 per lb. Just 50 lbs. of these two.

Well, that word from the editor gets longer and longer, so I'd better stop.

Russell, E. Groff, *Editor*

## **This Month's Cover Photograph**

I enjoyed these drapes which were on display at the Northern California Handweavers Conference in Fresno, California this year.

The sign on it says "COTTON," and synthetics.

I think that the flake yarn in this would be a cotton flake, and it does create lots of interest in this fabric. And the lace weave used also is quite striking.

This fabric was in the display of the TRAMPORNAS WEAVERS GUILD, and was woven by Catherine Coleman.

It is too bad that I don't have time at this conference to write down the warp and weft threads used, and the type of weave that it is, but perhaps Catherine

Coleman will see this fabric or picture, and send us some of the details.

I'll try some of this new 45/3 raw grey linen that is coming in with a cotton flake we have and see what results I can come up with.

## **THIS MONTH'S BOOK REVIEW:**

This month, we want to tell you about a children's book relating to spinning and wool and sheep.

This is a book for children that range in age from about 7 to 12 years age. It could be read by the parents, or it could be a most interesting book for a child to read by himself.

The title of this book is "GIFT FROM A SHEEP," with a secondary title of "The Story of How Wool is Made." It was written by Alberta & Nicole Eiseman, and was illustrated by Tracy Sugarman.

It is the story of Jenny, whose neighbors raise sheep, and how one of the "bummers" (a lamb rejected by its parents) was given to her. It is the story of her raising the lamb to be a full grown sheep, and the problems connected with this. Then, they go further and shear the sheep, and then teach Jenny how to hand-spin on a hand-spindle. Then, this handspun yarn is taken and Jenny knits it into fabric for a poncho.

The story is very nicely done, and the illustrations are also very pleasant.

For anyone who has children, and room to raise a sheep, this is a very interesting book for them.

TITLE: GIFT FROM A SHEEP or The Story of how wool is made.

AUTHOR: Alberta Eiseman & Nicole Eiseman

PRICE: \$7.95 plus shipping & handling  
PUBLISHER: ATHENEUM PUBLISHERS,  
New York, New York

AVAILABLE: Available from Robin & Russ Handweavers, or from the publisher if desired.

M'S and O'S in a

## NATURAL LOOK

This delightful M's and O's weave provided us with a beautiful sample this time. Designed for coat fabric, winter skirts, and long, full, evening skirts for exciting occasions.

### THREADING DRAFT:

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

### KEY TO COLORS IN THE WARP:

O—12/2 white worsted  
X—18/2 natural worsted

### WARP THREADS USED:

We used two threads in the warp.

O—12/2 white worsted  
X—18/2 natural worsted

### WEFT THREADS USED:

In the weft, we used three different threads. They are as follows:

1. Natural, large loop wool
2. Sheepscot #2, which is a thick and thing flake wool
3. Dream white, a single ply, smooth fine, wool roving.

### REED USED:

A 10 dent reed was used, and it was double sleyed, 2 ends per dent, or 20 threads per inch.

### WIDTH AND LENGTH OF WARP WHEN STARTING TO WEAVE, AND AFTER WOVEN.

Our warp was set-up, 40" wide on the loom, and we had a 13 yard warp.

When woven and off the loom, it was 39½ to 39¾" wide. And there were 11 yards and 24" of fabric from our 13 yard warp.

### TIE UP DRAFT:

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

### Note About TIE-UP Draft:

You could use your standard tie-up draft if you wished, but in the interests of speed in weaving, we tied up only the 4 center treadles, and left untied, one treadle on each the left and the right.

### Sample



### TREADING SEQUENCE:

Please note that there are 24 shots in one complete pattern repeat. We will write it out numerically below.

1. Treadle #4—large loop wool
2. Treadle #3—large loop wool
3. Treadle #4—sheep's coat #2
4. Treadle #3—sheep's coat #2
5. Treadle #4—dream white roving
6. Treadle #3—dream white roving
7. Treadle #2—large loop wool
8. Treadle #1—large loop wool

9. Treadle #2—dream white roving
10. Treadle #1—dream white roving
11. Treadle #2—sheep's coat #2
12. Treadle #1—sheep's coat #2
13. Treadle #2—dream white roving
14. Treadle #1—dream white roving
15. Treadle #2—large loop wool
16. Treadle #1—large loop wool
17. Treadle #4—dream white roving
18. Treadle #3—dream white roving
19. Treadle #4—sheep's coat #2
20. Treadle #3—sheep's coat #2
21. Treadle #4—large loop wool
22. Treadle #3—large loop wool
23. Treadle #3—sheep's coat #2
24. Treadle #1—sheep's coat #2

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

**MORE ABOUT THE THREADS USED:**

We had an 18/2 worsted in natural in our warp. It has 5,000 yards per pound, comes on about 1/2 lb. cones, and is \$12.00 per lb.

The 2nd warp thread was the 12/2 bleached white worsted, which has approximately 3300 yards per lb., comes on 1/2 lb. cones, and it too is \$12.00 per lb. There are 21 other colors of the 12/2 worsted, and in all, there are 30 colors of the 2/18's worsted.

In the weft, we had 3 different threads. The large loop wool in the natural is an American thread, and it has 575 yards per lb., came to us on about 2- to 3-lb. cones, but we can wind off either 4 oz. or 8 oz. tubes. It is \$16.00 per lb.

The sheep's coat #2, wool yarn is a beautiful yarn very similiar to the similiar type yarn from Belding-Lily Company. We purchased about 130 lbs. of an close-out lot of this, and are offering it at \$9.60 per lb. while it lasts. We have some on 1/2 lb. skeins and most of it is on cones of about 1 to 1½lbs. each. It has 300 yards per lb., and sometimes it is extremely thick single ply, to an extremely thin single ply. It seems a beautiful quality yarn.

The last thread in the weft is a single ply, slightly twisted wool roving. It is an elegant yarn which came to us on 2½ to 3 lb. cones,

and it is \$6.00 per lb., and has about 1100 yards per lb. We can wind off 1/2 lb. tubes of this one also.

**COST OF THE FABRIC:**

In our warp, we used 1 lb. 1 oz. of the 18/2 natural worsted, and 1 lb. 9 oz. of the 12/2 bleached white. As both are \$12.00 per lb., our cost for our 13 yard warp, 40" wide was \$31.50 for the 13 yard warp or \$2.43 per yard.

The weft was much more expensive, as these are about the best quality yarns you will ever find. We used 1 lb., 4 oz. of the Dream white, smooth single ply roving at \$6.00 per lb.

We used 2 lbs. 2½ oz. of the natural, large loop wool in the weft. At \$16.00 per pound, this was the most expensive thread.

And, in this fabric, we used 4lbs. 4 oz. of the sheep's coat #2, at \$9.60 per lb.

We received 11 and 2/3's yards of a finished fabric, and the total cost of both warp and weft was \$114.30, or the cost per yard was \$9.53 per yard.

Warp cost per yard, 40" wide ..... \$2.43  
 Weft cost per yard, ..... \$7.10

---

Fabric Cost per Yard ..... \$9.53

**MORE ABOUT THE FABRIC:**

This was quite an easy fabric to weave. We had only one broken thread in the 13 yard warp, and this was the result of a shuttle catching it and pulling and breaking it.

One thing that you do have to look out for in the weaving is that the sheep's coat #2 wool yarn, and also the large loop wool yarn, have a slight tendency to loop back or twist back on themselves. Once you are aware of this, you can watch for it, and eliminate any problems.

If you are weaving coat material as I have suggested using this fabric for, I would make all joins of weft threads at the selvage edges rather than lapping over in the middle of the weft.

Also, our material in this sample has not been washed and pressed, but I would recommend highly that you wash this in a tub in luke-warm water, and allow to drip dry and steam press. You could also do this in the very shortest cycle of your washing machine and the shortest cycle of the extractor and then steam press.

A medium, even, double beat was used in weaving this fabric. We opened the shed, threw the shuttle, beat, changed to the next shed and threw the shuttle and then beat again lightly. This helps eliminate any tendency of the warp to cling together.

This fabric is a fairly expensive one to weave, but it is unique, and you will probably not see anything ever just like this fabric anywhere in the world.

**SUBSCRIPTION PRICE INCREASE:**

Remember, that as of September 1, 1980, Warp and Weft subscriptions will be \$12.00 per year..And the Canadian and Foreign will be \$12.50 per year..

All subscriptions and renewals before that date will be honored at the current price of \$8.00 per year.

And, at the same time, we are raising our price for Drafts and Designs, our multiple harness bulletin featuring the 5 to 8 harness patterns will go up to \$10.00 per year.

We are forced to do this, because of the rising cost of printing, of paper, of labor, and increased cost of the yarns in the samples.

Russell E. Groff, *Editor*

**UNUSUAL ITEMS IN STOCK AT ROBIN AND RUSS HANDWEAVERS**

We have in stock now from New Zealand, Romney, Perrendale, and Corriedale wool fleeces in natural, medium grey, and dark grey. From 4 to 8 lbs. in weight, these fleeces sell for \$4.50 per lb. They are much cleaner than U.S. fleeces, and all seem to be top quality.

We have a small raffia or nylon straw in stock in Orange, and Grey and a few other colors. One of our customers used this in some wall-paper she wove. It is \$4.00 per lb.

We have in stock all types of bobbin lace supplies, such as Danish bobbins, Swedish bobbins, Irish and Swedish linens, size 30, 40 and 50 cotton for bobbin lace from Italy, and 20 different books on the subject of bobbin lace.

Our 2 ply Yak hair yarn is most unusual. It is on about 1 lb. ones, is 2 ply, and has about 550 yards per lb.

There are 50 to 75 different metallics on hand in all kinds of twists, and sizes.

There are probably 30 different kinds of silk in stock. We have tram silk, silk & polyester, spun silk, silk and wool blends, and many others.

The one pound skeins of a heather tan or beige wool tops from New Zealand are very nice at \$6.00 per lb.

We even have some beautiful hand-made clocks for sale in our shop. These are the hobby item that the man who makes our looms for us, Ray Chandler, likes to make.

The heavy German rug wools with jute core are most unusual, and we have about 10 colors of it on hand.

Books of all kinds adorn our shelves and 3 book-cases in the shop.

Imported commercial yardage counters are ever popular, and ours is \$115.00 plus packaging and shipping.

The Ramie yarns and the fine linens are so unusual, and are in stock all of the time. Imported Swedish and French weaving and bobbin lace text books are ever popular.

We even have 10 different bobbin lace patterns on stiff cardboard, all marked with the pattern.

An outstanding book on Lichens is a very interesting text.

Our slubby 2½ lea linens with the exciting colors are so unusual, and I do not know any other shop that stocks these.

Egyptian cottons, Haitian cottons, 2/18 and 2/12 worsteds are all part of the stock here at Robin & Russ Handweavers. Come and visit us, see for yourselves, the unusual and unique yarns we have.

### 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.

#### 45/3 RAW GREY IRISH LINEN

A beautiful line quality, wet spun, 3 ply linen on 1 lb. cones. It is the natural dark grey we sometimes find in some linens. It has 4,500 yards per lb., and we will offer it here at \$8.80 per lb. We have just ordered 2400 lbs. of this item, and a part is on the way, and the rest is to be plied for us. Also, we have ordered 100 lbs. of this in the 45/1 original size that it came in, and it will be \$6.00 per lb. It is a fine weft thread in this form, and has 13,500 yards per lb., and on about 2-lb. cones. Robin & Russ, 533 No. Adams, McMinnville, Ore.

#### NATURAL COTTON AND ACRYLIC BOUCLE

This blend of yarns has 3 ends of cotton, and one of heavier and whiter acrylic all wound together in a boucle twist. It has approximately 2100 yards per lb. It came to us on about 2 lb. cones, and we have it on sale at \$3.20 per lb. Sold by the cone only at \$3.20 per lb. If we rewind onto 1/2 lb. tubes, then we have to sell it at \$4.00 per lb., or \$2.00 per 1/2 lb. tube. Robin & Russ Handweavers, 533 North Adams St., McMinnville, Oregon 97128

#### 4 SLIGHTLY DIFFERENT LOTS OF FINE LOOP MOHAIR IN NATURAL

These are very close to one another in size and quality. It seems that they have about 1600 yards per pound, it could be brushed after it is woven. Price is \$12.00 per lb. for this MOHAIR yarn. Can be used in the warp with other threads. On about 1½ to 2-lb. cones. Robin & Russ Handweavers, 533 North Adams St., McMinnville, Oregon 97128.

#### 40/2 NATURAL WHITE WORSTED

This is a most beautiful quality super fine worsted. It is a botany quality yarn, and we just have about 15 lbs. It has about 11,200 yards per lb., and is good for warp or weft. Priced at only \$8.00 per lb. Robin & Russ Handweavers, 533 North Adams St., McMinnville, Oregon 97128

#### BEAUTIFUL, TIGHTLY WOVEN, VELOUR CHENILLE MADE OF NYLON

This is a superior quality chenille, and we have about 150 lbs. of it. Available on cones of about 1 lb. 4 oz. to 1 lb. 8 oz. in weight. Natural white only. Price is \$8.00 per lb. We had some of this about a year ago, and it was so popular it sold very quickly. About the size of a 8 cut. Could be used for both knitting and crochet. It will not unravel or come apart in washing, as it is so tightly woven. Robin & Russ Handweavers, 533 No. Adams St., McMinnville, Oregon 97128.

#### HEAVY, BEAUTIFUL, NATURAL COTTON FLAKE BOUCLE

This is a very exciting all-cotton yarn, on about 2 lb. cones, and the price is \$6.00 per lb. Free sample upon request. 450 lbs. just came in. Robin & Russ Handweavers, 533 North Adams St., McMinnville, Oregon 97128.

#### 5/2 BLACK MERCERIZED COTTON

This is a very nice mercerized cotton, with 2100 yards per lb., and a good price of \$6.00 per lb., instead of the \$13.50 now being charged by Lily Mills. It is on cones of 13 to 17 oz. each. We purchased the entire lot of 90 lbs. While it lasts, \$6.00 per lb. Robin & Russ Handweavers, 533 North Adams St., McMinnville, Oregon 97128.

#### BASIC DOUBLE WEAVE THEORY

An excellent little booklet written by Sara Farrar and published by Robin & Russ Handweavers. This spiral bound booklet is an excellent guide to many types of double weave, and it is so clearly explained that you should have no problems with any of the techniques explained. It gives step by step instructions for 4, 6, and 8 harness double weaves, and includes Layered Fabrics, such as 2 layer, 3 and 4 layers, extra wide fabrics, or double, and triple and quadruple width on 4, 6, and 8 harnesses; teaches one to do tubes, or two tubes, or loom controlled tubes; has a section on 4, 6, and 8 harness pockets. Gives you directions for double weave with free design, and double weave pick-up for single thread and double thread pick-up. Exciting, and not too expensive, it is \$4.95 plus postage. Robin & Russ Handweavers, 533 North Adams St., McMinnville, Oregon 97128.

#### 50/3 MERCERIZED COTTON IN DARK ECRU AND IN WHITE

Those of you weaving miniatures will like this excellent quality cotton. 6,000 yards per cone, the price is \$7.00 per cone. This can be used also for sewing thread on your sewing machine, and will save you \$15.00 to \$20.00 over buying the small 100-, 300-, or 500-yard spools. We wove some beautiful lace weaves with this thread and have an 8 harness huck in progress now in the dark ecru. Robin & Russ Handweavers, 533 North Adams St., McMinnville, Oregon 97128.

#### 16/2 UNMERCERIZED, MUSTARD YELLOW COTTON

It is getting harder and harder to find unmercerized cottons, so we were delighted to obtain this. Almost like a drapery cotton, but with just a little more twist. Can be used for warp or weft. 6500 yards per lb., on about 1¾ to 1½ lb. cones. \$4.80 per lb. and about 50 lbs. on hand. Robin & Russ Handweavers, 533 North Adams St., McMinnville, Oregon 97128.

#### 40/2 MERCERIZED BLEACHED RAMIE

This is a most beautiful quality, smooth white ramie. Should be excellent for warp at 30, 32, or 36 ends per inch for towels, napkins, tablecloths, etc. On about 1 lb., cellophane-wrapped tubes, it has 6,000 yards per lb., and is \$13.60 per lb. Robin & Russ Handweavers, 533 North Adams St., McMinnville, Oregon 97128.

#### 16/3 BLEACHED WHITE MERCERIZED RAMIE

Another exciting, bleached mercerized ramie that is smooth and strong. About the same size as a 10/2 linen, it has 1600 yards per lb., came on 1-lb. cones, and is priced at \$12.00 per lb. Now in stock. Excellent for warp in mats, and table linens, etc., at 15 e.p.i. Robin & Russ, 533 North Adams St., McMinnville, Oregon 97128



# The Weaver's Marketplace

**warp and weft**  
 533 NORTH ADAMS STREET  
 McMinnville, OREGON 97128

**YARNS** you've yearned for from all the world.  
**LOOMS** with levers, latches and treadles.  
**BOOKS** to browse; come in and spend the day.  
**EQUIPMENT** to equal all of your needs.  
**ADVENTURES** in avenues you've yet to try;  
 weaving, spinning, bobbin lace making,  
 macrame', embroidering, knitting.  
 Stop by, travel toward, or merely send a request  
 for a catalog to:

**ROBIN AND RUSS HANDWEAVERS**  
 533 North Adams St.,  
 McMinnville, Oregon 97128

## DRAFTS AND DESIGNS

A monthly, multiple harness bulletin with a  
 large sample swatch in each issue. It is issued  
 10 times a year, and features 5 to 8 harness  
 patterns. Also, once or twice a year, 9 to 12  
 harness patterns are also featured. Price is  
 \$10.00 per year. All subscriptions start with the  
 September issue, so if you subscribe now, back  
 issues from September will be sent to you.  
 Available from: ROBIN AND RUSS HAND-  
 WEAVERS, 533 No. Adams St., McMinnville,  
 Oregon 97128.

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

## TWILLS AND TWILL DERIVATIVES

Design your own fancy, braided,  
 interlocking, corkscrew, decorated, waving  
 — also crepes, waffles, shadow weave. 120  
 pages, soft cover, 150 B & W photos Lucille  
 Landis, 22 Northway, Old Greenwich, Conn.  
 06870 **\$9.00, plus \$1.25 postage & handling.**

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