

smooth it with your fingers — if the candle starts straight and smooth, it will usually continue so without much shaping. Now dip again; and keep on dipping. When the candle is as large as you want it, it is finished — and here is another advantage of home candle making, any odd size of candlestick can be fitted.

Practice will show you the manner of clipping and shaping your candles. You must dip quickly — or rather, take the wick out of the wax quickly — or the candle will grow smaller instead of larger, particularly at the bottom. Wait long enough between dips — the cooler the candle is the more wax it will take up. Six is a very good number of candles to make at once, because by the time the sixth is dipped, the first will be ready again. Let the candle thoroughly harden before you take it off the stick; and if you like the soft, dull finish, do not handle it any more.

The level of the wax in the can must be about the same all the time so that the whole of the candle will be covered at each dipping. A saucepan of hot wax ready for refilling the can saves time. If there is not wax enough of the shade you are

using, pour hot water into the can — hot, but not boiling. Adding boiling water once caused an eruption that lasted until the can was empty and all the wax was on the floor. As a side experiment, add water to white wax in a glass jar. It is very interesting to see what happens. You will see *why* you can add water without spoiling the candle. You will also see why you have to start with cleaner wax when planning to add water later.

Be careful to keep the wax entirely melted all the time; it will spoil the candle if it gets too cool. If the can sets in a saucepan of hot water while off the stove, the wax will keep hot longer.

If the color isn't what you want, change it as you make your candle; it is the last three or four coats only that give the final color. This is really the best way to get the right shade. If you have plenty of wax and a number of cans, keep the colors separate and dip from one can to another. You get the same effect as if the colors were mixed in the beginning and you do not lose your original shades.

It seems a shame to give too many directions for candle dipping because the fun is in experimenting one's self. Just try it!



## Adjustments

BY C. J. BURCHARD

ONE of the many necessary details that go to make a perfect piece of cloth, the product of Hand Weaving, is the proper adjustment of the "tie-up."

Slipshod methods and inaccuracy in adjusting the lamms and treadles result in imperfect harmony of the working parts, which makes for poor shed of the warp, making "Overshots and Undershots," and I need not stress on what that means to the cloth.

One of the best methods so far discovered by the writer to obtain the same tension on each treadle and each tie from the lamms, is to place a rigid support across the loom underneath the treadles which will hold them firmly in place at the proper height and in proper alignment with each other and at the height they should be left at when the tying has been completed; do the same thing with the lamms, using a clamp or rod, but secure them firmly in line and at the proper height.

Now we are ready to tie; first see that the cords from the lamms to the heddle frames are all even, then proceed to tie the lamms to the treadles in

accordance with "tie-up" called for in your pattern.

Commence this operation by tying the cord farthest back first; tie this so that when you put your weight on the treadle it will come down firmly on the support but still be tight enough so that this pressure will put a good firm tension on the drop cord you are tying. Remember your lamms are rigid and the tension is to be on the cord between the lamm and the treadle. Proceed in this manner with each drop that is to be tied to a treadle and repeat until the drops are all disposed of in their proper place.

The result of this, when the supports are removed from the lamms and the treadles, will be very apparent in that the treadles when in a normal position will hang in perfect alignment, will be adjusted high enough from the floor to give good clearance for the shed and, best of all, the heddle frames which are connected with each treadle will move to their respective position in perfect order, with the result that the warp threads thus brought into action will be in perfect alignment.