

# warp and weft

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October, 1969

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## A Word from the Editor:

Yes, it was another busy month, and it has gone by so quickly that we sometimes can't seem to keep up all the work that we'd like to.

During this past month, we did have a chance to attend the PACIFIC NORTHWEST HANDWEAVERS CONFERENCE, which was held at the University of Washington in Seattle, Washington. This was sponsored by Seattle Weavers Guild, and was a very interesting conference. The speaker was Mary Pendleton, along with two of the professors from the University of Washington who specialized in studying the weavings of the Indians of the United States.

Also, during this month, we did work out a tentative itinerary for our trip to Switzerland and Ireland next year, the weaving tour that your editor hopes to lead. If all plans work out on this trip, we will have available for those of you who are interested, an itinerary for your own individual reference. We can tell you now though that the tour will probably start on June 15th, 1970, and will be for six weeks. The first three weeks will be in Switzerland, and then the last three weeks will be in Ireland, with a weaving workshop the last week in Ireland, where everyone who is interested can actually weave a project to bring home with them if they wish.

Besides this, we have had many yarns come in this month and these in turn had to be put away in the proper bins and marked with prices, etc. We did have about 1500 pounds of assorted yarns come in.

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Another thing of interest to us this past month was the fact that there was so much interest in the strings of wood beads that we imported from Switzerland, that almost all of them were sold out, and we have to re-order.

Our Portland Handweavers Guild had it's first meeting of the year, and your editor presented a program to them of color slides and displays of materials purchased on the trip. Janice, Robin and I made to Switzerland early this summer.

Something else that might be of interest to you is the fact that we have had our book on card-weaving reprinted. There has been such a tremendous revival of interest in this craft these past two years, that it is almost unbelievable, and this was the reason for having this book reprinted. It will still sell at the same price that it did before, and that is \$3.50 per copy.

We have just started a MacAlpine tartan now in the shop, and are using our English 2/18's worsted for warp and weft. It will be very effective, and we hope to use it as a sample in Warp and Weft in one of our future issues.

## Visit Switzerland and Ireland on a Handweaving Tour with the Editor of Warp and Weft.

Plans are being made now for a tour to Switzerland and Ireland and to finish up the trip have a week's weaving workshop next summer, after school is out. The trip will probably start in the middle of June and will be either five or six weeks long. Tour leader will be Russell E. Groff, Editor of Warp and Weft. If you would like a brochure with prices and other facts, be sure to drop a line to Robin & Russ Handweavers, and they will see that a brochure on the trip is sent to you. We will visit some of the places that you will see featured in future issues of Warp and Weft. These places were just visited last May, to try and help make arrangements for next year's tour.

## This Month's Cover Photograph:

This month's cover photograph is a picture of a company in Switzerland, SANGER AND COMPANY, and the headquarters of their weaving operation. In this large Swiss house, they have several rooms on the main floor which are the storage rooms for many of their pieces of yardage of hand-woven material. They have probably many thousands of yards woven fabric in rolls on their shelves in this house.

Also, in the back of this house and to the left is a big room where they have perhaps eight or 10 looms in operation weaving many different fabrics. We will show you in this issue, some other pictures taken in other rooms of this house, showing the looms, etc. THIS IS ONE OF THE PLACES WE HOPE TO VISIT ON OUR WEAVING TOUR TO SWITZERLAND AND IRELAND NEXT YEAR. This is actually the workshop for Sanger & Company, and they also have a display room in the business section of town, about two blocks from this Swiss house.

### Sanger and Company

(A Swiss Weaving Shop)

Our visit to Sanger and Company was so interesting on our trip to Switzerland last May, that we want to tell you more about it.

This actually is a combination of a large weaving studio, a workshop to make up some of the weaving into finished garments, and a sales room in a separate building in the main business part of town.

Here is one of the pictures taken in one of the rooms of the large house featured on the cover of this issue. There are two looms in this picture, and in this large room there were about 10 or 12 similar looms. Notice that the loom in the right has a dobby attachment for greater ease in the weaving of patterns. The loom on the left is also quite wide, and if I remember correctly, the fabric on this loom on the left is cheese cloth being woven for Swiss cheese. The warp on this one is Italian Hemp, and if I'm correct, I think that the weft was a slightly textured or slubby linen.

On another loom in this same room, it was a hand-operated Jacquard loom, and on it

(Continued on Page 5)





## BYE BYE BABY BUNTING

This interesting four harness weave was designed as a baby blanket. It has much interest in the rib effect you have, and also in the texture that is created by primarily smooth threads.

### THREADING DRAFT:

4	OO	AA				
3	X	X	X			
2			X	X	X	
1		OO	AA			

### NOTE ABOUT THREADING DRAFT:

In the threading draft above, you will note that we have 2 - o's close together and 2 - X's close together. In our weaving of this sample, we put these two threads of either X's or O's, both in one heddle to act as one thread, to give more weight to our fabric. However, you do not have to do this, but you can have every thread one to a heddle if you wish, and it will not particularly effect the fabric.

### KEY TO THREADS

#### IN THREADING DRAFT

X - Saffron Gold 2/18's FABRI TYPE WORSTED

O - White wool pompadour

A - Yellow wool pompadour

### WARP:

Three threads were used in the warp. They were as follows:

X - 2/18's fabri type worsted, which has 4800 yards per lb.

O - Pompadour wool worsted in white

A - Pompadour wool worsted in maize or baby yellow as it is sometimes called.

### WEFT:

Two threads were used in the weft. They were the 2/18's fabri type worsted in gold, and also the white wool pompadour was used as a pattern thread.

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### TIE-UP DRAFT:

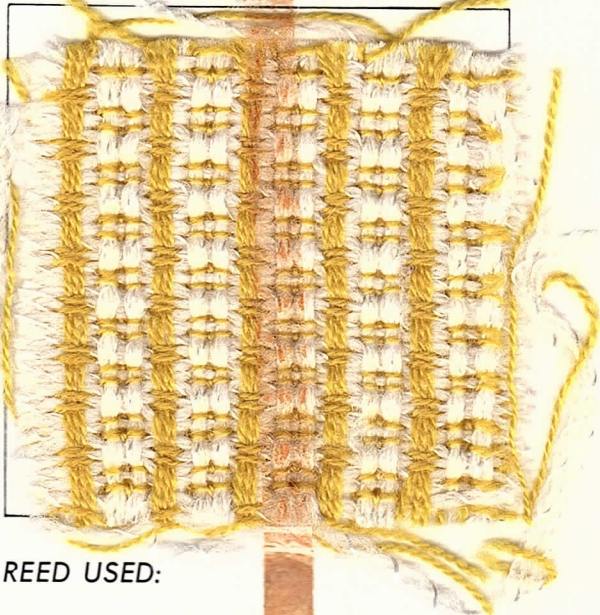
4			O	O		O
3		O	O		O	
2		O				O
1	O			O	O	
	1	2	3	4	5	6

Note - O - tie-up above is for jack-type loom

4	X	X			X	
3	X			X		X
2	X		X	X	X	
1		X	X			X
	1	2	3	4	5	6

Note - X - tie-up for counter-balanced looms

### SAMPLE



### REED USED:

A 10 dent reed was used, and it was an unusual sleying of the reed that we used. It has a total of 28 threads per inch in the warp, because of this sleying of the reed. Here is how the reed was sleyed; as you would do it from the beginning of your pattern repeat.

1st dent - 2 pompadour and 1 2/18's

2nd dent - 2 pompadour and 1 2/18's

3rd dent - 2 gold 2/18's worsted

4th dent - 2 pompadour and 1 2/18's

5th dent - 2 pompadour and 1 2/18's

Repeat this sleying over and over, for each

each repeat of the pattern. NOTE: You will see that the two of the gold 2/18's worsted in one dent, only appear once in the threading draft together, and this is the only time that you do put these two threads together in one dent. When you start your pattern over each time, it almost appears that you have two of the 2/18's worsted come to gether, BUT BE SURE THAT THEY ARE PUT IN THE CORRECT DENT WITH THE two ends of wool pompadour, and the only time you have these two threads together is in the exact center of each pattern.

### **COST OF THE THREADS USED IN THIS SAMPLE**

The 2/18's Fabri-type worsted comes on 1/2 lb. tubes approximately. Some of them vary to seven or nine ounces. Price of this is \$6.80 per lb., or \$3.40 per 1/2 lb. tube.

The wool pompadour comes in some new colors as well as the baby pink, white, baby yellow, baby blue and baby green. It is also available in scarlet, in black, and in cerise. It comes in two ounce skeins at 69c per skein. You save 12c per lb., if you purchase pound lots of a color, as it sells at \$5.40 per lb.

### **TREADLING SEQUENCE:**

1. Treadle No. 6 – white pompadour
2. Treadle No. 3 – 2/18's gold worsted
3. Treadle No. 6 – white pompadour
4. Treadle No. 3 – 2/18's gold worsted
5. Treadle No. 6 – white pompadour
6. Treadle No. 1 – 2/18's gold worsted
7. Treadle No. 6 – white pompadour
8. Treadle No. 1 – 2/18's gold worsted

There are eight threads in one complete pattern repeat, repeat over and over as desired.

### **MORE ABOUT THIS FABRIC:**

One of the first things I should mention about this fabric is that we did use a firm, even, double beat. We would throw the shuttle, and then beat with the shed still open. Next, we would then change to the next shed and holding it open, give the second even firm beat, making it a double beat. I feel that it is essential for this fabric, or your float threads

will be too long, and if they are too long, they have a tendency to snag or catch on foreign objects.

Also, another thing that I like about this fabric is the fact that one side of the fabric is completely different than the other. Notice in our sample that we have a gold stripe in the warp. However, if you look at the back of this sample, you will see that the gold stripe does not appear on the back, and also – the fabric has a different rib effect on the back than appears on the top.

When we wove this on our jack-type loom, we did have the wrong side of the fabric weave on the top, and the correct side was underneath. If you do use a counter-balanced loom, and the tie-up for the counter-balanced loom, then in the weaving, the right side of the fabric will appear on the top.

### **COST OF THIS FABRIC**

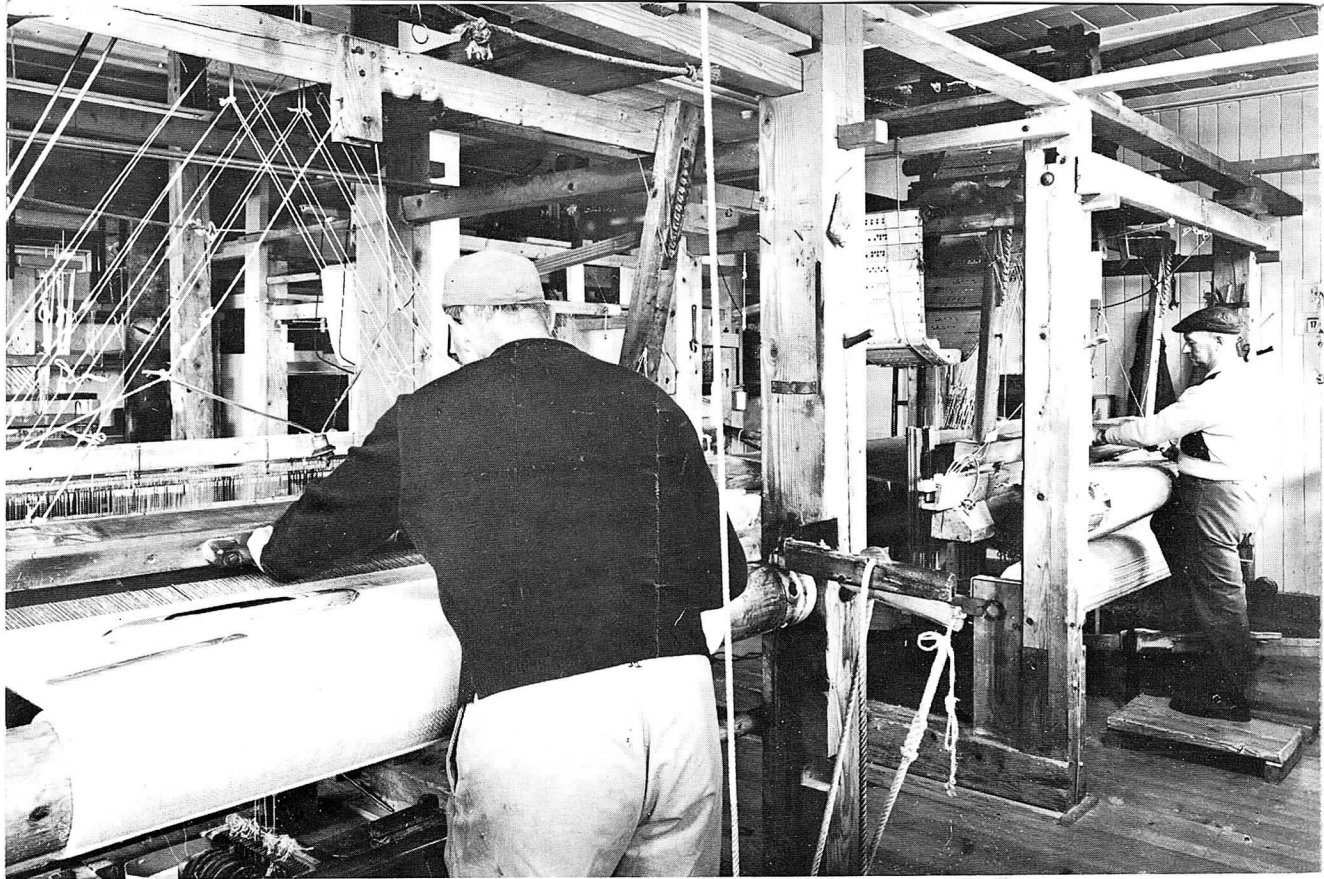
We had a 40" wide warp on the loom, and it was 12 yards in length. To warp this, it took two and a half pounds of pompadour in the warp at \$5.40 per pound. It also took one and one fifth pounds of 2/18's Saffron Gold worsted. Thus, the total warp cost was \$26.58 for 12 yards of warp. Breaking this down to cost per yard, we figure it comes out to \$2.20 per yard for the warp, 40" wide.

In the weft, we found that it takes about two ounces of 2/18's worsted per yard which is 85c. It takes about four ounces of the pompadour per yard at 35c per ounce. Thus the cost of the weft per yard comes to \$2.23 per yard.

WARP COST PER YARD .....	\$2.20
WEFT COST PER YARD .....	\$2.23
<hr/>	
FABRIC COST PER YARD .....	\$4.43

### **A Swiss Weaving Shop (Continued)**

they had a red cotton warp and were using a 12/1 or a 16/1 linen weft in red and orange as weft on material for aprons in a very interesting large diamond jacquard pattern. We were so intrigued that we purchased about six of these aprons for resale in our shop. They make two styles of aprons here. One is a work-type apron, with a bib on the top, as is pic-



tured in this picture. They are beautifully made, and are worn by most persons when at work. We saw the aprons from Sanger and Company being worn by persons at work in restaurants, stores of all kinds, and even the men, as well as the women were wearing them. We saw some of them in Brienze, the wood carving center, and we also saw them worn by waitresses in Zurich and in Bern, Switzerland.

Besides these aprons, they have many hundreds of yards of beautiful damask linen table cloths on the racks in their store rooms. We purchased three of these damask table cloths for re-sale in our shop, and to our amazement, we have sold all three, and so we have ordered another three for display and sale. These damask table cloths were 56" wide and 117 inches long. They each weighed about four and a half pounds so that means that the linen alone in this country would cost about \$25.00 to \$27.00 for just the linen that was used in these. They sold for \$37.50 each, so that is allowing about \$12.00 for the weaving, warping, etc. I felt these were one of

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the best buys that you could make in hand-woven items in Switzerland. Besides this linen, they have much mattress ticking, they weave drapes to order and they weave many beautiful and interesting towels also. About 95 per cent of their weaving is very functional weaving for use in everyday life, and then there is some experimental weaving done for specialty items in this shop.

Besides the weaving being done here in this large Swiss home, Sanger and Company also have several families that weave for them in the winter in their homes up in the hills where they are snowbound for many months. They furnish these weavers with the yarns, give them the pattern, and then when snowbound, the families weave the required number of yards of material, and bring it back to Sanger and Company in their large workshop in the Spring.

On our trip next year, we have arranged to visit with Mr. Sanger of Sanger and Company, and he has stated that he would try and make arrangements for us to visit the home of one of his weavers up in the hills.



## 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.

### THE HANDWEAVERS WORKBASKET

are agents for the Macomber, Norwood, and Lerlerc Looms in the Chicago area. Visit them and see what is available. The Handweavers Workbasket, Box 399, Route 1, West Chicago, Illinois 60185.

### 5 SHADES OF NATURAL, HEAVY ICELANDIC WOOL

Yes, we have on hand 5 shades of a heavy Icelandic wool in different shades of natural. It is put up in skeins of 3.6 oz. each, and this is the longest wool fiber in the world so we are told. Would be beautiful in blankets, in upholstery, in lap robes, in ponchos and the like. Price is \$1.90 per skein. We will soon make up sample sheets of these, and if you are interested, will be glad to provide you with a sample sheet of these free of charge. There are 119 yards per skein. Also, we have available a knitting pattern book featuring sweaters knit of this yarn. It has about 6 different sweater designs, with knitting directions. Robin & Russ, 533 North Adams St., McMinnville, Oregon 97128.

### FINE ALPACA, 2 PLY, IN TWO COLORS

We have about 50 lbs. each of 2 colors in fine 2/24's 100 per cent Alpaca yarn. It is 2 ply, and can be used for warp or for weft. It is available in Light Fawn, and Light Avocado colors. Would make beautiful tailored women's suits, and work well in coats, and also in men's sports coats. It has about 550 to 6,000 yards per lb. Comes on cones of about 1½ lbs. each. For that extra soft feeling in a luxury fabric, you can't find a nicer yarn than this one. Robin & Russ, 533 North Adams St., McMinnville, Oregon 97128.

### BRUSHED ORLON NOVELTY FOR BABY BLANKETS AND COAT MATERIAL

This is beautiful brushed multicolored novelty yarn. And the light color would work very well in baby blankets. It is light blue, light yellow and natural, all blended together. The one that I think would make beautiful coat material has light olive, light turquoise, blue and natural blended together beautifully. Price on both of these is \$4.00 per lb. Robin & Russ, 533 North Adams St., McMinnville, Oregon 97128.

### CASTLE TYPE NORWEGIAN SPINNING WHEELS

We just received a shipment of 10 of these castle type wheels, and almost everyone says they are excellent wheels. Price is the same on these as they have been at \$95.00 each, plus shipping. We have been told though, that our next shipment will be more as the price has again been raised. We have 7 of these left now. ROBIN & RUSS HANDWEAVERS, 533 North Adams St., McMinnville, Oregon 97128.

### 15 COLORS IN 2/2 SPUN RAYON

Sample sheets are being made of these 15 colors of 2/2 spun rayon. We have 25 lbs. of each color available. It is smooth, glossy, and has about 840 yards per lb., so it is ideal for weft in many different projects. Available on 1/2 lb. tubes of 420 yards each. The price is \$3.20 per lb. or \$1.60 per 1/2 pound tube. ROBIN & RUSS HANDWEAVERS, 533 North Adams St., McMinnville, Oregon 97128.

### STRINGS OF BEAUTIFUL WOODEN BEADS

from Switzerland are now available at the shop of Robin & Russ. Made of Zebra-wood, Rosewood, and other Nut-woods and the woods are imported from Africa. Unique, one of a kind, these are handmade in Switzerland. Price is \$4.95 a string, and they are exceptionally beautiful. Stop in and see them if you can. Robin & Russ, 533 North Adams St., McMinnville, Oregon 97128.

### 12 WOOL TWEED YARNS IN BEAUTIFUL COLORS

Most of these are made of the New Zealand wool yarn, and are beautiful tweed yarns. Most are about 1800 to 2,000 yards per lb., and come on about 1½ lb. cones. Price is just \$3.20 per lb. Robin & Russ, 533 North Adams St., McMinnville, Oregon 97128.

### SPIN YOUR OWN WOOL AND DYE IT AND WEAVE IT

is available once again. This book has just been republished and 100 copies just came in from New Zealand. Price is \$2.95 plus 18c postage. The spinners and dyers will enjoy this one. Robin & Russ, 533 North Adams St., McMinnville, Oregon 97128.

### RUG WEAVING FOR EVERYONE IS BACK IN PRINT

Yes, this excellent book on different methods of rug weaving is once again in print at the same reasonable price of \$3.95 plus 18c postage. In stock and ready for shipment. This book has about 30 different rugs explained and directions given for them. Robin & Russ, 533 North Adams St., McMinnville, Oregon 97128.

### HANDSPINNERS ATTENTION.

Beautiful white combed ramie sliver is available now from Robin & Russ. Just in from Switzerland, this sliver has a beautiful gloss and sheen, and almost feels like silk. Price is reasonable at \$2.25 per lb. We will put it up in approximately 1 lb. packages for sale here. Robin & Russ, 533 North Adams St., McMinnville, Oregon 97128.

### A NEW S TYPE SLEY HOOK OF BRASS

I have used this in slewing the reed, and feel it is much more convenient, than the smaller S-type plastic and metal sley hooks from Sweden. We had 500 of these made to order for us. Price is \$1.00 each, plus postage. Easy and convenient to hold in your hand, plus it works very well. Robin & Russ, 533 North Adams St., McMinnville, Oregon 97128.

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**warp and weft**

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Mailed prepaid when  
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## SPECIAL OF THE MONTH

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Natural slubby tussah silk (tan in color)  
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cent silk, 50 per cent viscose available in 2  
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Excellent for weft in sport coats, overcoats,  
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warp when mixed with other threads.

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