



warp and weft

Volume XXXVII, No. 10 *December, 1984*

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

Subscription: \$12.00 per year U.S.A.
\$12.50 per year Canada
\$13.00 per year foreign
Back issues, \$1.25 each plus 20 postage*

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A Word from the Editor

Christmas time, the magic word and the most pleasant time of the year, is now upon us. And we are behind one issue, so today I am writing two issues, and hopefully will be getting them to the printers by tomorrow, December 18, at the latest for the December and the January issues.

It has been a good, busy Christmas season for us in yarn sales. This is very pleasing, and I have been working hard at paying bills. I seem to get the greatest satisfaction when a large number of bills or invoices have been paid. Also, I have been most pleased to be weaving at home, and the sample this month is one woven by your editor. I have been trying some self-discipline and forcing myself to weave at least one hour every evening, and it has been working. I should finish this piece in two or three more evenings, and then we will cut it all up into samples while waiting for the printers to finish their work.

We have fallen behind one month on the samples, and now we have four different *Warp and Weft* projects going, and one for *Drafts and Designs*. So hopefully, we will once again keep on schedule.

Did you know that McMinnville is famous for one other thing? The small college here is Linfield College, and they have won the national championship in football in two of the last three years. It is so much fun to be able to watch a winning tradition, instead of a losing tradition, such as Oregon State seems to have lately. The final championship game was most exciting, as Northwest Iowa was

thumping them 22 to 0 in the third quarter. All of a sudden Linfield went on a rampage and scored 33 points in the last 16½ minutes of the game — and became the national champions again. You can see that I love sports of all kinds when you read this.

Tonight they say there is a chance for snow, and perhaps we will have a white Christmas, as we did last year.

We have a new kitten in our home, and she loves to try to grab the thread as I am winding it. I'm so amazed at the tremendous amount of energy from this young kitten. We have to keep her away from the loom, as she has discovered that she likes to sleep on the finished fabric while it is still on the loom, or swipes at the warp thread once in a while.

These two issues I am writing, and then hopefully, starting with the February issue, we will have Jean Scorgie doing the writing of the details for the sample. She normally does this while I write the ads and word from the editor.

I am lucky and have the opportunity of presenting a program to the Handweavers Guild of Hawaii on December 29; so that means that I will get to spend about ten days in Hawaii. Just think, while I am basking in the sunshine and swimming in the Pacific, all of you folks will be at home enjoying the freezing weather, the rain and the snow. To tell the truth, I can hardly wait. I will be giving a program of "Short Cuts in Setting Up the Loom" to the Weavers Guild in Honolulu. Also, about two months ago, I presented a program to the Portland Handweavers on "The characteristics of threads and the proper choice of threads for warp and weft." It was a fun program to do.

Well, I've wandered enough in this column. See you next month.

Russell E. Groff, Editor

This Month's Book Review

This month we will bypass the weaving end and review another book on the subject of tatting. It is entitled *THE CRAFT OF TATTING*, by Bessie M. Attenborough.

The author is English, and she has been a demonstrator and teacher of tatting to the National Federation of Women's Institutes in England.

I like this book because it seems to be very thorough, and the instructions and photographs seem to be very good.

There is a very interesting history in the beginning of this book, and then it goes into the uses of tatting, the abbreviations of terms in tatting, and the necessary equipment needed for tatting.

The directions and illustrations for tatting seem to be very clear and concise and well done.

Then we come to the projects, and there are over 30 different tatting projects in the book, with a good photograph of each, and with the step-by-step directions for each of the many different projects.

Title: *THE CRAFT OF TATTING*

Author: Bessie M. Attenborough

Publisher: Bell and Hyman, Limited, in England, and Robin and Russ Handweavers in USA and Canada.

Price: \$9.95 plus shipping and handling.

Available: Robin & Russ Handweavers.

This Month's Cover Photo

Undulating weft effects are very intriguing to most handweavers, and our sample this month is what I call an "Undulating Weft Effect." And when I saw this cover photograph in our collection of photos, I was impressed and thought it might be nice to tie it in with this month's sample. This is another 4-harness weave, and as you can see from the photographs, it is about 16 threads threaded on two harnesses, and then 16 threads on the next two harnesses. However, only one

thread was used to make each recessed "cell" stand out, instead of two as in our sample. However, a variation of color is also an exciting way of designing in this weave, and this is what we have here in the cover on *Warp and Weft*. It looks like at least three different colors were used in the cells in this weave, and they were used in different color sequences to make the fabric more interesting. I would say that this cover fabric was threaded 4, 3, 4, 3 for 16 threads and then 2, 1, 2, 1 for 16 threads. Also, the tightness of your beat also makes a difference in these fabrics; and the tighter your weft is, the more undulation you normally will have.

This cover is one of the fabrics that were displayed in the Northern California Handweavers Conference exhibits about four or five years ago.

Our Second Book Review

Just out and looking very exciting is the new book entitled *AN ILLUSTRATED GUIDE TO MAKING ORIENTAL RUGS*, by Gordon W. Scott.

This book, if you are interested in the Oriental type rugs, looks like an outstanding text book.

First of all, you'll like this because it has the detailed plans for making your own frame loom for Oriental rugs. It is illustrated, and a complete step-by-step procedure for making the loom is given, and then good details of the accessories are given also, along with materials used.

From there, they give more details about the loom, how it is set-up or warped, or prepared for weaving, and then many of the problems you have in weaving are explained in great detail. This chapter is entitled "rug construction," and yes, it gives many of the details such as availability of materials in the U.S.A., how to estimate your yarn needs, how much warp is needed, how to repair broken warp threads, what kinds of designs are used, what kinds of knots are used, how to prevent bowing in the weaving, and many, many other details.

(Continued on page 6)

COST OF THE THREADS USED:

1. The 20/2 cordovan brown mercerized duren cotton comes on about 2½-pound cones, and we have it on sale at \$4.80 per lb. when purchased by the cone. When purchased by the ½-lb. or 1-lb. tube, then it is \$6.00 per pound. I will figure out the cost of the fabric by the higher of these two.

2. The 4-ply metallic gold is a supported metallic and has 1,100 yards per 4-oz. spool, and is \$4.95 per spool.

3. The 2/18's worsted in cocoa brown comes on about 1½ to 2-lb. cones and is \$8.00 per pound. You can order ½-lb. tubes at the same price of \$8.00 per pound.

4. The 2/8's worsted dark bark brown has 2,240 yards per pound and comes on about 1-lb. cones. It is \$6.80 per pound.

COST OF THE FABRIC:

Our warp was 24 per inch, 40" wide, plus 16 selvage threads. Our 10-yard warp took 9,600 yards, and it has 8,400 yards per pound at \$4.80 per pound. Our total warp cost was \$5.20, so the cost per yard was 52 cents per yard.

In one yard of finished fabric, it took 1.6 ounces of 2/18's worsted at \$8.00 per pound. It took 1 ounce of 2/8's worsted at \$6.80 per pound. It took 1⅓ ounces of the metallic at \$4.95 per 4 ounces. So the total cost of these three per yard comes to \$2.78 per yard.

Warp cost per yard, 40" wide	\$.52
Weft cost per yard, 38½" wide		<u>2.78</u>
FABRIC COST PER YARD	\$	3.30

WIDTH AND LENGTH BEFORE AND AFTER WEAVING:

Our warp was 40½ inches wide on the loom, including the selvage. We did a 10-yard warp.

After weaving, we found the finished fabric was 38½" wide. And from our 10-yard warp, we had 8¾ yards of finished fabric.

MORE ABOUT THE FABRIC:

In many of the Swedish magazines, you see this same type of pattern often used in upholstery, and this is what we are recommending our sample for. It is also most interesting in drapes, and could also be used in many different table linens, and many other uses.

Here we have designed it and planned it for some upholstery material. You have long weft floats on the back of the fabric, so you must be sure to plan on what size is going to be the front and also the back.

Malin Selander featured this in several of her sample books, and it is always fun to see a finished swatch of this weave to see how the threads come together and make this sort of recessed or two dimensional fabric.

We have woven something similar before for a *Warp and Weft* sample, but I do not think that we staggered the cells as we have in this one.

It is also customary that you set off these staggered honeycombs with a heavier and dark and durable thread to help the cells take more of a regular shape. And the warp can be many different things. In this case, we used a 20/2 cotton for warp at 24 ends per inch, 2 per dent in a 12-dent reed.

I think this pattern would be exciting in many different types of clothing and for use in collars, in cuffs, and for trim or borders on different fabrics.

While it is quite slow to weave, it is a very beautiful pattern and fun to watch and see how much you progress. It is quite slow to weave, though, and I would imagine it takes about two hours per yard to weave this. I tried to weave as fast as I could and with the bobbins all wound and ready to use, and I did the first yard in about 1¾ hours; and then I did the second yard in about 1½ hours. So you can weave fast if you are careful.

I found it more convenient to have a good selvage on this pattern, and I used a 10/3 natural unmercerized cotton for eight threads

of selvage, and after I did this, I never had one broken thread of the 20/2 cotton warp.

I did have some trouble with backlash on the bobbins with the 4-ply metallic on it, but I solved it by putting some tissue paper in the bottom of the place where your bobbin fits in your boat shuttle. This created a small drag on the bobbin, and in turn it helped eliminate about 75 percent of the problems you could have. Another small problem I had was on the 40" width of the fabric; I had the shuttles not come through the shed to the opposite side without curving in toward the woven fabric. I noticed that one shuttle was a heavier weight than the others, so I checked my boat shuttles, weighted them, and then I chose the final three shuttles for weft to be the heaviest of the boat shuttles that we have. This extra weight did help considerably. And the other thing I did was that as I pulled the shuttle out of the shed, I pulled it up into the air and continued unwinding some of the thread on the bobbin. Then when I threw the shuttle back in the next shed, it would go about three-fourths of the way across the shed before starting to unwind some weft thread, and this also helped the shuttles to run straight.

Also, when I wound the bobbins of the metallic thread, I would wind the one with metallic thread only about half full, and then I would put a convex rounded top on the bobbin. This helped immensely.

Otherwise, there were no problems in the weaving of this fabric, unless you happen to be careless and break warp threads.

Our Second Book Review

(Continued from page 3)

Then comes a very important section. There are designs given for nine different Oriental rugs. There is a full-page color photograph of each of these, and then a working diagram for each of these nine rugs, with the complete color sequence worked out on the patterns, and then usually there are about two pages of directions for each of these nine different rugs.

The final portion of the book gives some details as to sources of materials used in this type of rug, a reference bibliography, a list of further reading materials, and then an index with reference to the book contents. It seems like a very thorough and scholarly work on the subject.

Title: *AN ILLUSTRATED GUIDE TO MAKING ORIENTAL RUGS*

Author: Gordon W. Scott

Publisher: Pacific Search Press, Seattle, WA

Cost: \$14.95 plus shipping and handling

Available: Direct from the publisher or from Robin and Russ Handweavers.

TWO 1-WEEK SUMMER WORKSHOPS

Mr. Jack Womersley will be visiting our shop in the first two weeks of July to give two 1-week workshops again as he has in the past.

Mr. Womersley has given two workshops for us in two different years in the past, and we have had many of the persons who attended these workshops ask if we could have him again.

Mr. Womersley was head of the textile department in Bradford Art College, Bradford, England, where many of the workers for the textile industry in England received their training. He was forced to early retirement because of a heart attack about one year ago, and his visit was delayed one year because of this. He has stated that he is feeling much better now and is looking forward to his visit with us and to giving another workshop here as he did in the past.

In fact, hopefully, I will visit with him in February 1985, and we will at that time work out the details of all of the projects and the threads that we will be using. In fact, it will be my first visit ever to England in the winter, and I am looking forward to it.

Price will be \$150.00 per week, and all warp threads are furnished.

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.

FOR SALE: 16-HARNESS, 24" TABLE LOOM

Has 2 warp beams, tray for yarn storage, and extra heddles. Original cost over \$600.00. For sale, \$350.00. Contact Florence Bookhultz, P.O. Box 666, Cannon Beach, Ore. 97110. Telephone (503) 436-1109.

DOUBLING STANDS

These are used to wind two threads together to act as one thread. Can be used with cones or tubes. Of hardwood. Price is \$24.50 plus shipping and handling. ROBIN & RUSS HANDWEAVERS, 533 No. Adams St., McMinnville, Oregon 97128.

EXOTIC WOOD CARD WEAVING SHUTTLES AND ALSO TAPESTRY BEATERS

Most unusual woods, and beautifully made. These double fork tapestry beaters are \$20.00 each, and the card-weaving and inkle shuttles are \$9.00 each. The woods are Imbuya, Bubinga, and Bacote. Beautiful grained woods from South America. ROBIN & RUSS HANDWEAVERS, 533 No. Adams St., McMinnville, Oregon 97128.

3, 4, 5, 6, 7, AND 8" WOODEN BOBBINS FOR YOUR BOAT SHUTTLES

We stock all these different lengths, and have them made to order for us. price is 75¢ each. Fit the Leclerc shuttles and other similar boat shuttles. ROBIN AND RUSS HANDWEAVERS, 533 No. Adams St., McMinnville, Oregon 97128.

BRAIDED COTTON TREADLE CORD

We have this in stock in 48-foot hanks. It is \$1.95 per hank. A very nice quality, and we seem to sell quite a bit of this. Robin & Russ Handweavers, 533 No. Adams St., McMinnville, OR 97128.

A LAP WARPING FRAME

This small 1/2-yard wide warping board will do 6 yards. And of course, you can do any length from 1 yard up. Price is \$16.95 plus shipping. ROBIN AND RUSS HANDWEAVERS, 533 No. Adams St., McMinnville, Oregon 97128.

PICK-UP OR NETTING SHUTTLES

We have these in sets of 5 different sizes. Available in 5, 6, 7, 8, and 10" sizes. Individually, they are \$1.50 each, or a set of 5 different ones is \$6.50 per set. ROBIN AND RUSS HANDWEAVERS, 533 No. Adams St., McMinnville, Oregon 97128.

HEDDLE TRANSFER RODS

These thin, pliable steel transfer rods are a life saver. You can put inside heddle eyes on the loom and slide off or add on the heddles you need for your projects. Also excellent storage for extra heddles. Price is \$3.50 per pair plus shipping and handling. ROBIN AND RUSS HANDWEAVERS, 533 No. Adams St., McMinnville, Oregon 97128.

EQUIPMENT FOR SECTIONAL WARPING

A spool rack to hold 72 spools is \$85.00. We have them that hold 48 spools, and this is \$70.00; and one which holds just 24 spools is \$55.00 each. Cardboard spools to wind your thread on are \$4.00 per dozen. A tension box is \$35.00. The most expensive item necessary is a good warp measurer, and our commercial yardage counters, as used in industry, sell at \$135.00 each. All in stock for immediate shipment. ROBIN & RUSS HANDWEAVERS, 533 No. Adams St., McMinnville, Oregon 97128.

15-YARD WARPING BOARD

These are good and sturdy and can be taken apart for easy storage by unfastening four wing nuts. Pegs are glued in so they will not come out and be lost. Price is \$35.00. In stock for immediate shipment. Robin & Russ Handweavers, 533 No. Adams St., McMinnville, Oregon 97128.

TENSION BOX, ADJUSTABLE TO FIT ANY SIZE BACK-BEAM

And with reed of your choice. We have these made to order for us, and they are outstanding. Price is \$35.00 plus shipping and handling. In stock for immediate shipment. ROBIN & RUSS HANDWEAVERS, 533 No. Adams St., McMinnville, OR 97128.

CARDBOARD SPOOLS FOR SECTIONAL WARPING

We stock these all the time, and they are not too expensive at \$4.00 per dozen. All have end caps on them, and you can wind about 4 to 8 oz. of yarn on each spool. ROBIN & RUSS HANDWEAVERS, 533 No. Adams St., McMinnville, Oregon 97128.

FOR YOUR BOAT SHUTTLES

We stock 4", 5 1/2", and 7" plastic bobbins. We had these 5 1/2" and 7" ones made to order for us in Italy. Price on the 4" ones is \$6.00 per dozen, and the 5 1/2" and 7" ones are \$7.20 per dozen. Very nice quality, and we sell many of these. ROBIN & RUSS HANDWEAVERS, 533 No. Adams St., McMinnville, Oregon 97128.

15-HOLE WARPING PADDLES

Nicely made of hardwood, maple. Price is \$6.95 each. A regular stock item. Price is the same for the past four years. Robin & Russ Handweavers, 533 No. Adams Street, McMinnville, Oregon 97128.

SLOT AND EYE WARPING PADDLES

We try to keep these in stock all the time, they seem so popular. Will take up to about 16 threads in all, one in the slot and one in the eye, and it makes it very easy to make a cross. Price is \$10.95 plus shipping and handling. ROBIN & RUSS HANDWEAVERS, 533 No. Adams St., McMinnville, Oregon 97128.

LINEN THREAD TESTERS

These are on a brass frame, and measure one square inch. It magnifies 6 times, or is called 6 power, for easy thread count of number of threads per inch, and for fabric analysis. Price of these deluxe linen thread testers from Germany is \$19.95 plus shipping and handling. ROBIN & RUSS HANDWEAVERS, 533 No. Adams St., McMinnville, Oregon 97128.
