

warp and weft

Vol. XV, No. 10

December, 1962



warp and weft

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

Subscription: \$4.00 per year.

Back Issues: 40c each, plus 3c postage.

Editor: Russell E. Groff,

Assistant Editor: Robin Groff.

Vol XV, No. 10

December, 1962

A Word From The Editor

This has been an extremely busy month for us here in our weaving studio. This month, your editor was busy with a few lectures, and presented programs to the Portland Handweavers Guild, The Salem Handweavers Guild, and to 3 different service clubs and groups in McMinnville itself. So, you can see that this took quite a bit of effort, and yet, it was a task that I myself, very much enjoyed. I spoke to the two guilds on the different fabrics that we have woven for Warp and Weft and for our multiple harness bulletin Drafts and Designs, and of course, we had samples of the many different fabrics to show to these groups.

And besides this, we have had two out of staters come for lessons and spend a week in McMinnville, and it has been fun to get acquainted with them.

We also finished the material for the drapes in our guest bedroom and it will be the sample that we featured in the October issue of Warp and Weft. The local drapery shop has them now, and we hope that they will be finished soon.

Another project just beginning is a 5 year plan for land-scaping the area around the front, side and back of our shop. We were very extravagant I'm afraid, and had a landscape architect

draw up the plans, and now that we have them, it is our task to see if we can make them mature. As I said this will be about a 5 year project, and then when completed, we have hopes that it will be a more or less self-maintaining project, with very little effort needed from Robin or I.

We have also been busy at the sample loom, and several days were spent on it making samples for future Warp and Weft, and Drafts and Designs projects. It is just too bad, that I myself, don't have more time for the loom, as this is the one phase of the business that I myself prefer to any other part of it.

And then, to crown it off, and to take a sort of vacation (we had none this summer), we plan on a trip to Spokane, Washington, over the Thanksgiving vacation, and we are looking forward to this very much. We wonder if we will see any snow, and be in it. Of course after living in California for 16 years, snow is still a novelty to us. Perhaps after we have lived in Oregon a few years, it will not be such a novelty.

With all of these things going, you can see that we have been busy. However, we have taken time out to start a new hobby of coin collecting, and Robin and I are enjoying a square dance class very much. Well, enough of this and back to the weaving.

Russell E. Groff, Editor

This Month's Book Review

The book we are reviewing this month is a new one just published a few months ago titled "RUG WEAVING," and is written by two English authors, Klares Lewes and Helen Hutton. As most of you know, Rug-Making is becoming more and more popular with the handweaver, and this is an excellent book on the subject. There are many excellent pictures of finished rugs in this book, and many other diagrams and illustrations of the step-by-step procedures used in the

making of these various rugs. There are over 50 different rugs illustrated, and the directions for most of these are given.

The first portion of the book is devoted to teaching techniques and to loom set-up, and to the various techniques used in rugs. The last portion of the book is devoted to the different patterns, illustrations of the various rugs, etc. The two authors did quite a good job in more or less getting the beginner started on these different rugs. Their desire is to get the beginner started, and then to encourage them to make up their own designs in the techniques they desire to make their own rugs.

There is a very interesting glossary given in the back of the book also that explains all of the different terms connected with the weaving of rugs. As some of the English terms differ slightly from those we use here, this glossary is quite helpful. I want to once again emphasize that the photographs are extremely clear and can be quite a help to the weaver.

TITLE: RUG WEAVING

AUTHORS: Klares Lewes & Helen Hutton

PUBLISHERS: The Charles T. Branford Co., of Newton Centre 59, Mass.

PRICE: \$6.50 plus 14c postage.

AVAILABLE: From Publishers or from Robin & Russ Handweavers.

This Month's Cover

The cover this month is of an interesting place-mat made of contrasting weights of thread.

I do not know what the particular threading on this mat was, but it would be very easy to make something similar using a huck threading, or a small over-shot weave or on a twill and plain weave variation. For weft, I would suggest a heavy thread like the heavy jute that is available in colors, and then about a 10/2 weight in linen in 2 colors to use with the

jute. I would think that a 20/2 linen would make an excellent warp, and if you wanted it heavier, then a 10/2 linen would also be very satisfactory. This would make a good future project for warp and weft, so we will keep it in mind, and present it as a project in a future issue.

Notice how interesting it is, to leave a heavy loop on the edge of the mat. This of course is done with the heavy weft thread, of jute or extremely heavy linen, and of course the finer weight thread creates its own even selvage edge. To make the loop on the edge even throughout the mat, you could use a pencil, or a heavier dowel and bring the heavy weft thread around this on the edge and thus make an even sized loop the whole length of the mat.

A Second Book Review

Our first book review was a book about rug-weaving, and now, I want to bring to your attention, another little printed pamphlet or small book, titled: "NOTES ON CARPET KNOTTING AND WEAVING." It was written by Mr. C. E. Tattersall for the Victoria and Albert Museum in London, England.

This book is loaded with information very concisely given and is excellent because of the very clear photographs of the different types of knots used in pile rug weaving of many kinds.

This little book was written primarily to give detailed information about the techniques of the hand-knotted and hand-woven carpets which have been made for so many centuries in Persia, Turkey and other countries of the East, and so often copied by the handweavers of the European countries and America.

Another exceptionally nice thing about this little book is that it very reason-

(Continued on Page 6)

Song of Spring

An interesting textured weave for drapery material. This 4 harness waffle weave varies a little from the standard waffle weave, but we can still classify it as this.

Tie-Up Draft

4	O	X	O	O	O	X
3	X	O	X	O	O	O
2	X	X	O	X	O	X
1	X	X	X	O	X	O
	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	A	ALB	BNA	ACB	BLA	ACB	BN
3	A	A B	B A	A B	B A	A B	B
2	A AA A	B BB B	A AA A	B BB B	A AA A	B BB B	
1	A A	B B	A A	B B	A A	B B	

Warp

In the warp, we have two different kinds of threads. One is the 20/2 egyptian cotton in 2 different colors.

A—20/2 egyptian Meadow Green.

B—20/2 egyptian Parakeet Green.

The second thread is a rayon boucle with a loose twist, and because of this loose twist, it is called "fluff." We used 3 colors in this fluff, and they are:

N—Nile Green, fluff rayon.

L—Light Green fluff rayon.

C—Chartreuse fluff rayon.

Weft

In the weft, we also used 3 different threads. They are as follows:

N—nile green fluff rayon.

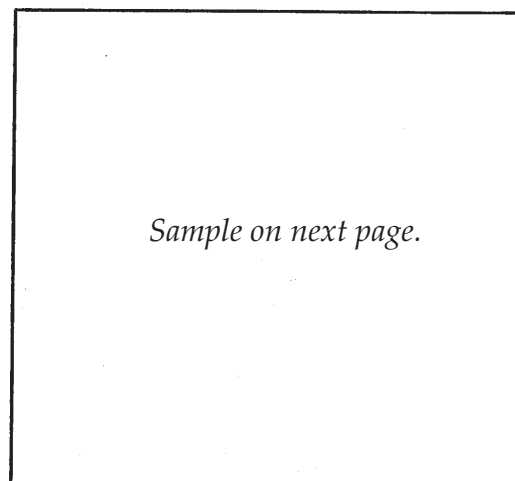
G—supported gold metallic with a green supporting rayon thread.

A—16/2 Ramie, in an Apple Green.

Reed Used

We used a 12 dent reed, and it was sleyed 2 ends per dent for 5 dents with the 20/2 egyptian cotton and then 1 thread of the rayon fluff in the 6th dent. This was repeated over and over.

Sample



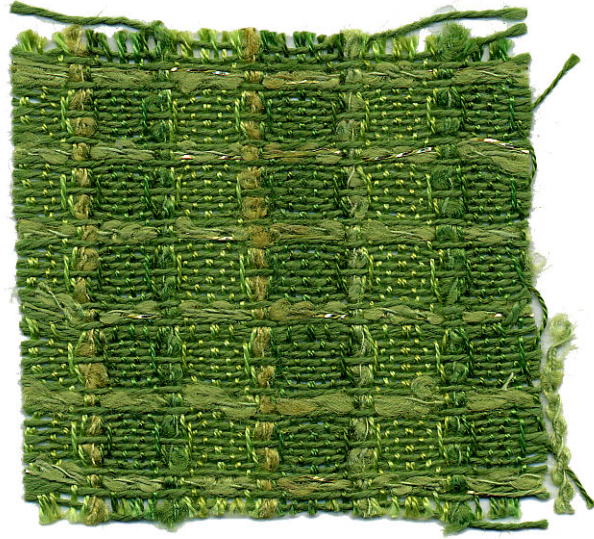
Sample on next page.

Threads Per Inch

In every inch of the reed we had 20 threads of the 20/2 egyptian cotton, and 2 threads of the heavier fluff rayon. Thus, while using a 12 dent reed, we had 22 threads per inch.

Treadling

The treadling that we have used here is slightly different than that of the normal waffle weave, but we changed it because it is much easier to treadle in this manner. Also please note that in the



weft, we wound the green supported gold metallic with the Nile rayon fluff yarn and used this as one weft thread. The other weft thread used was the 16/2 ramie in the apple green color.

Treadle No. 1, Nile rayon & Gold together

Treadle No. 2, 16/2 Ramie

Treadle No. 3, 16/2 Ramie

Treadle No. 4, 16/2 Ramie

Treadle No. 5, 16/2 Ramie

Treadle No. 6, 16/2 Ramie

Treadle No. 5, 16/2 Ramie

Treadle No. 4, 16/2 Ramie

Treadle No. 3, 16/2 Ramie

Treadle No. 2, 16/2 Ramie

End of one Repeat, Repeat over & over.

More About This Sample

This is one of the drapery materials that we intend using in our living room of our new home in McMinnville, Oregon.

In this weave, you normally have a little different treadling, but as I mentioned earlier, with the treadling as I have given it, even though it is not a conventional treadling, you have a much more easier to weave rotation of your treadles. It is much easier to treadle 1 to 6 and back than it is to treadle 1 to 5, have 2 threads on No. 5 treadle, and then go back to one. You either have to use a 2nd shuttle in the conventional treadling or you have to slow down, go around and over one of the selvage threads to put in the 2nd row of the No. 5 treadle, and so you can see why we devised this simpler treadling.

We tried this material first in a 15 dent reed, but the fluffy rayon boucle was a little too heavy for this and tended to pull apart. With the 12 dent reed as we have used it here in our sample, we have had no trouble, and actually, I think it is a nicer weave than when closer together.

In our first sample of this, we also did several samples using different textures

of white and natural weft, and we liked some of these quite well. We also tried it with more gold in it, but then it was too flashy and bright and even with the supporting green rayon around the gold metallic, we did not like more than we have in the fabric now.

I feel that you can overdo the use of metallic, but with one occasional thread wrapped with something else as we have done here, you will find that the occasional thread of metallic adds a highlight or makes a good accent thread.

I also want to mention that this sample was inspired by a sample from one of Mr. Hickman's folios. However, his sample was in yellows, and we have taken liberties both with his draft, his treadling, and of course, we have changed colors considerably.

I might also mention that we used on our jack-type loom, the tie-up for the counter-balanced loom (the x's in the tie-up draft) and wove our sample with the waffle on the underside of the material. However, I felt it was much easier to follow the treadling sequence, if you could see the waffles taking shape, so I changed the tie-up to the one you would normally use on a jack-type loom in this pattern. It worked out quite well, and was certainly much easier to follow each pattern repeat.

We now have the material finished for Warp and Weft, but I wonder how long it will take us to finish the extra 22 yards on the loom for our drapes.

Cost of This Fabric

Our material this time was set up to a 45½" width, and the finished material is coming out to about 44 to 44½" in finished width. Also, I am figuring out the cost of this fabric on the basis that we had just one color of 20/2 Egyptian cotton in the warp, and one color of the rayon fluff

type yarn in the warp also. Thus, because of the colors, the cost of the fabric in more than 2 colors would be more expensive than the price I'm quoting here.

First of all, the egyptian cotton 20/2 has 8400 yards per lb., is on 1/2 lb. cones, and is \$5.00 per lb. We used it because it holds its color so well, is almost free of knots and is a joy to use. The fluff rayon has 1000 yards per lb., comes on 1/2 lb. cones and is \$3.50 per lb. The 16/2 apple green ramie is \$5.00 per lb. The colors are sun-fast and washfast, and it has 2400 yards per lb. The metallic gold supported with green is \$3.50 per lb., comes on about 1/2 lb. cones, and has about 2800 yards per lb.

In a 35 yard warp, it took 3 3/4 lbs. of the 20/2 egyptian cotton. It took 3 1/4 lb. of the fluff rayon, so the total warp cost for 45" wide material, 35 yards was \$31.13. If you break this down to cost per yard, you find it comes to 89c per yard for the 45" wide material.

In the weft, we used 3 oz. of the supported gold & green metallic. We used 10 oz. of the fluff rayon. We used 2 lbs. 12 oz. of the 16/2 ramie. This is the amount that was needed to weave 9 yards of finished material. Thus the weft cost \$16.61, and when you break it down to cost per yard, it comes to \$1.85 per yard for the weft. Of course, instead of the ramie, you could use a less expensive thread like a 10/3 cotton, and it would bring the cost down considerably.

WARP COST, per yard of 45" width .89
WEFT COST, per yard 1.85

FABRIC COST PER YARD\$2.74

SECOND BOOK REVIEW

(Continued from Page 3)
ably priced at \$1.00 plus 9c postage, and there is a wealth of material contained in it for this price.

There is a section in the book on Pile Carpets, Smooth-faced Carpets, and other types of floor-coverings. There is a drawing which would be easy to copy to make your own small carpet or tapestry loom. There are descriptions given of the materials used in Carpet-making, the various knots such as the Turkish or Ghiordes Knot, the Persian Knot, the Single-Warp knot. There is information about the welt thread to be used, as well as the warp. An explanation is given on selvages, the ends of Carpets, Tapestry-Type Carpets, Soumak, the use of design and other such information.

There are illustrated carpets of the various different far eastern countries.

Next come the directions for making a small loom, that you can make your own carpets and tapestries on a small scale yourself.

Last and by far, the most important are the excellent plates showing in detail, how to make the different knots that we have mentioned herewith.

TITLE: Notes on CARPET KNOTTING & WEAVING.

AUTHOR: C.E.C. Tattersall.

PUBLISHER: Her majesty's Stationary Office.

PRICE: \$1.00 plus 9c postage.

AVAILABLE: Robin & Russ Handweavers, 533 N. Adams St., McMinnville, Oregon.



CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING

A classified advertising section will be tried out in *Warp and Weft* for a few months, to see if there is any interest or response. Why not advertise your old loom, duplicate equipment, and other such items in this section. Price per 5-line ad is \$4.00. Payment to accompany your advertising copy.

THE HANDWEAVERS WORKBASKET now stocks a complete and full range of Bernat colors in both the Fabri and Afghan yarns. Sample color cards, thirty cents, upon receipt of request. Grace D. Blum, **THE HANDWEAVERS WORKBASKET**, Box 691, R.R. 1, West Chicago, Illinois.

HANDWOVEN TIES: The popular new style of the narrow, square end ties in stripes, and in solid colors. \$2.00 each. Many, many different colors to choose from. Retail and wholesale inquiries invited. Robin & Russ, 533 N. Adams St., McMinnville, Oregon.

HEAVY SLUB SPUN SILK: Extra heavy, textured, slub spun silk with 1200 yards per lb. On approximately 1 lb. cones. A very popular item. Free sample upon request. \$4.80 per lb. on cones of about 1 lb. each. **ROBIN & RUSS**, 533 N. Adams St., McMinnville, Oregon.

PHOTO INSERT CHRISTMAS CARDS: Instead of a photo, insert a piece of handwoven material with a cross or X-mas design. \$2.00 per box of 25 cards and 25 envelopes. Postage prepaid on these while they last. Robin & Russ, 533 N. Adams St., McMinnville, Oregon.

HEAVY, 2 PLY, COLORED JUTE: 16 colors are available. On 4 oz. spools, and the colors are exciting ones. Price is \$1.96 per lb., or 49c per 4 oz. spool. Approximately 75 yards per spool. Robin & Russ, 533 N. Adams St., McMinnville, Oregon.

COLOR WHEELS: An excellent aid to the weaver for the proper choice of colors for borders, accents, etc. Also has definitions of the different color terms in common use. \$1.00 each, plus 10c postage if ordered separately. **ROBIN & RUSS**, 533 N. Adams St., McMinnville, Oregon.

DECORATING WITH SEED PODS AND CONES: This excellent book with suggestions for patterns and directions for making wreaths, and many other decorative projects of cones, pods, etc. Price is \$4.95 plus 14c pp. **ROBIN & RUSS**, 533 N. Adams St., McMinnville, Oregon.

THE HANDWEAVERS PATTERN BOOK, by M. P. Davison. Considered by most 4 harness weavers as the most essential of all pattern books. The entire book is devoted to 4 harness patterns, with the tie-up and treadling given for every pattern. All classes of weaves are covered. Price is \$7.50 plus 24c postage. Robin & Russ, 533 N. Adams St., McMinnville, Oregon.

HANDWOVEN, METALLIC STRETCH BELTS: These are wonderful gifts and are available in gold, silver or copper. They are woven on an elastic backing, so they will stretch at least 4 inches or more. Available in small, medium or large. Price is \$3.95 each, plus 15c postage. **ROBIN & RUSS**, 533 N. Adams St., McMinnville, Oregon.

BROMA, THE CLEAR PLASTIC SPRAY TO KEEP REEDS FROM RUSTING: The large size can is \$1.95 plus postage. Will stop all metal from rusting by coating same with an extra thin coating of clear plastic lacquer. Robin & Russ, 533 N. Adams St., McMinnville, Oregon.

40/4 NATURAL RAMIE: Same size as a 20/2 linen or ramie, with 3,000 yards per lb. On approximately 2 lb. cones. \$3.20 per lb. It is a very strong warp thread. **ROBIN & RUSS**, 533 N. Adams St., McMinnville, Oregon.

LAPEL, SHUTTLE PINS: Beautifully hand-made lapel shuttle pins of different exotic woods. Made of Italian Pear, Teak, Plum, Walnut, and Ebony. Actual bobbin in each shuttle with thread on it. Makes a striking lapel pin. Price is \$2.00 each, Postage is 10c. Robin & Russ, 533 N. Adams St., McMinnville, Oregon.

FOUR HARNESS HUCK: The excellent book for 4 harness huck weaves is \$2.50 plus 10c postage. It has 100 illustrated patterns or treadlings of various huck combinations, and an explanation of the huck weave. Robin & Russ, 533 N. Adams St., McMinnville, Oregon.

BOBBIN LACE BOBBINS: For use in the bobbin lace technique of making lace. Well made of hard wood. Price is 20c each or \$2.00 per dozen. Robin & Russ, 533 N. Adams St., McMinnville, Oregon.

TAPESTRY BOBBINS: These well made tapestry bobbins are imported from Sweden. Price is 20c each, or \$2.00 per dozen. Robin & Russ, 533 N. Adams St., McMinnville, Oregon.

LECLERC PLASTIC 4" BOBBINS: This is the bobbin that we recommend highly. Strong durable plastic that very seldom will chip if dropped. Price is 20c each, or \$2.00 per dozen. Best seller of all of the bobbins. **ROBIN & RUSS**, 533 North Adams St., McMinnville, Oregon.

9", DRAW IN OR REED HOOK. This has a slight curve on the end of the hook. Most common of all of the reed hooks available. Well liked. Price is 75c each. Robin & Russ, 533 N. Adams St., McMinnville, Ore.

SPEE-DEE CEMENT: In the new plastic squeeze bottle. You can glue two broken warp ends together in 1 minute with this cement. Price is 60c per bottle and 10c postage if just cement is ordered. Robin & Russ, 533 N. Adams St., McMinnville, Oregon.

warp and weft

533 North Adams Street,
McMINNVILLE, OREGON

The Weaver's Marketplace

NEW!!!

Functional Overshot by Grace D. Blum
A basic source for modern designs.
Contains concise directions for weaving almost any overshot threading, in 24 different methods and 32 woven swatches.

\$16.50 per copy

Mailed prepaid when
check accompanies order.

Hand Weavers' Work Basket

Box 691, R.R. 1 West Chicago, Illinois

**HANDWEAVING
YARNS and SUPPLIES**

A wide variety of distinctive yarns, developed especially for handweaving is available for prompt shipment in quantities to suit your needs.

The Handweaver's Headquarters

Lily Mills Company

Dept. HWWW Shelby, N. C.

A Complete Line
**YARNS LOOMS
AND WEAVING SUPPLIES**

GOLDEN RULE PRODUCTS

Write for a catalogue and list of agents

Hughes Fawcett, Inc.

P.O. Box 276 Dunellen, New Jersey

SWEDISH TYPE BELT OR RIBBON LOOM

2 MODELS AVAILABLE

8", 2 harness, 2 treadle floor model
with plain beam — \$42.50

14", like above only with beater
\$62.50

NORWOOD LOOM COMPANY

P.O. Box 272 Baldwin, Michigan

BULK RATE
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
Permit No. 125
McMinnville, Oregon