



warp and weft

Vol. XXXIII, No. 10

December, 1980

warp and weft

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Editor: Russell E. Groff

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A Word from the Editor

We have a most interesting "Swivel Weave" in progress for our next Warp and Weft sample. Actually, we wove three different color gamps, and were too pleasantly surprised to find that we liked all three samples woven on one weft, so we will probably weave two or three of these for future issues of Warp and Weft. We have a local weaver here who we will give one to weave, and I'll try to weave one of these other samples myself. And we still have the sample gamp on the loom, and I'm going to try some different color combinations on this loom set-up.

And on our multiple harness loom, we have a sample gamp in three color combinations for a mock, 8-harness damask; and we hope to feature one or two of these in future issues of Drafts and Designs. This will be an all-cotton sample that we will feature to be used as tablecloths, etc.

We have now received all of the shipments except one of the yarns I ordered last fall, and have been working on getting out sample sheets of these for the past month. We still have enough yarns left for about six different sample sheets, so you can see that we will be busy for quite a while this summer working on samples.

Business has continued to be slow for us in the yarn business, and we've had to cut back our staff somewhat. However, we've been delighted to sell three of our looms in the past two weeks.

And suddenly, we have about six different students coming in and working and learning here at the shop.

Also, we have been contemplating a summer workshop here at the shop, but have not made a final decision yet. We have wondered if you, our subscribers, thought there would be any interest in a one-week workshop, if I selected say 15 of my favorite 4- and 8-harness weaves, and dressed the looms, and then I would teach you all I can about these weaves in a summer workshop. What do you think?

Also, we have a local teacher from Portland who is excellent on loom-shaped garments, Miss Jean Scorgie, and I have asked her if she might be interested in teaching a summer workshop; and she has indicated that she would be most interested; and we plan to meet later this week and discuss this thoroughly.

Also, there are several conventions coming up that I will be attending, and we are having one here in the Pacific Northwest this year in Eugene, Oregon, in June.

The first one I will attend is in March in Southern California, and then this year I will attend one in Arizona, in northern California, and then here in Eugene, Oregon, in June. The big problem will be attending one in Arizona one weekend, and then attending one in Oregon the following weekend.

Our Pacific Northwest Handweavers Conference will be held at the convention center in Eugene, Oregon, on June 25 to 28, with workshops being held in advance from June 22 to June 24. If you are interested and would like perhaps to attend this conference, and do not belong to a guild in the Association of Pacific Northwest Handweavers, then I'd suggest you write to the registration chairman, Rosalie Neilson, Registrar for Northwest Weavers' Conference, 17506 S.E. Walta Vista Drive, Milwaukie, Oregon 97222, for further information and registration blanks.

With the slow-down in business, I have been able to devote a little more time to weaving, and I finished a most interesting 6-harness overshot piece in a basket-weave about a week ago. Now I've been weaving samples, and I hope to start weaving one of these swivel weaves on a 4-harness loom very shortly for a Warp and Weft sample.

Actually, I find that I enjoy the designing most of all, and then next I seem to enjoy weaving tartans, and then weaving with almost any type of silk as my most favorite weaving pastimes.

We should feature another tartan soon in Warp and Weft, so I will turn my thoughts to this also.

Enough for this issue. Back to finishing this so I can take it to the printers and then get started on weaving the next sample also for Warp and Weft.

Russell E. Groff, Editor

This Month's Cover Photograph

Two types of weaving are shown in this cover photograph with a pine needle basket, and also with an 8-harness overshot which was woven by Hazel Ryland. This was shown at the 1977 Northern California Handweavers Conference, and I remember how much I liked this pattern and fabric. Hazel Ryland is a member of the Golden Gate Weavers and also is a member of the Contemporary Weavers and Fiber Artists of California. This fabric almost looks like an 8-harness point twill pattern, with a special tie-up.

This Month's Book Review

There are several books that I will tell you about. Some of these are booklets, and others there is not much to say about them.

Henry Moore is a famous English sculptor, and in 1972 he was unable to work in his sculpture studio. So, his temporary studio was right next to a sheep field, and he made drawings of the many different sheep and lambs and their different antics and changes; and so during this period of time, he drew 96 pictures of sheep and presented them to his daughter Mary. You know the story, Mary had a little lamb. Well, these were admired, and finally Henry Moore had them all combined and published in a book entitled "*Henry Moore's Sheep Sketchbook*." And some comments by Henry Moore and also by Kenneth Clark have been added, and this is the book I've been telling you about. It is now available and has been published by the publishers Thames and Hudson. The book is a most interesting one, and while there is very little comment, the pictures tell their own stories.

Delightful to look at if you are a sheep or lamb enthusiast; you will enjoy this book. Price is \$19.95 plus shipping and handling.

TITLE: HENRY MOORE'S SHEEP SKETCH-BOOK

AUTHOR: Comments by Henry Moore and Kenneth Clark

PUBLISHER: Thames and Hudson

PRICE: \$19.95 plus shipping and handling
AVAILABLE: From Robin & Russ Handweavers, or directly from the publishers if desired.

A new monograph just recently published by the Shuttle Craft Guild and HTH publishers is the one entitled *Doup Leno, A Quick and Simple System for Weaving Loom-Controlled Leno*, by Hella Skowronski and Sylvia Tacker. This is a subject there has been little written about, and I was delighted to see this become available. In this book, they define the elements of Doup Leno, tell you how to make the doups, and show you with
(continued on page 6)

PEASANT CHIC:

This 4-harness, plain weave sample is very reminiscent of some of the older hand-woven fabrics that I saw in a Swiss museum. The fabrics in this museum dated back to 1400 and up to the current day, and many were muted colors like this sample.

THREADING DRAFT:

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

WARP:

Our warp is the 6-strand cotton floss in color #54, RA brown.

WEFT:

In the weft, we used two different threads, and we had two colors of each of these two different threads.

The first thread that we used was the 2-ply English tapestry wool, in two different colors. The first color was color #12, purple. The 2nd color in the English tapestry wool was color #13, blushing violet.

Besides these two wools, we used two colors of the 6-strand cotton floss, and each one of these we doubled on the bobbin. The first of these two 6-strand cotton floss yarns was the DARKEST PURPLE COLOR, which comes in skeins.

The 2nd color we used is also available in skeins of 8 or 9 oz. each, and it is called LIGHTEST LAVENDER. Both of these we wound double on the bobbin.

REED USED:

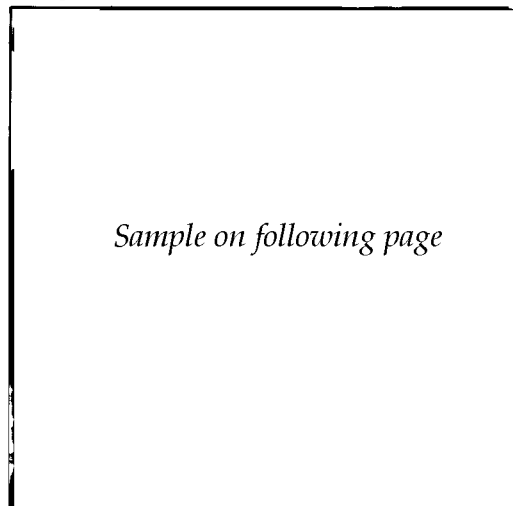
We used a 10-dent reed, and we double sleyed the reed, 2 ends per dent, or 20 threads per inch.

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
				A		B

X—tie-up for Counter-balanced looms.
O—tie-up for Jack-type looms.

Sample



WIDTH AND LENGTH OF WARP, BEFORE WEAVING, AND AFTER TAKING OFF THE LOOM

Our fabric was set-up 40" wide on the loom, and we did a 13-yard warp.

From this, we received 11½ yards of finished fabric, and it had woven down to slightly over 39" wide off the loom.

The use of the heavier 2-ply tapestry wool in the weft was responsible for more take-up of the warp than usual, and it was because of this that we received 11½ yards
(continued next page)



of finished fabric instead of 12 to 12½ yards as one would normally expect to have.

TREADLING SEQUENCE:

There are just 4 shots in each complete pattern repeat. However, two of these are of cotton, and this is the 6-strand cotton, which is doubled on the bobbin.

Treadle #6—#12 PURPLE—2-ply tapestry
Treadle #5—#13 BLUSHING VIOLET—2-ply
tapestry wool.

Treadle #6—Darkest Purple, 6-strand
cotton floss, doubled on the bobbin.
Treadle #5—Lightest Lavender, 6-strand
cotton floss, doubled on bobbin.

END OF ONE COMPLETE PATTERN
REPEAT. Do repeat over and over as
desired.

MORE ABOUT THE FABRIC:

I believe that this is the first time that I ever featured a sample in Warp & Weft which is done on a plain weave.

However, because of the color and the different texture of the two weft threads, I thought it would be O.K. to do this once in a while if the sample is unusual enough.

One more thing that I wanted to mention is that the 2-cotton floss weft threads are both doubled on the bobbin. So, I decided to try our all-purpose black walnut bobbin and wind two bobbins and put them both in the shuttle and see if we had any problems. I was quite pleased and also surprised to find that it worked quite well.

Also, on this fabric you want to use a firm, even, double beat. Beat first with the shed open, change to the next shed, and beat again before throwing the shuttle.

I planned this fabric for upholstery, and it should be very durable and satisfactory for this purpose, with no long floats and with a firm, tight, durable fabric. However, I feel that it would have many other uses, and this I'm going to leave up to you.

These colors used in this sample are particularly popular right now in fashion

clothing, and I thought it would be fun to try and use it in other fabrics than garments.

COST OF THE THREADS USED:

Our 6-strand cotton floss, we have on special at \$8.00 per pound. We have 35 colors, and some are on cones and some on skeins. It has 2,000 yards per pound, and we are winding off from the cones onto ½-pound tubes. The skeins we will sell as is, and they vary from 6 to 10 ounces each, and we will not wind these onto ½-pound tubes but sell as is.

The colors are beautiful in this cotton floss, and we have just started making up sample sheets to advertise this. By the time this is printed, they will be ready; and so if you would like to have one, drop us a line and request this particular sample sheet. This same yarn is selling at one firm we know for \$19.75 per pound, so I'm delighted to be able to offer this at \$8.00 per pound.

The second yarn used in our sample is our English tapestry wool that we stock. It is expensive, as it is \$3.50 per 4-ounce skein, but it is probably one of the top quality wools available on the market today. It comes on 4-ounce skeins, with approximately 175 yards per skein; and we do have 45 colors in this yarn.

COST OF THE FABRIC:

In our 13-yard warp, 40" wide, we used 5 lbs. 6 oz. of the brown, 6-strand cotton floss. At \$8.00 per pound, this comes to \$43.00, or the cost per yard for our warp comes to \$3.31.

In the weft, we used 7½ skeins of the color #12, purple, tapestry wool, and 7½ spools of color #13, blushing violet tapestry wool—or 15 skeins in all. At \$3.50 each, this comes to \$52.50. And we also used 1 lb. 4½ oz. of the lightest lavender 6-strand floss and 1 lb. 5½ oz. of the darkest purple 6-strand floss. This came to 2 lbs. 10 oz. of the cotton floss, and the cost of this was \$21.00.

(continued next page)

So, our total weft cost for 11½ yards of finished fabric comes to \$73.50, and the cost per yard comes to \$6.40.

WARP COST PER YARD, 40" wide \$3.31
WEFT COST PER YARD, 39" wide . 6.40
FABRIC COST PER YARD \$9.71

This Month's Book Review (continued)

pictures and drawings, and they suggest the threads for both warp and weft. Then, they give a sample project and tell how to thread the loom, and they tell about "Jumpers," a technique to improve the leno shed, and then they give treadling and variations. And after that, they continue and give some drafts for 4-harness looms; and they even have a section of drafts for the multiple-harness looms, particularly 6 and 8 harnesses.

And finally, there is a section on weaving DOUP LENO on a counter-balanced loom also.

I think this is a most interesting study and is a technique that has been avoided by many, and this booklet will help destroy the problem myth and make it a more popular weave.

The price is \$7.75 plus shipping and handling, and you can order it direct from the publishers, or from Robin & Russ Handweavers.

The third booklet that I want to tell you about is entitled *The Maori Mantle*, by H. Ling Roth.

This is a detailed study of Maori weaving techniques and is very clearly and well written.

Maori weaving involves a sophisticated finger work technique in place of a loom and uses special New Zealand flax which grows nowhere else in the Pacific region except in New Zealand. One of its best-known features, Taniko work, is an indigenous way of decorating borders with fine rectilinear designs.

This study is based on a range of museum specimens of Maori garments, most of

which now exist only outside New Zealand, but the technique has not entirely died out and there are possibilities for development and reuse.

Modern weavers will find this booklet of interest because of its high technical level and attractive patterns. Also, anthropologists will find it interesting for historical and sociological reasons. In this edition, inclusion of a contemporary critical review by Te Rangihiroa (Sir Peter Buck), the known Maori authority on Polynesian ethnology, enhances the value of this study. It is 160 pages with 250 line illustrations and 22 plates. It was co-published by Robin and Russ Handweavers with a firm in England. It is a paperback edition, and the price is \$12.95 plus postage and handling. May be ordered from Robin & Russ Handweavers.

Fourth and last is another very interesting study by Adele Cahlander, which is entitled *Sling Braiding of the Andes*. This is an outstanding study of a technique which has had very little publicity throughout most of the world.

These slings were used in primitive times in fighting other Indian tribes, and in today's use, they are used in ritual dancing, in head-bands, in herding cattle, for pack-straps on Llamas, and for whatever use they can make of them. There are excellent directions for the making of these both in pictures and in words. In fact, I feel it is outstanding in the details and directions that are given.

There are three full-color pages of this type sling, and it shows some of their many uses.

This is a beautiful paperback edition with outstanding pictures, diagrams, and directions; and I'd recommend it highly.

TITLE: *Sling Braiding of the Andes*

AUTHOR: Adele Cahlander

PUBLISHER: Colorado Fiber Center

COST: \$11.00 plus shipping & handling

AVAILABLE: Direct from the publishers or from Robin & Russ Handweavers.

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.

6-STRAND EMBROIDERY FLOSS IN 35 COLORS.

About 3/4 of the colors are available on 1/2-lb. tubes, and the rest on skeins of about 7 to 10 oz. A SPECIAL PRICE AT \$8.00 per lb. It has about 2,080 yards per pound, and the colors are very rich and beautiful. Sample sheets now being made, and we will send these free upon request. Please send a self-addressed stamped envelope, and we will send you these 2 sample sheets. Probably will not last too long, as we are finding many interested in it. Robin & Russ Handweavers, 533 No. Adams St., McMinnville, Oregon 97128.

30/5 NATURAL, MERCERIZED COTTON ON ABOUT 1 1/4- to 1 1/2-LB. CONES.

A beautiful quality cotton at a most reasonable price of \$4.80 per lb. This is the same size as a 12/2 cotton, with 5040 yards per lb. Good for either warp or weft. If warp, I think I'd suggest about 20 to 24 ends per inch. Robin & Russ Handweavers, 533 No. Adams St., McMinnville, OR 97128.

45/3 NATURAL GREY, IRISH LINEN.

A good, strong, 3-ply linen which we have a special price on of \$8.80 per lb. On cones varying from 12 oz. to 1 lb. 2 oz. in weight, this linen is good for warp or weft. It has 4500 yards per lb., and we've used it mixed in with ramie in the warp in 2 projects. Robin & Russ Handweavers, 533 North Adams St., McMinnville, Oregon 97128.

2/4'S SOFT, FLUFFY, NATURAL WORSTED YARN

A beautiful, soft, all-wool yarn, with 1120 yards per lb. Should dye beautifully. Available in skeins only, at \$8.00 per lb. Soft, fluffy, and thick, it is one you will like. Robin & Russ Handweavers, 533 No. Adams St., McMinnville, OR 97128.

THE ART OF THE FELT MAKER.

By M.E. Burkett. We have imported this book from England, and it fits in with today's interest in making felt. This is sort of a history and review of this craft in many different countries. \$12.95 plus shipping and handling. Robin & Russ Handweavers, 533 No. Adams St., McMinnville, OR 97128.

1/69 COLORED, UNSUPPORTED METALLICS.

We have about 10 to 15 colors on small spools of this metallic. Price is \$8.00 per lb. We can give you about 4 different colors in a 1-lb. order. Some colors are Scarlet, Turquoise, Light Aqua, Copper, Burnt Orange, Silvery Blue, Rose, Chocolate, Fuchsia, Royal Blue, Dark Shiny Green, Clear Natural White, Lavender, Kelly, and others. If you can order 1 lb., we can send you 4 assorted colors on plastic spools. They weigh from 2 oz. to 8 ounces, depending upon the color. Robin & Russ Handweavers, 533 No. Adams St., McMinnville, OR 97128.

4/4 NATURAL CARPET WARP.

Twice as heavy as regular carpet warp, this cotton has 800 yards per lb. Available on 2- to 2 1/2-lb. cones at a special price of \$4.80 per lb. Robin & Russ, 533 No. Adams St., McMinnville, OR 97128.

SPECIAL OFFER ON 6-STRAND MERCERIZED COTTON EMBROIDERY FLOSS.

We have a lot of 15,000 skeins (9 yards each) of cotton embroidery floss. We have a special offer of 100 skeins (at least 25 or more colors). Most will be solid colors, and we will also include about 5 space-dyed color samples unless you say you want all solid colors. A SPECIAL OFFER OF 100 SKEINS for \$5.50 plus shipping and handling. This is selling on today's market at 29¢ and 30¢ per skein, and our offer is for less than 6¢ per skein. Robin & Russ Handweavers, 533 North Adams St., McMinnville, Oregon 97128.

HEAVY, NATURAL, 3-PLY WOOL YARN.

About the size of a pencil, this natural 3-ply wool seems to be an extra good quality. Price is \$8.00 per lb., and it is in about 1/2-lb. skeins. Should dye very well, and be useful in rugs, wall hangings, and in most fabrics where you want a heavy rib or accent thread. Robin & Russ, 533 North Adams St., McMinnville, Oregon 97128.

8/2 WORSTED SPUN, 60% WOOL, 40% NYLON IN ABOUT 10 COLORS.

We have just received 5 new colors to go with the 5 old colors we had. About 2200 yards per lb., and the new lot is on about 1-lb. cones. Excellent for warp or weft. Has a nice soft hand. Price is \$6.80 per lb. We have about 50 lbs. each or more of these 10 colors. We will make sample sheets soon of this. Available upon request. Robin & Russ, 533 North Adams St., McMinnville, Oregon 97128.

FOUR-FOLDED, SMOOTH SPUN SILK IN ABOUT 20 COLORS.

We had some very fine 2-ply spun silk, and we have wound 4 ends of the same color together on about 4-oz. tubes. It seems to have about 4 oz. or close to it per spool, and the colors do vary slightly in that there are from 2,000 to 2,400 yards per spool, depending upon the color. Price is \$6.00 per 4 oz. Nice colors. Robin & Russ, 533 No. Adams St., McMinnville, OR 97128.

BEIGE LOOP WOOL, WITH MEDIUM TOWARD LARGE LOOP.

A very nice quality yarn, on cones of about 1 1/2 lbs. each. About 1,000 yards per lb., we have a special price of \$9.60 per lb. Robin & Russ Handweavers, 533 No. Adams St., McMinnville, OR 97128.

25% SILK, 25% LINEN, 50% RAYON IN A BLENDED YARN, NATURAL COLOR ONLY.

This is a very nice textured natural, probably with about 4,000 yards per lb. Only about 30 lbs. available. Price is \$8.00 per lb. Robin & Russ, 533 No. Adams St., McMinnville, OR 97128.

BOILFAST CARPET WARP.

800-yard, 1/2-lb. tubes. We have this in natural, white, and 10 colors. Beige, Blue, Green, Yellow, Orange Rust, Chocolate, Red, Purple, and Black. Price is \$3.00 per 1/2-lb. tube of 800 yards. Robin & Russ Handweavers, 533 No. Adams St., McMinnville, OR 97128.

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