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FIX IT YOURSELF—**Night Noises In House Often Can Be Silenced Easily****Felt or Carpet Padding Ends Water Tank
Hum; Stripping Stops Window Rattle**

By HUBBARD COBB, Your Handy Man

The world is full of interesting sounds and noises but some of the most interesting are found in your own home just about the time you want to go to sleep.

A loud hum in the basement is often due to nothing more than a small hum in the oil burner. This travels along the fuel line to the storage tank which acts as a sounding board and makes it a big hum. This can often be fixed by covering the tank with a heavy piece of carpeting or felt.

When a window pane rattles it means that the glass is loose and the only thing to do here is to replace the old putty, glazier's points and glass and start off fresh.

Now if the entire window sash rattles it means that the sash has done a little shrinking and is letting a lot of nice cold air get inside. Sometimes this can be fixed by weather-stripping the window. If this doesn't do the trick, remove the sash and glue thin strips of wood to each side. This will take up the slack and the sash will fit tightly.

A door will rattle because the latch does not fit tightly in the striking plate. What we do here is to move the striking plate just a hair one way or the other so that the latch fits snugly. It's Either Too Dry or Too Damp

For every person in this world who complains that "my house is too damp during the winter" there is another who shouts, "my house gets too dry during the winter." This, as you can see, makes for a fascinating conversation.

Excessively dry air is not good

for you, your house or your furniture.

What's worse, when air is very dry it takes a higher temperature to make you feel comfortable than would be required if there were the proper amount of moisture.

You can probably put an end to all this trouble by having a special water filter installed which will remove the corrosive agent from the water before it can get at the copper.

If you happen to be the mayor of your community you can have a municipal filtering system installed and this may even pick you up a few extra votes from housewives.

One last item on this subject and that is that if the water is pure the fact that it dissolves copper does not mean that it's bad for you.

Frosting Lamp Shade Is Simple Process

If you were to sit down and add up the sum total of man's knowledge you would have to include items of this sort which probably set you to wondering if maybe you weren't wasting your time.

You can give a glass lamp shade a frosted appearance by coating it on the inside with clear shellac and then sprinkling epsom salts over the wet shellac.

If you have a home repair problem, write a letter to Mr. Cobb, care of The Indianapolis Times. If your question is of general interest, an answer to it will appear in a forthcoming column of The Times Home Page.

The more epsom salts you use the more frosted things will get.

Considering the amount of heat wasted in some homes because people forget to close the front door, the purchase of an automatic door closer will pay for itself in a very short time.

Don't let yourself or anyone else try to lay a new floor covering in the bathroom or kitchen

connected into a single flue. Another item is a furnace stove pipe which extends too far into the chimney flue.

Dirt or an obstruction in the flue will spoil things. So will ill-fitting furnace doors or chimney clean-out doors or holes in the stove pipe.

Fancy chimney caps have spoiled many a good chimney draft and so have nearby trees.

If there is too little chimney draft the fire is going to have a tough time just to keep going.

One thing that will kill a good draft is to have two heating units

overhanging branches and tall buildings.

An irregular chimney draft is one that goes great guns for one minute and then slows down the next. This will confuse almost any furnace and maybe even you.

The way to deal with this situation is to install or have installed an automatic draft regulator on the furnace stove pipe. This little gimmick will open up when the draft becomes too great and allow air to enter the flue directly from the basement rather than up through the fire.

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