

warp and weft

Vol. XIV, No. 9

November, 1961

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Brown.

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A Word from the Editor

Work continues on the many different projects for our two weaving bulletins, Warp and Weft and Drafts and Designs.

For future presentation, we have a very interesting summer and winter upholstery material, and a striking Roman Striped material for suitings, skirts and dresses, and a future linen project is also in the designing stage.

A multiple harness project that is about $\frac{1}{2}$ finished is an interesting 6 harness shadow weave.

Besides these activities, we continue making up sample sheets and mailing out to our mailing list. We have run out of two of these sheets and have more in progress, but it will probably be another couple of months before everyone gets theirs.

Meanwhile, we have had some interesting new yarns come in. One in particular that we hope to use in a sample soon is a small loop mohair in a charcoal heather color. New silks have come in and several small lots of 12 cut rayon chenille in colors have become available for the first time. Also, a new variety of colors in the rayon spiral

twist boucle with metallic has come in, and any of you that are interested might write for free samples of any of the above, and we will be glad to send them.

It has been a struggle with our new and enlarged class in weaving in Adult Education, but finally everyone has been able to get to work on projects or loom set-ups. You can imagine the task of teaching when 28 weavers descend upon you, with about $\frac{1}{2}$ of the looms warped, and the other $\frac{1}{2}$ to be warped, and colors and textures, etc., all to be decided upon. It is a great deal of fun, once everyone gets started though.

About 6 years ago, Robin wove some pretty drapes for Janice's room at our home, and for weft on a cotton warp, she chose a silk thread. In this period of time, the afternoon sun has entirely rotted the silk weft thread. Therefore, Robin has been hard at work and has finished new drapes for Janice's room and she once again used the Egyptian cotton for warp, but this time, she used a linen & cotton combination in the weft, and this will be much more durable than the silk weft proved to be.

Also to our great delight, Jonice Susan (now 9 years old) expressed interest in weaving some material for herself for a jumper and a dress, so we allowed her to choose her own colors, and under the guidance of Robin and I, she warped her 24" loom with a 20 yard warp, using 4 colors in the warp, and has proceeded to finish her first 5 yard length of material and is now working on the 2nd five yard length. And is it ever pretty, and you can imagine how pleased we are.

Well enough of current events, and back to Warp and Weft samples, etc.

RUSSELL E. GROFF, *Editor*

This Month's Cover

This is a close-up of a place-mat that I wove this past summer. It is actually actual size and is not enlarged from what the mat looks like.

This is a huck variation with a story behind it.

Attending the Mt. Lassen Weavers Guild workshop this summer, we had to take a loom with us, with a sample of a nice technique on it. I chose a huck weave, and made a sample, and finally set-up the loom with what I thought would make the most interesting sample. Then at the workshop, everyone experimented with the treadling, working out that which they liked best. I was so intrigued with this, that, when I came back from the workshop, I still had about 10 yards of warp left on the loom, about 10" wide. Determined not to waste this warp, I re-reeded it, spacing out the warp thread with skipped dents in between until I had it 14" wide. Then, I again experimented with the treadling until I found one that I liked, and I proceeded to weave the place-mats pictured on the cover. While weaving this, I kept thinking that if I used a similar set-up, it would make nice drapes. Then, the next step was to set-up the loom 40" wide, try some more experimenting and also change the tie-up twice, so the correct side was on top and so you could see how it wove. We proceeded with the drapes featured inside this issue of Warp and Weft. It shows how one project or experiment can easily lead to another project in weaving.

If you would like to work out a place-mat like or similar to this one, you can easily do it, using the threading and directions given for the drapes, and just alter the treadling a little to fit the need of your place-mats.

In the place-mats, we used a 16/3 Ramie for the heavy thread, but we too, could see that if a heavier thread was used than the 16/3 ramie, it would accent the wave or curlicue effect of the heavy thread. Thus,

we experimented with a 16/5 linen, and finally chose a 14/6 linen for the heavy accent thread. We even experimented with a still heavier 14/8 linen, and also liked this just as well.

This Month's Folio Review

Mr. Elmer Hickman has again come up with an outstanding collection of 28 sample fabrics, mainly for use as table linens, and he calls this new folio "CONTEMPORARY LINENS."

In this collection of 28 samples with no traditional linen weaves used in the weaving, there are many different textures of threads used in both the warp and weft. Not only are linens used, but also cotton, rayon boucles, rayon with metallic, ramie, and heavy and fine rayon cords are used.

The samples are a delightful collection of ideas for use with that modern china or pottery that you might have, as well as for use with the many traditional sets of dishes or china.

All of the 28 fabrics are for 4 harness looms. 24 of these are the designs of Mr. Elmer Hickman, and then the other 4 are versions of the CONVERTED SHADOW WEAVE (recently introduced by Marion Powell. These 4 are of a new version of shadow weave in a contemporary manner, and are also very interesting.

The complete details of the threading and treadling, threads used in warp and weft, are all given so even the beginning weaver can profit from these clear-cut and concise directions.

Price of the new folio, CONTEMPORARY LINENS, is \$6.95 post paid.

TITLE: CONTEMPORARY LINENS.
CONTENTS: 28 actual woven swatches.

PRICE: \$6.95.

AVAILABLE: From Mr. Elmer Hickman, Emlenton, R.D. 2, Pennsylvania or from Robin & Russ if desired.

CURLICUES:

A Semi-sheer fabric for draperies woven in a version of a huck weave.

THREADING DRAFT:

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

† † † †

Each mark (†) represents 1 skipped dent.

WARP:

Two threads were used in the warp and they are as follows:

X—16/3 eggshell ramie.

O—20/2 bleached white ramie.

WEFT:

Two threads were used in the weft also, and they are as follows:

A—Spiral twist rayon boucle in natural with a silver metallic twist.

B—14/6 natural colored cord linen.

REED USED:

A 12 dent reed was used and a special sleying of the reed is the key to this fabric. Please be sure to check this as given below, as the fabric depends upon this different sleying of the reed.

SLEYING THE REED:

Here is how the reed is sleyed:

3 threads 20/2 blea. ramie in 1 dent skip one dent.

3 threads 20/2 blea. ramie in 1 dent skip one dent.

3 threads 20/2 blea. ramie in 1 dent skip two dents.

3 threads 16/3 eggshell ramie in 1 dent skip 2 dents.

(Repeat this sleying of the reed over and over).

TIE-UP DRAFT:

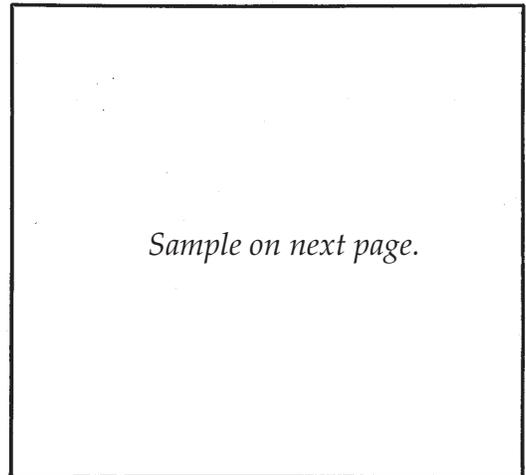
4	X	O	O	X	
3	O	O	X	O	
2	O	O	X	X	
1	O	X	O	O	

1 2 3 4

O—Tie-up for jack looms.

X—Tie-up for counter-balanced looms.

SAMPLE:



TREADLING FOR THIS SAMPLE:

Treadle as follows, each of the treadles as given just one time.

Treadle: 2,3,2,3,2,3,2 with spiral twist rayon boucle with silver.

Treadle: 4-with 14/6 natural linen.

Treadle: 3,1,3,1,3 with spiral twist rayon boucle with silver.

Treadle: 4 with 14/6 natural linen.

(Repeat over and over).

MORE ABOUT THIS SAMPLE:

The cover photograph and this sample are both related. If you will read the portion, *this month's cover*, you will understand a little more about the sample this month.

Actually, after planning and weaving some place-mats with a slightly different version of this threading draft, I began to see more and more that it would make an exciting drapery fabric.



When you hold this sample up to the light, and look at it, you see a very definite wavy effect in the heavy linen 14/6 weft thread which I call **CURLICUES**. I was obtaining this same effect in the mats and kept thinking it would make an interesting drapery, and it is very interesting when held up to the light.

There is one thing against it being a good drapery fabric, and that is the long float of some of the warp threads in the material. However, while some of these threads are floating, the threads right next to it, are bound tightly in a plain weave, so even with the long float, I think it will be a practical material.

Also, when held up to the light, the spiral twist rayon boucle with the silver twist tends to become translucent, admitting the rays of the sun, but diffusing it so that it is not too bright. However, the heavy 14/6 linen does not do this, and it is this quality that makes the material appealing as a drapery fabric.

One problem in the weaving that I should mention. The heavy cord linen is fairly stiff, and also the rayon boucle with silver twist is a fairly stiff thread. Thus, when I filled a bobbin with either, it would quite often unwind off the bobbin inside the shuttle, and thus slow down the weaving considerably. To counteract this I did two things. I did not wind the bobbins full near the ends as I normally do, but wound them about 1/2 full, and then wound a little extra in the center of the bobbin. Also, I found that if I pulled up my arm or pulled it out the full length of the arm before throwing the shuttle through the shed, I could control the unwinding of the thread from the bobbin more, and thus not have it unwind from the bobbin and stop it from rotating inside the shed. The bobbin would start to rotate only after it was 3/4 or 7/8 of the way through the shed, and thus not cause any trouble that you have with a normal back-lash.

Another problem that I should mention is that which is characteristic of a huck weave of this type. When you have several heavier threads grouped together in one dent in the reed as we have here, you will find that when you step on certain readles, that it will tend to raise an extra harness slightly. You can counteract this a good bit by beating after you have stepped on the next treadle necessary for weaving. These were the only problems in weaving this material, but I do feel that it is worth mentioning them. Incidentally, this latter problem we find is characteristic of both types of looms, counter-balanced and jack-type; so you might remember this when you do a huck weave.

Also, I mentioned that the floating warp thread was quite long, and you could cut this down somewhat if you changed the treadling. Here is a little different or reduced treadling that you could also use.

- Treadle 2,3,2,3,2,3,2 with silver & rayon.
- Treadle 4 with 14/6 natural linen.
- Treadle 3,1,3 with silver & rayon.
- Treadle 4 with 14/6 natural linen.

Then, if you want to do a little further experimenting, use this alternate tie-up and treadling as given below.

ALTERNATE TIE-UP:

4		O	O	O	O		
3	O	O	O			O	
2	O	O			O		
1	O			O		O	

1 2 3 4 5 6
A B

O—Tie-up for jack-type looms.

On this alternate tie-up, here are two of the other treadlings that we used in our experimenting.

- Treadle No. 5—14/6 linen.
- Treadle 1-4-1 with silver & rayon.
- Treadle 5—14/6 linen.
- Treadle 4-2-4-2-4 with silver & rayon.

Here is the second alternate treading and when this is held up to the light, it gives a different effect and the heavy cord gives or forms a sort of diamond pattern.

Treadle No. 5—14/6 linen.
 Treadle 1—rayon & Silver.
 Treadle 5—14/6 linen.
 Treadle 4-2-4-2-4 with rayon & silver.

And here is still one more treading, using more of the heavy linen.

Treadle No. 5—14/6 linen.
 Treadle 1—rayon & Silver.
 Treadle 4—14/6 linen.
 Treadle 1—rayon & silver.
 Treadle 5—14/6 linen.
 Treadle 4—14/6 linen.
 Treadle 2—rayon & silver.
 Treadle 4—14/6 linen.
 Treadle 2—rayon & silver.
 Treadle 4—14/6 linen.

(Repeat over and over).

I'm sure that you could work out other treadlings that would be satisfactory if you desired to experiment further.

COST OF THE THREADS USED IN THIS SAMPLE:

1. The 20/2 Bleached Ramie used in the warp comes on approximately 1 lb. cones, 3000 yards per lb., and is \$3.20 per lb.

2. The 16/3 eggshell ramie comes on 4 oz. spools, and it has 400 yards per spool, and is \$1.25 per 4 oz. spool.

3. The spiral twist rayon boucle with silver has approximately 1600 yards per lb. It is available on 4 oz. spools or 1 and 2 lb. tubes if desired. It is \$2.80 per lb. We might also mention that this spiral twist rayon with metallic is available in about 8 other colors at present, and there are always new colors available in it. The colors are usually \$2.50 per lb.

4. The 14/6 linen has 700 yards per lb., and is available on tubes of from 1/2 lb. to

1 lb. The price is \$3.20 per lb. Also, if you wish a slightly heavier accent thread, there is a 14/8 linen also available, and it is \$3.20 per lb. in the natural.

COST OF MATERIALS USED IN 15 YARD WARP

It took about (slightly less) than 3 lbs. of the 20/2 bleached white ramie for 15 yards of warp, this coming to \$9.60. It took 1 lb 6 oz. of the 16/3 eggshell ramie, this coming to \$6.86. Thus the entire 15 yard warp cost \$16.46 and thus the warp cost comes to \$1.10 per yard of 39 1/2" wide fabric.

In the weft, we used 5 lbs. of the spiral twist boucle with silver which came to \$14.00, and it took 1 lb. 12 oz. of the 14/6 linen, and so this comes to \$5.60. So the entire weft cost for 14 yards of finished material is \$19.60 or \$1.40 per yard.

WARP COST PER YARD

39 1/2 wide\$1.10

WEFT COST PER YARD\$1.40

FABRIC COST PER YARD\$2.50

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.

12 CUT RAYON CHENILLE IN COLORS. A small lot of 10 assorted colors of 12 cut rayon chenille has just come in. It is on 1/2 lb. spools and is \$3.00 per lb. while it lasts. Also, 10 more colors will be available in another month. For free samples of colors available, write to: Robin & Russ, 632 Santa Barbara St., Santa Barbara, California.

SPIRAL TWIST RAYON BOUCLE WITH METALLIC. A new assortment of colors has become available in this rayon boucle with metallic twist. Assorted colors are available at present on 1/2 lb. spools. \$2.50 per lb. for all colors. Free samples upon request. Robin & Russ, 632 Santa Barbara St., Santa Barbara, Calif.

CHARCOAL HEATHER SMALL LOOP MOHAIR. A new lot of loop mohair has become available in a Charcoal Heather color. Very nice quality yarn. Just \$3.20 per lb. on cones varying from 1/4 to 2 lbs. in weight. Free samples upon request. **ROBIN & RUSS, 632 Santa Barbara St., Santa Barbara, Calif.**

NYLON & RAYON NUB YARN. Nubs are in white and blue, with blue-black background. About 2800 yds. per lb. On sale at \$2.40 per lb. on cones of about 1 lb. 4 oz. each. Free sample upon request. **Robin & Russ, 532 Santa Barbara St., Santa Barbara, Calif.**

TAN SILK, 2 PLY, FOR WARP OR WEFT. A new tan silk douppioni yarn, 2 ply for warp or weft has just come in. It has 1600 yards per lb., and is available on 1/2 lb. spools. Just \$4.00 per lb. while it lasts. 50 lbs. available. **ROBIN & RUSS, 632 Santa Barbara St., Santa Barbara, Calif.**

POMPADOUR BABY YARN is now available in 2 oz. skeins and is 69c per 2 oz. skein, or \$5.40 per lb. 2240 yards per lb. for baby blankets, robes, stoles, etc. Available in white, pink, light green, light blue, light yellow and lavender. **Robin & Russ, 632 Santa Barbara St., Santa Barbara, Calif.**

JUTE AND RAYON NUB YARN: A very interesting combination yarn, quite heavy, and with a large nub is this jute and rayon combination. It is on cones of about 1 1/2 to 2 lbs. each, and is \$3.20 per lb. **Robin & Russ, 632 Santa Barbara St., Santa Barbara, Calif.**

COLORÉ LINEN BOUCLES: A new item has just become available and it is a nice quality linen boucle in 9 colors. It has about 1750 yards per lb., and is available on 1/2 lb. spools. We are making up sample sheets of this now. It is \$5.00 per lb., or \$2.50 per 1/2 lb. spool. **ROBIN & RUSS, 632 Santa Barbara St., Santa Barbara, Calif.**

HEAVY SPUN VISCOSE YARN: A smooth 2 ply spun viscose yarn in 17 colors are available. Excellent for accents, for use in mats, drapery, etc. Beautiful colors. On 1/2 lb. spools, \$3.50 per lb. **Robin & Russ, 632 Santa Barbara St., Santa Barbara, Calif.**

A SUITABLE CHRISTMAS GIFT for your weaving friend or acquaintance would be a subscription to Warp and Weft. Or if desired, a subscription of Drafts and Designs, our bulletin featuring multiple harness weaves, is just \$4.00 per year. A gift card can be sent by us acknowledging these subscriptions. **Robin & Russ, 632 Santa Barbara St., Santa Barbara, California.**

BLACK RUG WOOL: This rug wool has about 500 yards per lb., and is \$3.50 per lb. A few other colors are available from time to time. Write for samples if you are interested. **Robin & Russ, 631 Santa Barbara St., Santa Barbara, Calif.**

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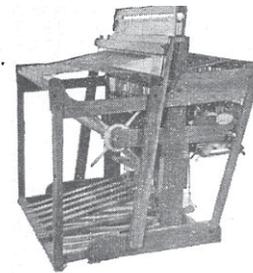
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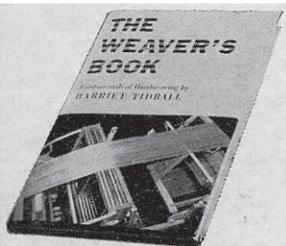
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