



# warp and weft

Vol. XX, No. 2

FEBRUARY 1967

## warp and weft

PUBLISHED MONTHLY (EXCEPT JULY AND AUGUST)  
BY ROBIN & RUSS HANDWEAVERS, 533 NORTH  
ADAMS STREET, McMinnville, Oregon 97128.

**SUBSCRIPTION:** \$4.00 PER YEAR.

**BACK ISSUES:** 40c EACH, PLUS 4c POSTAGE.

**EDITOR:** RUSSELL E. GROFF,

**ASSISTANT EDITOR:** ROBIN GROFF.

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### A Word from the Editor:

As most of you know, your editor is also a bowling "nut." But I want to spread the word that I almost—but not quite—had two near perfect games this year. Just last night I bowled one game with 11 strikes and a split, and about a month ago, I had 10 strikes and a spare. This is so unusual with me that I just had to tell the world about it.

As it turns out, it looks as though your editor to Warp and Weft will get to make that weaving tour through the countries of England, Ireland, Scotland, and Wales, and then after this portion of the trip is over, I will go with 2 or three friends and rent a car, and drive to Switzerland and to Sweden and Denmark. This will be strictly a weaving tour, and we will have a four day workshop outside of London, and we will visit many, many different factories, weaving shops, weaving schools, and other such places. Ever since I heard about this tour, it is all I can do to think about anything else, as I think of all of the 1001 things I would like to do on this trip.

I'm hoping that I will be able to find a constant supplier for such things as a line of wool tweed yarns, for some smooth, glossy spun silk, a good line of two ply worsted yarns, and other unusual novelty yarns. My trouble is that I want to do everything in one visit. I want to take two cameras, one for color slides and one for black and white photographs. I want to take a tape-recorder and be able to record the sounds and the peoples of these various places, and I want to visit every

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weaving shop, center, and every yarn manufacturing place that I can. Of course, you know that I'll not get to do all of this, but if wishes were kings—.

Back to earth again, we must plan and finish the Warp and Weft samples for May and June before I can go on such a trip, as well as the samples for Drafts and Designs. This involves a lot of weaving, a lot of planning and a lot of plain old ordinary work, but I'm hoping that it can be done. The night lights will be burning here in our shop for the next few months now.

Also, I should tell you about another interesting project that is just being started on one of our looms. We are just starting to weave a heavy linen piece of 33 yards length, which will be used by a nearby nursery as a conveyor belt. This piece has to be 48" wide, and will be used to help sort root stocks, and other such materials. It will be a job, but is a most challenging one. During this past year, we have had some interesting weaving challenges, and I think that the top two are this conveyor belt and weaving the straining cloths for an apple cider press.

We have just finished working out some beautiful samples for two future issues of drafts and designs, our multiple harness bulletin, and now we have a sample swatch on the loom, which we hope will make an interesting bed-spread sample for warp and weft.

We must also tell you that I really did enjoy weaving this month's warp and weft sample, but we were so surprised that such a great interest was shown in it, while it was on the loom. We have never had so much interest and sold so much yarn so quickly to duplicate a piece as we did this one. We had just 50 lbs. of each of the two main threads in this fabric, and have almost sold out all 100 lbs. of this yarn in less than a month. Normally such a stock of yarn would last us anywhere from 6 months to a year or longer.

Back to that anticipated trip again. Of course the main thing about such a trip is how to finance it, and my head has been ringing with thousands of thoughts and ideas as how I could finance it. So, we have worked extra hard, and mailed out

some 4500 sample sheets, and will have some 500 to 1,000 more yet to mail to stimulate business before the trip. I forgot to mention it, but Robin will be staying home and keeping the shop open while I'm gone, and she will be kept quite busy, I'm sure.

I've thought of another idea that might be of interest to some of our subscribers, and you will find further details about this here in the pages of Warp and Weft, in this issue and the next.

*Russell E. Groff, Editor*

### **THIS MONTH'S COVER:**

The cover this month is a combination of two pieces which are both wall hangings. As you will notice, the one piece on the left is a woven piece, and the one on the right is a stitchery piece, where several techniques have been used. In the stitchery piece, pieces of handwoven cloth of various kinds have been applied onto a background piece, and then various types of stitches have been used to hold them together.

Also be sure to notice how beautifully woven the handwoven piece is. This would almost have to be a tapestry-type piece of weaving in order to form such perfect circles, and it is most interesting to study the color changes in the various decorative areas of the circles.

Both of these strips or wall hangings were on display at the 1966 Northern California Handweavers Conference in Berkeley this past year.

Don't throw your odd scraps of handwoven material away. Make a decorative wall hanging and combine your woven scraps with a woven background, with stitchery and applique, and see what you can do in the way of an outstanding wall hanging.

### **This Month's Book Review:**

This month, I want to review a book that has been **REDUCED IN PRICE**, and which is not strictly a weaving book, but a pictorial book of Swedish hand crafts.

It is entitled: **A TREASURY OF SCANDINAVIAN DESIGN**. It was originally published and printed in ten languages, and sold throughout the world. I believe it was originally sold in the U. S. in about 1963 for \$14.95, and it is now available at a new reduced price of \$8.95 plus 30c postage.

I'm so sure that all weavers have an appreciation of fine handcrafts that I think they would all enjoy the work that is featured in this book. There are many color illustrations of woven articles, and glass work, and many excellent black and white photographs of such crafts as wood-working, furniture making, lamps, glassware, rugs, drapes, ceramics, jewelry, silverware and others. There are pictures of interiors of some homes featuring their items in use, and many, many individual pictures of woven items, as well as all the other handcrafts. All of these featured hand-made items have been picked as outstanding Scandinavian hand-crafts, and a short bibliography is given on each of the persons who has some work portrayed in the book. There are 300 pages in the book, and it is extra large in size, so you have an excellent portrayal of what is considered the best in Scandinavian design. It is an excellent book for the homemaker, for the professional decorator, and for amateur or expert.

The first section of the book tells or gives an account of the development of good design in Denmark, Finland, Norway and Sweden. There are 188 pictures in color, and over 500 pictures altogether.

I hesitated at \$14.95, but I feel it is an excellent book for \$8.95.

**TITLE:** A TREASURY OF SCANDINAVIAN DESIGN.

**AUTHORS:** It is written by many people from these 4 Scandinavian countries.

**PRICE:** \$8.95 plus 30c postage.

**AVAILABLE:** Robin & Russ.  
Handweavers.

## LUXURY IN A TWEED:

This exciting tweed material was woven in a log cabin weave to give even more interest to the fabric.

### THREADING DRAFT:

4	G	G	G	G	B	B	B	B
3	B	B	B	B	G	G	G	G
2	G	G	G	G	B	B	B	B
1	B	B	B	B	G	G	G	G

### Key To Threads In The Warp:

- G—A charcoal heather wool tweed.
- B—Earthy Brown, Italian wool tweed.

### Warp Threads Used:

One of the warp threads was a charcoal heather grey wool tweed, 1¼ run, with 2,000 yards per lb. It has flecks of white spun in the yarn.

The second thread used in the warp was an earthy brown Italian wool tweed, with bright colored flecks.

### Weft Threads Used:

Two threads were used in the weft. One of these was a fairly large, black loop mohair.

The other thread was a tannish brown Imported Italian Tweed, with very bright colored flecks.

### Reed Used:

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

### Treadling Sequence:

Please note that this is all a plain weave, using just the A and B or 5 and 6 treadles. However, there is a definite sequence of altering the two weft threads used, and that is what I give herewith.

1. Treadle No. 5—Black loop mohair
2. Treadle No. 6—Tan Italian Tweed
3. Treadle No. 5—Black loop mohair
4. Treadle No. 6—Tan Italian Tweed

### TIE-UP DRAFT:

4	X	X	O	O	X	O
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

X—tie-up for Counter-balanced looms.<sup>A</sup> B  
O—tie-up for Jack-type looms.

### SAMPLE:



5. Treadle No. 5—Black loop mohair
6. Treadle No. 6—Tan Italian Tweed
7. Treadle No. 5—Black loop mohair
8. Treadle No. 6—Tan Italian Tweed
9. Treadle No. 5—Black loop mohair
10. Treadle No. 6—Tan Italian Tweed
11. Treadle No. 5—Black loop mohair
12. Treadle No. 6—Tan Italian Tweed
13. Treadle No. 5—Tan Italian Tweed
14. Treadle No. 6—Black loop mohair
15. Treadle No. 5—Tan Italian Tweed
16. Treadle No. 6—Black loop mohair
17. Treadle No. 5—Tan Italian Tweed
18. Treadle No. 6—Black loop mohair
19. Treadle No. 5—Tan Italiana Tweed
20. Treadle No. 6—Black loop mohair
21. Treadle No. 5—Tan Italian Tweed
22. Treadle No. 6—Black loop mohair
23. Treadle No. 5—Tan Italian Tweed
24. Treadle No. 6—Black loop mohair

END OF ONE PATTERN REPEAT. REPEAT OVER AND OVER AS DESIRED.

Please notice that the first twelve threads are alternate black and tan, and that the last twelve threads are alternate tan and black. In other words, to get the log cabin weave, the 1st and last or 24th thread are black loop mohair, and the 12th and 13th threads are Tan Italian Tweed. It is this sequence which gives you the blocks in a log cabin weave, such as is our sample.

### ***Notice About Yarns In This Fabric:***

We are sorry to say so, but most of the yarns in this sample, we cannot duplicate. We had 50 lbs. each of the two Italian Wool Tweeds, and people saw it on the loom, and before we had finished it, we sold all of the Tan Italian Tweed being used in the weft, and most of the brown Italian tweed used in the warp. We are trying to purchase more of both of these, but doubt if we will be able to get some, as we took the entire two lots in our original purchase. As it is an imported yarn, we doubt if we will be able to duplicate them exactly.

We will tell you about the yardage per lb. for these yarns, and give you the cost breakdown, but the yarns used just are not available.

This is the first time we ever sold a lot of yarn this quickly, and it will probably be the last, but as I planned and wove the fabric for a warp and weft sample, I hate to start all over, and do another.

**WE HOPE THAT THIS SAMPLE WILL INSPIRE YOU TO TRY SOME SIMILAR YARNS IN A LOG CABIN WEAVE AND COME UP WITH YOUR OWN DESIGN AND COLOR CREATION**

### ***More About This Fabric:***

The earthy brown Italian tweed seemed to have a few more knots than usual, so this was somewhat of a problem in the weaving. However, spee-dee cement came to the rescue, and I glued all pieces together where there was a knot, and wove it with no problems. I might mention how I used the spee-dee cement, as once in a while we have a customer write in

that it doesn't work, and we have had one customer who told us that it turned bright yellow, so really, I guess that for some uses it is not perfect. However, in this tweed, it is almost impossible to find where we glued broken warp threads together, and it worked beautifully.

Take the two warp threads or warp ends and hold together between your thumb and forefinger. Put a drop or two of spee-dee cement on these two ends, and then roll these two threads together as one between your thumb and forefinger until they do become one. You might have to put another drop or two on these two ends, depending upon how heavy they are. A little of it will dry on your thumb and forefinger and give you a clingy, rubbery residue which you can pull off or rub off your fingers and put in the waste-basket. It is more or less dry within a minute, and these two ends glued together will weave through your reed, where a knot will not. When you take this thread that was between your thumb and forefinger off of your fingers, it looks white, but seems to dry more and more to a transparent color, and by the time you have woven it, it is hard to find in the warp.

I found that this tweed had a slight tendency to cling together, so I used a firm, even, double beat. I beat with the shed open, changed to next shed and beat again firmly.

Also, there is a slight tendency for the weft thread to cling to the warp and as a result, a loop forms on the two selvage edges. However, as long as there was not too much waste, I didn't worry about this problem.

I was so surprised that I didn't have even one broken selvage thread in the 13 yards of this finished fabric. It is stronger than anticipated, so I was pleasantly surprised that I didn't have to put on a selvage of 4 or 8 threads of something else that we often do.

We had a warp, 40" wide on the loom, and the finished fabric was about 39 to 39-1/4" wide, so there was very little loss in the width of the fabric.

In the warp, we put a full 14 yards of

warp on the loom, and finished with some 13 yards of finished fabric.

### **Cost of Thread Used in Sample:**

The earthy brown Italian tweed in the warp took 4½ lbs. and it sells for \$4.00 per lb. The charcoal grey tweed with white fleck has 2,000 yards per lb. and sells for \$3.20 per lb. It took 2¼ lbs. of this. So, the total warp cost for a warp 40" wide, 14 yards long was \$25.20 or the warp cost per yard was \$1.80

In the weft, we have two threads used. One was a large loop black mohair which sells for \$3.50 per lb. It took 2 lbs of the mohair. The other weft thread was the Tannish Italian Wool Tweed with 5% Reindeer hair, which sells for \$4.00 per lb. It took 2 lbs of this in the weft. Thus the weft cost for 13 yards was \$16.00 or the cost per yard was \$1.16.

WARP COST PER YARD .....	\$1.80
WEFT COST PER YARD .....	\$1.16
<hr/>	
FABRIC COST PER YARD .....	\$2.96

Would you like to have some distinctive hand woven pieces from some of the different countries of the world?

Let me purchase for you and send you a handwoven piece from some of these countries. We will send you a choice handwoven item from the looms of an English, Scotch, Welsh, Swiss or Scandinavian Handweaver if you will let us.

Your editor will make a trip to these countries in May and June and will purchase these hand-woven items and send them directly to you from the country of your choice.

Perhaps you'd like a piece of tweed from Ireland; a tartan from Scotland; a honeycomb blanket from Wales; a set of Linen Mats from Denmark; a hand-woven tablecloth from Sweden, or a hand-woven bag from Switzerland.

There will be three different purchase plans. 1. \$12.50 2. \$25.00  
3. \$50.00.

Of these amounts, 75% of the money will be used to purchase the item for you and for shipping them home to you. Your editor will try to choose the nicest items possible, and hopes he will be able to please you.

You will have to abide with his choice, as it will be impossible to make a change after a hand-woven piece has been shipped.

If you'd like to have such a woven piece, and help your editor of Warp and Weft to make this trip; send your check for \$12.50, or \$25.00 or \$50.00 to Russell E. Groff, c/o Warp and Weft, 533 North Adams St., McMinnville, Oregon 97128. Also be sure to mention that it is for a piece of hand-woven material from the country of your choice. Be sure to give us in sequence, 3 choices of what you would like to have (such as yardage—place-mats—or table-cloth), and we will try and send you your first choice.

Russell E. Groff, Editor

## CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING

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.

### IN STOCK:

48 colors Swedish Linen. (Color cards 50c). Fabri and Afghan. (Color cards 35c). The Handweavers' Workbasket. Box 829, R. 1, West Chicago. Illinois 60185.

### 1-¼ RUN, KELLY GREEN WOOL TWEED:

This one is kelly green with flecks of fuschia and plum. Has 2,000 yards per lb. Price is \$3.20 per lb. Can be used for warp or weft. Available on 4 oz. spools or cones of about 1-¾ lbs. each. Robin & Russ, 533 North Adams St., McMinnville, Oregon 97128.

### 8 COLORS IN HEAVY LINEN & RAYON FLAKE:

This is the heavy thread spun to order for Robin & Russ. Natural grey linen twisted around different colors of heavy rayon flake yarn. 900 yards per lb. Free samples upon request. Price is \$4.00 per lb., or \$1.00 per 4 oz. spool. Robin & Russ, 533 North Adams St., McMinnville, Oregon 97128.

### MERCERIZED 20/2 RAMIE:

Our new stock of 20/2 Mercerized Ramie has just come in. Available in whitey white, eggshell natural, antique gold, blush pink, lemon yellow, and dark olive. 3,000 yards per lb. on 1 lb. cones. Price is \$5.00 per lb. plus postage. Also 40/2 bleached white, and 10/2 mercerized natural and white are now in stock. Robin & Russ, 533 North Adams St., McMinnville.

### THE MAGIC OF SPINNING:

This book has been written by a beginning spinner for interested spinners. Tells of her experiences and how she mastered spinning. Price is \$1.60 plus 10c postage. Robin & Russ, 533 North Adams St., McMinnville, Oregon.

### LAP ROBES WOVEN IN OREGON:

These are beautiful lap robes 50" x 60" in size, and are 85% wool and 15% acrylic fiber. They are mothproofed and preshrunk. Available in a heavy plastic, zipper carrying case to take to football games and use in winter sports. Price is \$6.95 postpaid anywhere in the U. S. These are all woven in plaids or tartans. Robin & Russ, 533 North Adams St., McMinnville, Oregon 97128.

### 15" 4 HARNESS TABLE LOOMS:

This is an excellent loom in 15" width, with 400 heddles in 9" length, regular 4" high metal reed. Price is just \$42.50 plus shipping. Will fold slightly also. Shipping is usually about \$4.00. Also available in 8, 12, and 16 harness sizes in the 15" width. For more details, write to: Robin

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### COMMERCIAL YARDAGE COUNTERS WITH RESET:

This is the best yardage counter we have ever seen, and we import these from England. It has an instant reset lever, and measures up to 999 yards. All metal, including metal grooved wheel. Price is \$47.95 plus postage and insurance. Robin & Russ, 533 North Adams St., McMinnville, Oregon 97128.

### LARGE SWEDISH OPEN BOTTOM SHUTTLES:

This is one of the more popular swedish shuttles called the S-15. It is 15" long, by 2" wide by 1-1/8" high. It will hold up to a 6" length bobbin. Price is \$2.95 plus postage. Robin & Russ, 533 North Adams St., McMinnville, Oregon.

### MINATURE, 8" SWEDISH SHUTTLE:

These are excellent for sample looms such as the structo 8" or other sample looms. Closed bottom, price is \$1.85 plus postage. Robin & Russ, 533 North Adams St., McMinnville, Ore.

### CASHMERE AND SILK:

This is a 4 ply yarn, 50% cashmere and 50% silk, in a natural tan color. Excellent for warp or weft. It has about 2400 yards per lb., and can be used for sport coats, suits, tailored women's suits and skirts. AN EXCELLENT BUY AT \$4.80 per lb. on approximately 1 lb. cones. Robin & Russ, 533 North Adams St., McMinnville, Oregon 97128.

### 7 COLORS IN 5½/2 SLUBBY SILK:

This is a 2 ply thread that can be used for warp or weft. 4400 yards per lb. On approximately 14 to 16 oz. cones. Price is \$4.80 per lb. Free sample sheet upon request. Robin & Russ, 533 North Adams St., McMinnville.

### POISON GREEN HEAVY SILK WITH BLACK FLECKS:

This is the same heavy silk that we had previously and which was so popular. It has 1200 yards per lb., is a 2 ply thread and can be used for warp or weft. Price is \$6.00 per lb. on cones of about 1 lb. 2 oz. each. Robin & Russ, 533 North Adams St., McMinnville, Oregon 97128

### SEVEN PROJECTS IN ROSEPATH:

Available once again is this excellent manual by Berta Frey. Price is \$2.50 plus 10c postage. In stock for immediate shipment. Robin & Russ, 533 North Adams St., McMinnville, Ore. 97128

### WOOL AND ORLON YARN AVAILABLE IN FINE WEIGHT:

We have about 500 lbs. of a yarn which is 65% wool, 35% orlon in a single ply with 6,000 yards per lb. It is a 3¾ run yarn, and while a single ply, it can be used for warp or weft. Price is \$3.50 per lb., and there are limited amounts of some colors. About 20 colors available in all. Robin & Russ, 533 North Adams St., McMinnville, Oregon 97128.

# The Weaver's Marketplace

**warp and weft**

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