

warp and weft

Volume XXXVIII, No. 2

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A Word from the Editor

Your editor has been under the weather off and on for about three weeks with some new strain of flu. It is about gone now, and so I am frantically trying to write two issues of *Warp and Weft*, prepare some sample sheets, and get ready for a hoped-for trip to England on the 19th of February.

At one time last week for about a 5-day period, we had only one person a day in the shop because of this cold, or flu, or whatever it is that is making the rounds. So we concentrate on getting orders out in situations like this, and everything else seems to go to pot. Now, the job is to empty those full pots that accumulated, and this is what I've concentrated on all day until late this afternoon. Tomorrow I must concentrate strictly on this until it is done.

I just ordered some replacement stock from a manufacturer back east, and I was told that the weather there was terrible, with snow about every other day, and with the staff being out two or three times with some type of flu. It sounds as though the same type of illness has been making the rounds of our country. Guess we are not the only ones who have been suffering.

We've had some exciting threads come in during the past two weeks. We received 100 pounds of silk from a firm in France, which they call wild silk. By this I believe they mean the tussah silk, which is primarily from wild or uncultivated silkworms. This one is fairly heavy, single ply, with about 1,500 yards per

pound, and with lots of texture to it. I would think it will sell quite well.

And we received a lot of 100 pounds of a new wool tweed, and it was spun in France by the same mill that spun the wild silk just mentioned above. It has about 1,500 yards per pound. I'm a beige, brown, tan, natural advocate when it comes to tweed, and this one is just this. I think it is a beautiful color blend, and we are so pleased to see that this tweed is almost exactly this color blend of tan, natural, brown, beige blending in this tweed yarn.

One of our threads that will prove to be one of our most popular is the brushed wool we have in about 20 colors. It has about 1,000 yards per pound, and the colors are all solid colors, and it is a blend of wool and mohair. It came put up in packages of 10 balls, of 500-gram total per package, which is one pound and one ounce. The unbelievable thing is that we are able to sell this at \$16.00 per pound, which is less than the normal wholesale cost. This yarn has been selling for as much as up to \$85.00 per pound in knit shops, and we are able to sell it at \$16.00 per pound. And the colors are nice, too. We mortgaged our lives, you might say, as I ordered 1,000 pounds of this yarn. I really didn't have the money to buy this, but the supplier agreed that I could pay for this over an eight-month period, with eight equal monthly payments, and if I could possibly pay it off sooner, he would be pleased. So, on those terms, I just had to take advantage of this yarn.

And among these were two colors which are 100% mohair. And we received these also. I ordered 50 pounds of 20 colors, plus 100 pounds of bleached white. This yarn is so fluffy that it came in 19 huge cartons, and we really had to scramble to just get them in the warehouse where we could unpack them.

We have a new natural loop wool which is 90% wool and 10% nylon binder to help prevent it from shrinking. We are able to sell this one for just \$12.00 per pound. This is what I call a mid-sized loop, and it has been

so hard to find. I was able to get 200 pounds of this one.

And we had two new linens come in. I found some 20/1 linen in a beautiful light aqua color and also in a very good pink color, and these two we are able to sell at \$6.00 per pound. A very good price for linen. The colors are very clear and nice in this linen.

As I've mentioned, I leave for a three-week visit to England in just one week, and I'm hoping to find eight or ten more new and exciting threads when I am on my business trip there.

As you can see by my descriptions, I do so much enjoy this business, and I had better close for now before I talk too much.

Russell E. Groff, Editor

This Month's Cover Photo

Overshot coverlet weaving for bedspreads, and traditional coverlets are greatly enhanced with the use of more color in both the warp and the weft.

In this cover photograph, notice how the warp is black. And in the weaving to emphasize certain portions of the pattern, they have used a different treadling and a different color to set off that area. The white patterns in this fabric are very clearly set off on the black warp and using a black tabby. And in between each block of nine stars a different treadling has been used, and a different color pattern thread has been used; and see how exciting it makes this fabric.

Also, some of these traditional patterns, such as this one, are divided into units or blocks of pattern repeats, and sometimes if you use two colors in the warp, one in one series of blocks and one in the opposite blocks, this also enhances many of these traditional patterns and gives much more life to the fabric. One of the such bedspreads that I wove was of all a medium dark perle 3 cotton and size 20/2 cotton. It is now used as a rag. But the one that had two colors in

the warp, and also two colors in the blocks in the weft, that I did is much more attractive; and I would not consider using it as a blanket for padding as I do my first one of all green.

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 and we will at that time work out the details of all 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.

RIBS AND RAILS

This shadow-weave pattern is quite different from the front to the back, so be sure to look at both sides of the fabric.

TIE-UP DRAFT:

4	X	X	O	O	X	X
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

O - Tie-up for Jack-type looms
X - Tie-up for Counter-balanced looms

THREADING DRAFT:

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

WARP:

Our warp was the 8/2 worsted yarn in two different colors. It was the natural color, and the dark green clay color that were used.

WEFT:

The same weight, size, and color of 8/2 worsted yarn was used in the weft as was used in the warp.

REED USED:

An 8-dent reed was used, and it was double-sleyed, 2 ends per dent, or 16 threads per inch.

TREADLING SEQUENCE:

There are 38 shots in each pattern sequence. We will write it out in a short form for you here so that it will not take so much space.

1. Treadle #4 — Dark Green Clay
2. Treadle #2 — Natural
3. Treadle #4 — Dark Green Clay
4. Treadle #2 — Natural
5. Treadle #4 — Dark Green Clay
6. Treadle #2 — Natural
7. Treadle #4 — Dark Green Clay
8. Treadle #5 — Natural

SAMPLE:



9. Treadle #6 — Dark Green Clay
10. Treadle #5 — Natural

Repeat the first 10 shots 3 times until you have 30 woven threads.

31. Treadle #4 — Dark Green Clay
32. Treadle #2 — Natural
33. Treadle #4 — Dark Green Clay
34. Treadle #2 — Natural
35. Treadle #4 — Dark Green Clay
36. Treadle #5 — Dark Green Clay
37. Treadle #6 — Natural
38. Treadle #5 — Dark Green Clay

END OF ONE COMPLETE PATTERN REPEAT. Repeat over and over as desired.

PROBLEMS WITH THE WEAVING OF THIS FABRIC:

Would you believe that we had no problems in the weaving of this fabric! The 8/2 worsted is 70% wool, 30% nylon, blended in the spinning, so it is extra strong and durable.

We did have an occasional knot in the 8/2. When we had this, we used the spee-dee fabric cement, we untied or cut out the knot, and held the two ends together with our finger, put one drop of cement on, rolled together, and usually after one minute, it was dry; and we were ready to weave in one minute.

And, as I said, there were no other problems. We used a firm, even, double beat, throwing the shuttle, beating, changing to the next shed, and beating it again before throwing the shuttle.

You will find that in using wool, the shed clears much better if you use this type of beating system.

COST OF THE THREADS USED:

These 8/2 worsteds come in about 10 colors. It is \$6.80 per pound, and it comes on varying sized tubes or cones. This worsted is 70% wool and 30% nylon, and this was blended in the raw material, so it does not even appear in the thread or fabric as having any nylon in it. However, this does add a tremendous amount of strength and durability to the wear or use of this fabric.

The 8/2 worsteds have 2,240 yards per pound.

COST OF THE FABRIC:

We did a 14-yard warp, 40" wide, and besides this, we had 8 selvage threads of 18/3 nylon stitching twine on each edge. These eight threads were threaded 4, 3, 2, 1, 4, 3, 2, 1.

It took 2 lbs. 14 oz. of each of the two colors for our 40" warp, 14 yards long. At

\$6.80 per pound, we used 5 lbs. 12 oz. of wool. This comes to \$39.10 total warp cost, or \$2.79 per yard.

We had 13 yards of finished fabric from our 14-yard warp. It took 2 lbs. 6 oz. of each color for the weft. Our total weft cost was 4 lbs. 12 oz. at \$6.80 per lb., or \$32.30 for the entire weft cost. The cost per yard comes to \$2.49 per yard.

WARP COST PER YARD	\$2.79
WEFT COST PER YARD	<u>2.49</u>
FABRIC COST PER YARD	\$5.28

USES OF THIS FABRIC:

First of all, this is an easy to weave fabric, and you could do it in many different color combinations. I would suggest using this for chair upholstery, for pillows, for draperies, and many, many other uses.

Also, many of the exciting fabrics of shadow weaves are made using a combination of a heavy and a light thread. This results in more unusual and different patterns. I would like to try the same pattern with two extremely contrasting sized threads, and put in. You would never recognize it as being the same fabric or same pattern.

Loom Prices in 1936

In going through some old books that I purchased many years ago, I came across this price list and loom brochure for the BINDER LOOM, which was made in Pasadena, California. The prices in the year 1936 are so amazing as compared to those today, that I felt you would enjoy seeing this price list and comparing it with some of those of today, 1985.

Here are copies of the brochures, and I think you will enjoy seeing this as much as I did when I came across it. (Turn to page 6.)

*The
Binder Loom Mfg.*



**LOOMS
and
EQUIPMENT**



Price List September 1936
Subject to Change



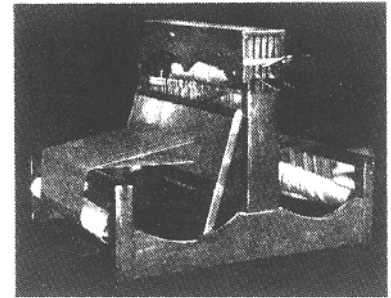
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Pasadena, Calif.
Niagara 3148

Weaving Studio
25 East Palm Street
Altadena, Calif.

THE BINDER LOOM

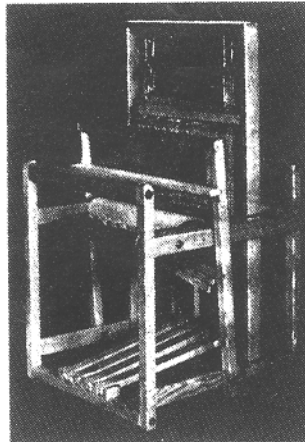
Is used by larger hand-woven manufacturers in the West and are recommended by Los Angeles School Board.



Looms are equipped with Headless Reed Aprons, Cloth and Warp Beam, Foot Release of Warp Beam, Ratchet take up Cloth Beam.

- 1—Machine Shuttle
- 6—Bobbins
- 1—Reed Hook

Looms are Equipped with 15 Dent Reed. Unless Otherwise Specified.



BINDER HAND LOOMS

8-in. 2 harness	.....	\$3.00
16-in. 2 harness	.....	4.00
20-in. 2 harness	.....	8.00
12-in. 4 harness	.....	8.00
16-in. 4 harness	.....	12.50
20-in. 4 harness	.....	16.00

FOOT POWER FLOOR LOOMS

24-in.	.....	\$25.00
36-in.	.....	35.00
45-in.	.....	42.50
60-in.	.....	52.50
67-in.	.....	58.50

FOLDING LOOMS

32-in.	.....	\$30.00
36-in.	.....	32.50

FLY SHUTTLE LOOMS

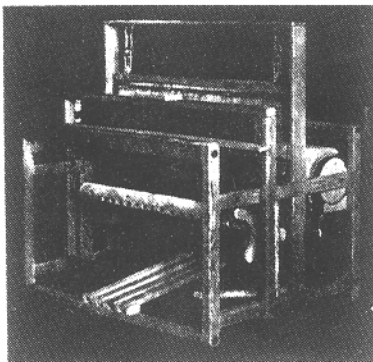
45-in.	.....	\$55.00
60-in.	.....	60.00
67-in.	.....	65.00

Heddles (non rust wire)	.....	\$5.00 M.
Steel	.....	6.00 M.
Machine Shuttle	.....	3.00 Each
Bobbins	.....	1.00 Doz.
Reed Hook	.....	.15 Each
Boat Shuttle	.....	.90 "
Open End Shuttle	.....	.35 "
Flat Shuttle	.....	.20 "
Reeds 45 inch Long	.....	4.00
Swift	.....	4.00
Warping Frame	.....	3.50

STANDARD SIZES IN STOCK

FLOOR LOOMS

24" 36" 45" 60"



Oregon Pine Are Oil Finished.

Mahogany Are Mahogany Finished

All Other Hardwood add \$7.50 Extra to the Price List. Table Looms are Made of Mahogany and Finished same.

We Also Carry
Loom Parts and Supplies

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.

5/2 WORSTED NATURAL

A very nice quality natural wool in a 2-ply. It has about 1,375 to 1,400 yards per lb., came on 2-lb. cones, and is priced at \$8.00 per lb. We have about 200 lbs. on hand. It should dye beautifully, and can be used for warp or weft. ROBIN & RUSS HANDWEAVERS, 533 No. Adams St., McMinnville, Oregon 97128.

75/1 NATURAL LINEN — Also on hand some 45/1 NATURAL LINEN

Both on about 1½-lb. to 2-lb. cones. While it lasts, it is sold at \$6.00 per lb., and sold by the cone only. It is quite unusual to find this fine a linen. It is line quality, and strictly a weft thread. ROBIN & RUSS HANDWEAVERS, 533 No. Adams St., McMinnville, Oregon 97128.

BEAUTIFUL NATURAL LOOP WOOL

This one is the size we always seem to look for in loop wool and cannot find. It has 1,100 yards per lb., and is 90% wool with 10% nylon binder to help prevent too much shrinkage. And a most reasonable price at \$12.00 per lb. Free sample upon request. 190 lbs. available. ROBIN AND RUSS HANDWEAVERS, 533 No. Adams St., McMinnville, OR 97128.

CARIBBEAN BLUE AND MIST GREEN BRUSHED MOHAIR

We have a special on these two colors. Put up in ½-kilo packages from the manufacturer in Italy, they are \$17.00 per half kilo, or this comes to \$16.00 per lb. We have 30 lbs. of the Caribbean Blue and 40 lbs. of the Mist Green. This is less than half of the regular retail cost. 1,000 yards per lb. ROBIN & RUSS HANDWEAVERS, 533 No. Adams St., McMinnville, Oregon 97128.

SCRUMPTIOUS BEIGE, 100% WOOL TWEED, SPUN IN FRANCE

This one has 1,500 yards per lb., came on about 3-lb. cones, but we can wind it off if you desire less. Should make beautiful suits and skirts for women. And many men would love this wool tweed mix. Price is \$6.80 per lb. while it lasts. I would recommend it for a weft only. ROBIN & RUSS HANDWEAVERS, 533 No. Adams St., McMinnville, Oregon 97128.

12/4 NATURAL MERCERIZED COTTON

A beautiful cotton with a sheen, 4-ply, excellent warp, has 2,500 yards per lb. I would suggest warping at 15 to 20 ends per inch, and I think 2 per dent in a 10-dent would make a very nice firm fabric. It is on 2-lb. cones. \$6.00 per lb., when purchased by the cone, or \$6.80 per lb. if you want just ½ or 1 lb. of this nice outstanding warp or weft thread. About 100 lbs. left out of 200. ROBIN & RUSS HANDWEAVERS, 533 No. Adams St., McMinnville, Oregon 97128.

LUGGAGE TAN, 30% WOOL, 70% ACRYLIC CHENILLE, SPUN IN ITALY

This was spun for a knitting firm. It is on 50-gram balls, 10 balls per box, and a box comes to 1 lb. 1 oz. We have it on sale at \$8.00 per lb., and your price per 10-ball box is \$8.50. This is an excellent quality chenille for knitting or weaving. Also, besides this luggage tan, we have 10 to 15 boxes of it in a beautiful dark sage green. It is the same price. One of our yarn salesmen said it should sell for \$49.50 per box of 10 balls, so I offered to sell some to him for \$8.00 per lb. To my amazement, I sold him some. While it lasts, about 50 lbs. of luggage tan and 10 to 15 lbs. of the dark sage green. ROBIN & RUSS HANDWEAVERS, 533 No. Adams St., McMinnville, Oregon 97128.

HEAVY SINGLE-PLY WILD (TUSSAH) SILK IN AN OATMEAL BLEND COLORING

It, too, was spun in the same mill in France that spun the wool tweed mentioned before. This came on 2½-lb. cones, and most of you will love it. Price is \$12.00 per lb., and how I wish we could find more of this. 95 lbs. only available. ROBIN & RUSS HANDWEAVERS, 533 No. Adams, McMinnville, OR 97128.

SHUTTLE PINS FROM SWITZERLAND

We will have some shuttle pins made to order for us from Switzerland soon, made of Zebrano or Zebra wood from Africa, Palisander (red-brown stripes) from Africa, and hopefully, also of Rosewood, in a very light color of rosewood. We are hoping to be able to sell these at \$6.95 each. Due in here in about 4 to 6 weeks, we will take advance orders at \$6.95 each. ROBIN & RUSS HANDWEAVERS, 533 No. Adams St., McMinnville, Oregon 97128.

SPICE WOOL TWEED, SINGLE PLY, LT. SAGE AND NATURAL, with a few darker flecks

This is a finer wool tweed with a nice soft hand, not harsh like some tweeds, with 2,500 yards per lb. It came on about 1 lb. 4 oz. cones, and is \$6.80 per pound. Should make nice light-weight suiting and skirt material. Some men would like this color in suits nowadays, whereas in the past they would not have liked it. Price again is \$6.80 per lb. ROBIN & RUSS, 533 No. Adams St., McMinnville, Oregon 97128. Suggest for weft only.

COPPER-GOLD LUMINEX METALLIC BOUCLE

Not as bright as a bright gold, and not as red as a copper. A rich in-between color. A 2,200 yard tube (approx. 4 oz.) is \$5.95, or if you can use as much as a 2-lb. cone, it is \$20.00 per lb. You save about \$8.00 for a 2-lb. cone over the tubes. We have about 50 lbs. on hand. Robin & Russ Handweavers, 533 No. Adams St., McMinnville, Oregon 97128.

COPPER-TAN-DARK GREEN-CHOC. BROWN SPACE-DYED MOHAIR LOOP YARN

It has about 900 yards per lb. A good buy at \$9.60 per lb. It came on about 3-lb. cones, but we can wind off ½-lb. tubes. It is about 90% mohair, 10% cotton binder, and the binder is dyed to blend in with the mohair. Should also prevent the mohair loop from shrinking. ROBIN AND RUSS HANDWEAVERS, 533 No. Adams St., McMinnville, Oregon 97128.

warp and weft
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