

IN THIS ISSUE P.1. Editorial; P.2. The Honeycomb Technique, a method of weaving which shows the pattern in relief. P.3. Simple Kitchen or Cottage Curtains. P.4. A wide border for curtain or apron in the Monk's Belt Pattern.

A NEW WEAVING POEM. Our Detroit poetess, Ann Campbell, who writes a poem a day for the Women's Page of the Detroit News, visited us recently and watched with fascination the rhythmic thud of the looms. Later we received from her two lovely poems on weaving, one given herewith.

The Weaver by Ann Campbell
Courtesy of the Detroit News.

She sits before the loom and weaves
A pattern of simplicity,
And then because her soul believes
In beauty, she inserts instead
Of linen, a bright silver thread.
The quickened loom sings happily.

So in the sunset of my days
Before an ancient loom, I dart
My shuttle in and out... The rays
Of my last sunlight fall upon
My hands, but it is threaded dawn
I weave with forward-looking heart!

WEAVING INCREASES IN POPULARITY. From a recent article on weaving in the New York Sun, we quote: "With women all over the United States- and some men- now becoming interested in handweaving, American homes bid fair to hear again, as in the days of Martha Washington, the whir of the Spinning Wheel and the click of the Loom. They may even be filled again with the smell of indigo or of butternuts being boiled in preparation for the dyeing of yarns and threads to be used in the making of handwoven fabrics. When most of the looms and spinning wheels were carried 'up attic', there disappeared the contentment that grew out of the rhythmic co-ordination of hand and brain in weaving and the satisfaction in individual achievement. Some persons today find a livelihood in this ancient craft. Others, like Eva Le Gallienne, weave for the sheer joy of rhythmic motion and the satisfaction of creating beauty! Folks from every walk of life weave."

OPPORTUNITY FOR RUG WEAVING. Information regarding most encouraging opportunities for the sale of handwoven rugs in the U.S. is contained in the Maysville Guild bulletin: "For many years the greatest obstacle to the profitable sale of American handloomed floor coverings, has been the low prices asked by dealers for Japanese imitations. Although it was generally known that Japanese labor works for wages that would mean starvation for American weavers, the lure of low prices has always been strong enough to assure a ready sale of Japanese rugs. Weavers will therefore be glad to learn from the latest figures published by the United States Department of Commerce, that the total importations of countable cotton fabrics of all descriptions from Japan during the first eight months of this year are less than one-fifth of those of the same months for 1937.

Importations of cotton floor coverings of Japanese make, chiefly rag rugs, were 6,883,349 square yards less during this period than in the same period a year ago. Present indications are that importations from Japan during the remainder of the year will be equally far short of what they were early in 1938. This would indicate that American weavers will have to produce at least 13,000,000 square yards of floor coverings more than they made last year in order to meet the normal requirements of the home market.

But that is only the beginning of the story. With Japanese competition "gone with the wind", American weavers will no longer be expected to sell their rugs at starvation prices."

1939 CONFERENCE OF AMERICAN HANDWEAVERS. The announcements of the second National Conference of American Handweavers are about ready. This year the dates are June 11 to 18 for the Beginners' Foundation Course; June 18 to July 2 for the regular two-weeks course. Mrs. Atwater will supervise the courses, and writes that she has some very new weaving "stunts" all saved up for our weavers. Save your dates and dollars, for the conference will be one of inspiration from every angle: good times, hard work, fine friends from everywhere, beautiful place to call your home for a period.

For those who enjoy an atmosphere of sunshine and cheer in the kitchen or dinette, we suggest a striped warp of several colors. To make a low-ceilinged room seem higher weave this in vertical stripes, using only one color for the weft. If you prefer a plaid effect, weave the weft pattern just like that of the warp, using the same spacing and the same colors when weaving as you used when threading the warp. If you desire a border at the base of your curtains, weave in the plaid pattern at the base of each panel, then proceed upward with only one color weft, which will prolong the design in vertical stripes only, as shown below in the sketch at right.

For materials you will need 14/2 ply white cotton (.95 per lb.) and for the colors, Perugian Filler (\$.22 1/2 per 2-oz. tube.) In the diagram at base of page, note a band of repeated colors, XY. This band gives the weaver a chance to introduce into the warp any of the colors of the room, even a series of bright rainbow colors in a flashing accent. The amount of material needed for 10 yds. of finished material 30 inches wide is: 1 lb. of white or a good background color in 14/2 ply or similar grist; and 1/2 lb. each of two other colors. Possibly other colors for accent.

PATTERN PLAN Choose 3 colors: a background color, 1; a light color, 2; a color complementary to this, 3. For example, Color 1, white; Color 2, maize; Color 3, blue. The pattern consists of two motifs, the first, A-B, used only once at left selvage and once at right; and B-C, the center motif, which is repeated twice to form the main part of curtain. Reading from right to left in diagram at base of page, each check representing three warp threads:

WARP PLAN:
 Warp: 14/2 cotton or Perugian.
 Weft: the same.
 Size sley: 12 or 24 dent.
 Thds. per inch: 24
 Width in sley: 30"
 Total No. of Thds: 720.
 Weave as a stripe or plaid.

A-B----- 60 threads as follows: -----60
 color 3---- 6 thds.
 " 1----12 "
 " 3---- 3 "
 " 1---- 3 "
 " 2---- 3 "
 " 1----30 "
 " 3---- 3 "

B-C-----300 threads as follows:-----300
 color 2---- 3 thds.)
 " 3----33 ")
 " 1---- 3 ") (117)
 " 2---- 3 ")
 " 3---- 3 ")
 " 1----72 ")

Section XY rainbow colors

color 3---- 3 thds.)
 " 1---- 3 ") (72)
 " 2---- 3 ")
 " 1---- 3 ")

(Keep on repeating 6x. Use any bright colors desired)

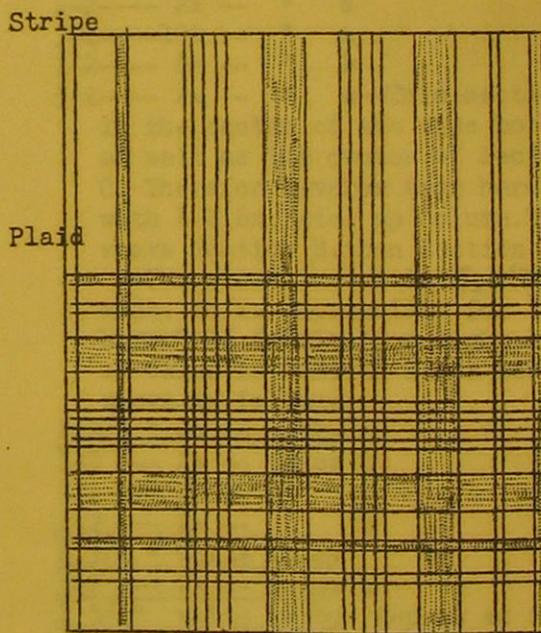
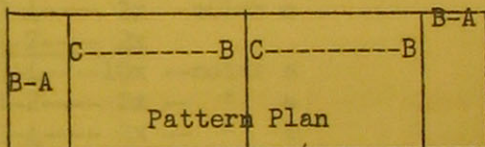
color 1----72 thds.)
 " 2---- 3 ") (111)
 " 1---- 3 ")
 " 3---- 3 ")
 " 2----27 ")
 " 3---- 3 ")

Repeat B-C again-----300

Finish with A-B----- 60

Total for warp 30" wide 720

72 white | Y Rainbow stripe | X 72 white



Read pattern chart right to left.

