A Word from the Editor

Our workshop with Peter Collingwood has just been completed, and I must say that I feel we have had two outstanding workshops in our studio this year.

The workshop with Else Regenstein earlier this year, with her many different techniques that she used in creating wall hangings was most inspiring, and was well liked by all. Mrs. Regenstein used quite a variety of techniques in her four harness weaves for the wall hangings, and while all will not like her choice of colors, it was a most stimulating workshop. The final results which were discussed and criticized at the end of the workshop were very pleasing, and I think everyone was able to get a great deal for themselves from the variety of techniques offered, the choices of colors, and particularly the variety of ideas and suggestions she offered for wall hangings.

Our Peter Collingwood workshop was much different, and yet just as stimulating. He has a much different approach to rug weaving than that which we know of in America, and he taught about six different techniques. What was most pleasing was that everyone seemed to be able to master these techniques and to make samples that they could take home and use as a guide for future rug weaving.

And still we have scheduled another workshop in August on color and design on four harness looms, which should also be just as stimulating. Our instructor for this will be Miss Sallie O'Sullivan from Dublin, Ireland. Miss O'Sullivan, has won many outstanding awards for her weaving this past five years, and we are most fortunate to be having her.

And, besides these, our May and June issues of Warp and Weft are yet to come. We have an exciting open weave for you for the May issue, and the June issue will be either a silk drapery sample or a piece of wool yardage.

And since I last wrote this column for Warp and Weft, I was able to attend the Midwest Weavers Conference in St. Paul, Minnesota, and I found it to be so stimulating and inspiring. I am now honestly of the belief that the weaving I like best, which is being done in the U.S.A. now, is being done in the midwest. I could go on and on about this conference, but will just say that it was one of the best organized and full of weaving workshops, that one will ever find. In fact, one of the complaints that I heard while at this conference was that the weavers have such a full schedule that they do not have time to visit the commercial exhibits to purchase yarns.

Needless to say, you all know that we are behind, but, I honestly do think that better days are ahead, and we will be on schedule before long.

One of our problems has been that of a complete turnover of our staff in the shop. One of the young women, Cindy Oldham, is getting married, and another one, Kathy Milbradt, has moved to Nevada. So, it takes time to have new help learn all of the intricacies and problems with such a mail order business as ours.

And, I'm pleased to say, that as of August 1, 1974, we hope to have come to work for us, another full time employee, Mrs. Lynn Cederblom, who, I hope, will take over many of my duties and leave me with more time for weaving and designing and experimenting.

With this loss of experienced workers, we were lucky to have one of our former employees come to us and apply for a summer job while home from college.

And Janice, my daughter, has been working hard and vigorously at the shop, and has been a great help. Unfortunately, she had an accident and was bucked off her horse last week, and is recuperating from quite a bad fall and eight stitches in her forehead.

Well, enough chatter from me, and back to our sample.

Russell E. Groff, Editor
This Month’s Cover Photograph

This is a fabric that I liked very much which was displayed at the Pacific Northwest Weaving Conference last year. This was a beds-}
spread, and if I do remember correctly, this weft was all carded wool tops. I think that some of these were dyed colors along with different natural whites and greys, and natural browns. To tell the truth, I think it was in colors instead of all shades of naturals, but am not positive. This was on display in one of the side rooms and was one of the displays by members of the guild from Vancouver.

This Month’s Book Review

Hurrah, we are pleased to tell you that at last, the new, SWEDISH SWATCHES, RED SERIES, by Malin Selander, is now available. This is an exciting booklet and one of the reasons is that the color of red is always exciting.

There are 19 very generous sample swatches in this book. The smallest sample is about 4" x 4", and most of them are even larger, and one is almost a full page sample.

The patterns range from two harnesses to eight harnesses, with most of them being the four harness weaves. I noticed one six harness, three of the eight harness, and the rest were all four harnesses, except one two harness weave.

The uses of the various samples also intrigues me. She has suggestions for wall coverings, lamp shades, sheer and open drapes, jacket material in a rep weave, double weaves for evening wear, and others.

And, to say the least, her blending of colors is most outstanding. I think that in her three folios (Yellow Series) (Blue Series) and now in this one in the Red Series, it is almost worth the price of the booklet to see her blendings of colors. And besides her beautiful color blendings, you will like her blending of techniques in with the many colors she uses.

An exciting folio, perhaps you might like a copy of “SWEDISH SWATCHES, RED SERIES.”

A Second Book Review

I was quite eager to have this second book review this month, as there have been so many requests for the book that I wanted to tell you about.

The book that has been in so much demand is “TEXTILES OF ANCIENT PERU, AND THEIR TECHNIQUES,” by Raoul D’Harcourt. This was edited by Grace G. Denny and Carolyn M. Osborne.

Before I go any further, I want to tell you the good news, that this book is now available in two different editions. One is the new paperback edition, which sells for $8.95, and the other is the hardbound edition which sells for $20.00, the same price at which it sold five years ago.

This is one of the most interesting books on textile techniques that anyone can find anywhere.

The first section of the book tells of the textile materials, yarns, dyes, and looms used in Ancient Peru. Then, there is a very complete section on many different types of plain weave fabrics, and there are many of these.

Then there is a section on fabrics in various other types of weaves, with explanations, drawings, and pictures of all of these.

There is a section on fabrics with decorative warp and decorative weft yarns, and explanations of these fabrics.

The next section of the book deals with double cloth fabrics, tubular weaving and the like, and after that comes a very interesting section on gauze weaves.

The open work fabrics are especially interesting. Also a section is devoted to wrapped warps, fabrics made of twisted warp or weft yarns, and finally a section on dyed and tie-dyed fabrics.

But this is just the beginning, as then comes directions on non-woven fabrics such as plait-

(Continued on Page 6)
BAND — A Norwegian Three Harness Belt Weave

This month, we have an interesting Norwegian three harness weave, which we have converted to a weave for table linens.

**THREADING DRAFT:**

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**WARP:**

We had two different sizes of linen in the warp, sizes 10/1 Bleached Belgian Linen, as the main background thread, and size 10/2 linen from Scotland in four colors, as the pattern thread. Here is the key to the colors used, in the threading draft.

X — 10/1 Bleached Belgian Linen
B — 10/2 Bossy Brown Scottish Linen
G — 10/2 Straw Gold Scottish Linen
D — 10/2 Summer Green Scottish Linen
L — 10/2 Spring Green Scottish Linen

**WEFT:**

In the weft, we used just one weft thread. And it was the 10/1 Bleached, Belgian Linen. Because of the fact that we use only one color in the weft, it is quite easy to use what is sometimes called a “Walking Treadling,” and so it is quite fast and easy weaving.

**REED USED:**

A 12 dent reed was used, and it was double sleyed, two ends per dent, or 24 threads per inch. In some dents, you will find two ends of 10/1 white, and in others, you have one end of 10/1 and one end of 10/2 linen.

**TREADLING SEQUENCE:**

With the various colors used in the warp, only one thread, the 10/1 bleached Belgian Linen, is used in the weft. Here is the treadle sequence in which you do use this 10/1 bleached linen.

1. Treadle #4 — 10/1 Bleached Linen
2. Treadle #3 — 10/1 Bleached Linen
3. Treadle #2 — 10/1 Bleached Linen
4. Treadle #4 — 10/1 Bleached Linen
5. Treadle #4 — 10/1 Bleached Linen
6. Treadle #3 — 10/1 Bleached Linen
7. Treadle #2 — 10/1 Bleached Linen
8. Treadle #1 — 10/1 Bleached Linen
9. Treadle #2 — 10/1 Bleached Linen
10. Treadle #3 — 10/1 Bleached Linen
11. Treadle #2 — 10/1 Bleached Linen
12. Treadle #1 — 10/1 Bleached Linen
13. Treadle #2 — 10/1 Bleached Linen
14. Treadle #3 — 10/1 Bleached Linen

End of one complete pattern repeat. Repeat over and over as desired.
Source of Idea for This Sample

As I've mentioned before, I've been using the Norwegian book, "HANDBOK I VEVING," by Caroline Halvorsen for many years. This is one of the patterns from this book.

MORE ABOUT THE FABRIC:

Above, I mentioned that this is an easy fabric to weave, and yet, here I will retract this statement somewhat. I will say that it would be very easy to weave if you were using two weights of cotton, but it is harder with this linen that we have used. The reason for this is that the colored 10/2 linens from Scotland, are dry-spun linens, and as a result, are slightly fuzzy. After you wash and press this, the fuzz does disappear to a great extent, but as it is fuzzy, it does create a problem of clinging to other threads. I would say that if you were weaving mats, or other similar, narrow fabrics, it should not be much of a problem, but on the wide 40" width that we used it was. SO — it is important that you follow some definite rules.

1. Always beat with your shed open.
2. Throw your shuttle and beat, and then change to the next shed, open the shed, and beat again firmly.
3. Look at your shed, and see that no threads are clinging before you throw your next shot of weft.

Another problem that you will have to counter with is a tension problem. As some of the heavier threads in the 10/2 linen float more than others, you have two different tensions in the heavy linen. The straw gold linen threads and the summer green linen threads float more than do the bossy brown and spring green linen. So, to keep a continual tight tension, you pick up all of the straw gold and summer green linen threads behind the harnesses, and slip in a lease stick, and slide this lease stick back, over the back beam and down to the warp beam, and put some weight on both the ends and middle of this lease stick.

Then, again behind the harnesses, you pick up all the spring green linen and the bossy brown linen, slide a lease stick under them, and bring them back over the back beam and down to the warp beam and weight it, just as you did the other one. The lease stick with the straw gold and the summer green linen will eventually hang down lower than the lease stick with the brown and light green. The reason for this, if you will examine the sample is that the straw gold and summer green float more than do the other two colors. As a result, there is less take up, and this results in a lessening of the tension, unless you use the lease sticks and weights as I suggested.

You will probably find that a stretchier or temple will eliminate any problems of the 10/1 linen single ply, fuzzing on the edges of the selvage and breaking. So, you can see that there are problems in the weaving of this fabric, and yet, I do still feel that it is an easy fabric to weave.

I also wanted to mention that our sample this month has been washed and pressed. It was washed in the shortest cycle in our electric washing machine, extracted, and allowed to drip dry, and then it was steam pressed. If you do wash it, you will find it has a much softer hand than if you use it directly off the loom.

COST OF THE THREADS USED

We purchased a lot of about 150 lbs. of the 10/1 Belgian Bleached linen at a good price, and are able to offer it to you on 1/2 lb. tubes of 1500 yards per tube, at $3.20 per lb.

The 10/2 colored linens from Scotland are $5.60 per lb., and we do have 11 colors. However, we are getting low, and we have been warned by the linen company in Scotland that it will be a year to a year and a half before they can furnish us with more of the same linen, and that then, it will probably cost quite a bit more.

These colors are both sunfast and washfast on the linens, and this also makes them a little more expensive. However, on today's market, the price we have of $5.60 per lb. is quite low.

We do feel that more and more, linen, like silk, will also become a luxury fiber, and will be harder and harder to come by.

Oh yes, the 10/1 Belgian bleached white linen is a line linen. It has 3,000 yards per lb., and is $3.20 per lb.

The 10/2 colored Scottish linens have 1500 yards per lb., come on about one pound tubes, and are $5.60 per lb.
**COST OF THE FABRIC:**

Our warp was 40" wide, and 14 yards in length. In this 14 yard warp, it took two lbs., 12 oz. of the 10/1 white linen, and it took 1 lb., 8 oz. of the straw gold, 4½ oz. of the 10/2 light spring green, 10 oz. of the darker summer green, and 12 oz. of the bossy brown. Thus, our total warp cost for the 14 yard warp was $26.65, or the cost per yard was $1.90 per yard, 40" wide.

In the finished fabric, we had 11 yards and 30" of fabric from the 14 yard warp. And in this yardage it took 2 lbs., 11 oz. of the 10/1 bleached Belgian linen for weft, or the total weft cost was $8.60. The weft cost per yard was 75¢ per yard.

WARP COST PER YARD, 40" wide ........... $1.90
WEFT COST PER YARD ........................... .75
FABRIC COST PER YARD ........................ $2.65

(Continued from Page 3)

There is still another section on netting and net work, one on felted fabrics, and the final sections of the book are on embroideries and trimmings, and ornamentation of fabrics.

There are 117 drawings, photographs, or diagrams in the book, and these are all quite clear and well done.

So, you can see that this book deals with many of the techniques and trends that you find in the textiles of today, which are being made by the outstanding textile designers.

**TITLE:** TEXTILES OF ANCIENT PERU AND THEIR TECHNIQUES

**AUTHOR:** Raoul D'Harcourt

**PUBLISHER:** University of Washington Press

**COST:** $8.95 paperback, $20.00 hardback, plus postage and insurance.

**AVAILABLE:** Directly from the publisher if desired, or from Robin & Russ Handweavers.

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The Corvallis Handweavers Guild had as a guild project to weave small tapestries of the various members of the guild. These were very well done, and were hanging in a row of about six tapestries. This is one that I liked, and I'm sure everyone enjoyed this exhibit in Vancouver, at the Pacific Northwest Handweavers Conference last year.
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Why not advertise your old loom, duplicate equipment, and other such items in this section. Price per 5-line ad is $5.00. Payment to accompany your advertising copy.

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A multi-harness loom, 45" or wider, in good condition. Wanted by A. Piper, 2026 17th Avenue, Forest Grove, Oregon 97116.  

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**STRAW GLOW WHITE — A WHITE NYLON STRAW**

Which is made to resemble raffia. This came to us from Japan, on one kilo tubes of approximately 2 lbs., 2 oz. each. It is a beautiful, white, glossy, continuous long length fiber like raffia, will dye beautifully, and is priced at $3.20 per lb. Sold by the tube only of approximately 2 lbs. each. This straw will also dye beautifully. Robin & Russ, 533 North Adams St., McMinnville, Ore. 97128.

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**HEAVY, SINGLE PLY JUTE FOR MACRAME**

This heavy, single ply jute is about 3/4" in diameter, and comes on about 10 lb. tubes. It is $1.25 per lb. while it lasts, and comes in natural only. Robin & Russ, 533 North Adams St., McMinnville, Oregon 97128.

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**A NEW, ALL PURPOSE BOBBIN WINDER**

We are stocking the new all-purpose bobbin winder by Columbine. It will take up to a 7/8" bobbin in length, and will take bobbins from 1" up to 7/8" in size. Well built. I think you will like this one. Price is $46.50 plus postage. Robin & Russ, 533 North Adams St., McMinnville, Ore. 97128.

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**A 16 PLY, NATURAL, SMOOTH TUSSAH SILK**

This is an exceptionally strong, smooth silk with about 2900 yards per lb. It is in the natural tan, tusshah color, and we found 50 lbs. of this. Comes on cones of about 1/2 lb. each in weight. Price is $12.00 per lb. Excellent for warp or for weft. Robin & Russ, 533 N. Adams St., McMinnville, Ore. 97128.

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**SWEDISH, SKI-TYPE RUG SHUTTLES**

This is an excellent rug shuttle, and we recommend highly. Just in, 50 of them from Sweden, and the price is now $4.50 each. You'll like this type of rug shuttle over all others. Robin & Russ, 533 North Adams St., McMinnville, Oregon 97128.

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**SCOTTISH DISTRICT CHECKS, AND OUR SCOTTISH DISTRICT CHECKS**

These two belong together, so I'm listing them together. Our Scottish District Checks has 106 full color plates which are excellent on these checks, and while it normally sells for $13.50 in Scotland, we purchased a large quantity and have them on sale at $8.95. And then, the paper back, "Scottish District Checks," has 95 of these 106 plates, with the thread count for each, and details about the set-up, the threads used, the weaving, etc. It used to be $2.00, but the author has just raised this paperback to $2.50. Well worth having, you'll like this combination, I'm sure. Robin & Russ, 533 N. Adams St., McMinnville, Ore. 97128.

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**A NILE RAYON, SLUBBY, SLUB**

If you love textured yarns, you'll like this slubby, slub yarn. It is quite heavy, and has slubs upon slubs. It is a Nile green, almost a light chartreuse, with occasional flecks of a light yellow blended in the slubs. Probably has about 600 to 800 yards per lb. It comes on tubes about 1 lb., 6 oz. in weight, and the price is $3.50 per lb. Also, we have the same yarn in a LIGHT ORANGE COLOR, with the faint touches of yellow flecks. Both are $3.50 per lb. Robin & Russ, 533 North Adams St., McMinnville, Ore. 97128.

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**STRETCH YARN IN WHITE**

We have about 100 lbs. of a fine, white 2 ply stretch yarn, probably nylon with spandex. You'll be surprised with this, and might like to experiment. Also have one or two colors available in this yarn. Price is $3.20 per lb. If interested, please write for samples. Robin & Russ, 533 North Adams St., McMinnville, Oregon.

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**10/6 LINEN RUG WARP**

Imported from Belgium, this 10/6 natural linen rug warp has 500 yards per lb. It came to us on 1/2 kilo tubes (1 lb. 1 oz. each), and the price is $7.00 per lb. It is a 6 ply linen, and seems to be very nice quality linen. And strong — you'll not be able to break this one. Robin & Russ, 533 North Adams St., McMinnville, Ore. 97128.

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**8 CUT RAYON CHENILLE IN ABOUT 6 COLORS**

Just received, but not even opened yet, is this 8 cut rayon chenille. We have about six colors, with 30 lbs. of each color. One is a dusty rose, another is a cream green, and we still haven't opened the other four colors yet. If interested, write for samples. Price will be $4.00 per lb. Robin & Russ, 533 N. Adams St., McMinnville, Oregon 97128.

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**TEXTILES OF ANCIENT PERU AND THEIR TECHNIQUES**

By Raoul D'Harcourt. This book has been out of print for several years, and there was a great call for copies of it. It is an outstanding book, and is available in a paperback edition at $8.95, or in the regular edition as it used to be, at $20.00 per copy for hard-bound edition. Postage is extra. In stock right now, in both editions. Robin & Russ, 533 North Adams St., McMinnville, Oregon 97128.

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**SWEDISH SWATCHES, RED AND BLUE SERIES**

We now have both of these folios in stock, and the latest out, the Red Series by Malin Selander is $15.95 plus postage. The Blue Series is $12.95 plus postage, and both are exciting folios with sample swatches and directions for the weaving of same. Robin & Russ, 533 North Adams St., McMinnville, Oregon 97128.

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**46 COLORS OF ENGLISH 2 PLY RUG WOOL**

Much like the ray yarn we used to be able to purchase in England. This yarn has approximately 700 yards per lb., comes on 4 oz. tubes, and is $2.00 per 4 oz. tube. A beautiful quality yarn, with outstanding colors. Free sample sheet upon request. Robin & Russ, 533 North Adams St., McMinnville, Ore. 97128.
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