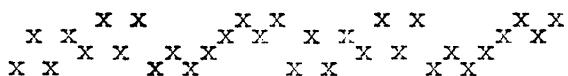


often admired by his environment, and perhaps can even sell a few things, which removes all doubts about the value of his production.

Whether this explanation is right or wrong, we feel that there is more to it, and that these two factors are not the only ones.

It would be interesting to learn what is the opinion of other weavers on this rather controversial subject. Please write us, and we shall print some of your letters in the following issues, particularly those which present a different approach to the problem.



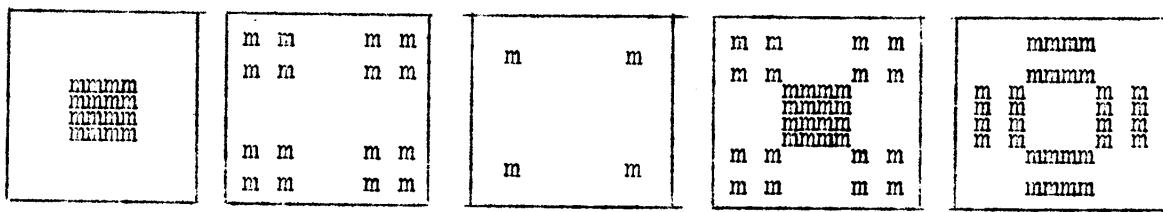
V A R I A T I O N S O F F O U R · B L O C K P A T T E R N S

Those familiar with higher mathematics and particularly with permutations, can find the number of possible variations of any pattern from formulas. Those who are not, can only try to square all possible combinations of blocks. This is a tedious task, but gives us not only the number of all variations, but their appearance as well. Not to miss anything we proceed in a systematic way starting with single blocks, then pairs, and so on. The final result is often unexpected. For instance with patterns of 3 blocks plus ground which may be considered as a fourth block, not less than 64 square (i.e. symmetrical) patterns can be obtained. This means that on 5 frames 64 patterns may be woven from the same threading in Swivel or lace. Summer-and-Winter will require 6 frames for the same number of variations, and dimity (turned 1:2 twill) - 12 frames.

Here is an example of such a four-block pattern. In the profile the lowest line is ground, then come pattern blocks numbered 1,2 and 3:

$\begin{matrix} m & m & m & m \\ m & m & m & m \\ m & m & m & m \\ m & m & m & m \end{matrix}$ 3₂
m m 1_G

Each variation is marked with the number of blocks used. Thus: 2,1,3 means that all three blocks were used in the order indicated; 2+1 means that these two blocks were combined into one, and so on.



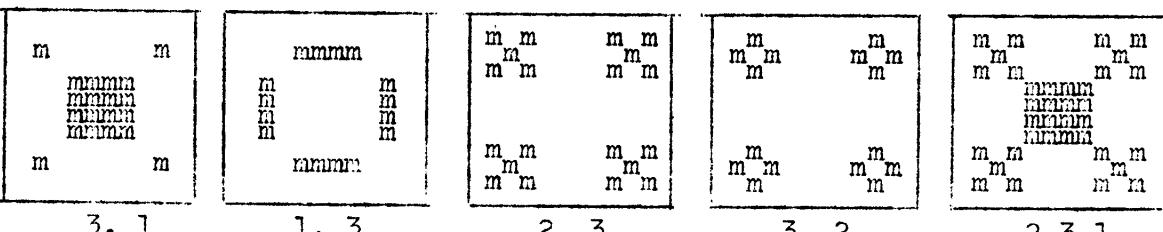
1

2

3

2, 1

1, 2



3, 1

1, 3

2, 3

3, 2

2, 3, 1

2,1,3	1,3,2	3,2,1	1+2	1+3
2+3	1+2+3	1+2, 2	1, 1+2	1+2, 3
1+3, 3	1+3, 1	3, 1+2	1+3, 2	2, 1+3
2+3, 2	3, 2+3	2+3, 1	1, 2+3	1, 1+2+3
1+2+3, 2	3, 1+2+3	1+2+3, 1+2	1+3, 1+2+3	1+2+3, 2+3
1+2, 1, 1+2+3	1, 1+3, 1+2+3	1+2+3, 2+3, 2	1+2+3, 2, 1+2	2+3, 1+2+3, 3
3, 1+2+3, 1+3	1+2, 1+3, 1+2+3	1+2+3, 2+3, 1+2	1+2+3, 1+2, 2+3	2+3, 1+2+3, 1+3

