

The Energy Savers

by Richard Charles

Grab the heat while it's hot

If you heat your home electrically, you are an above-average user of electricity, and therefore have a large stake in its proper use. But a lot can happen between its point of origin and the moment when you feel the warmth in your home.

To illustrate, when a wave starts its run in the deep water, it looks like a great heaving wall that could go on for ever. Then, as it nears the beach, it starts to break and release its tremendous power, and soon ends up on the sand barely able to crawl the last few inches. If you have ridden the surf on a board, in a boat or as a swimmer, you know that the closer you are to taking the wave as it breaks, the better the ride.

The way we use energy is something like that. It starts

way back as, say, a barrel of oil or a waterfall, when we can assume that it is ready to give us one hundred percent. But, like the breaking wave, it begins to lose something at the moment of release — some may go up in smoke, and some be absorbed by the generating equipment.

The barrel of oil emerges as electricity with less than half of its original energy efficiency; then loses still more as it comes through the lines, until it is about one-third of its old self by the time it reaches the home heating equipment. Hydroelectric power is less wasteful of the water's energy, partly because there is no burning involved, but it's still well below par at the end of the line.

You can see, then, how important it is to make the most of your electricity by grabbing the heat while it's hot. The following tips should help.

- Dust and dirt on electric heaters mean that less heat is being delivered to you than the system was designed for. Vacuum the heaters regularly throughout the heating season.
- Put warm air where it will do the most good. You can do this with wall-mounted convectors by seeing that they have proper deflectors on them — it's easy to tell where the heat is going by standing near the convector.
- Let the warm air circulate freely in your rooms. In other

words, don't block off warm air outlets with furniture, and don't cover baseboard heating units with drapes.

- If you have heating cables in the ceilings or floors, you can help them to do a better job in two ways. First, make sure that you have them properly insulated, so that the heat radiates into the room. Second, look periodically for hidden faults such as a broken cable. You can do this easily by making spot checks with your hand against the ceiling or floor. Any cool sections will indicate that there is some kind of trouble there.

As you can see, keeping an eye on electrical heating equipment is simple enough, and you will feel the difference in your comfort and in the heating bill. But there's a lot more you can do with this as with practically every other kind of home heating. Number one: stop heat from escaping by having good home insulation all round. Number two: learn how to use your thermostat as a way of increasing the heating efficiency of your home. Number three: before you go any further, find out about these and other basic improvements by reading 100 ways to save energy and money in the home. It's put out by the Office of Energy Conservation, Department of Energy Mines and Resources, and it's yours by writing to Box 3500, Station C, Ottawa, Ontario, K1Y 4G1.

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EXECUTIVE HOME

Nestled in a wooded lot, .82 acres of privacy. Long ranch bungalow, 4 large bedrooms, huge master bedroom, dressing room, 5 piece ensuite, sunken tub and walkout to 40' x 20' pool. A few of the extras are sauna, stone floor to ceiling fireplace, 4 walkouts, central air, vacuum and intercom, workshop, storage room, laundry area and double car garage. Please phone for more particular and private showing.



PANORAMIC VIEW

Situated on a hill top view of the refreshing surrounding countryside, 10 acres of excellent land close to town. 3 huge bedrooms, large dining room and living room, 2 stone fireplaces, spiral staircase, 6' wide halls, 17' wide balcony on upper floor. Lower level has extra rooms for bedrooms, gamesroom etc. Paved drive. Barn 35' x 40'. Many more extras. Must be seen \$149,900.00



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This property offers great potential to the shrewd purchaser. One side of this home has a rental income of \$375.00/month which would pay more than half of your mortgage. To a qualified buyer your mortgage could be only \$200 per month. This is a main location that also has commercial potential.



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VIEW OF LAKE

4 bedroom home, ground level familyroom, large kitchen with walkout. Stones throw from lake. Open field in rear yard. Quiet cul de sac. \$65,500.00.



4 BEDROOMS

2 storey four bedroom home. Private back yard. Beautifully decorated and broadoomed. Attached single garage and paved drive. Basement sirapped and ready to panel. \$58,900.00.



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Custom built 3 bedroom bungalow, cosy living room with brick fireplace, large kitchen and walkout to 18'x20' deck. Large country lot in this charming village. This home must be seen in order to realize the quality and special features. \$69,900.00



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EXCELLENT VALUE

3 bedrooms, eat-in kitchen, ground floor family room with fireplace. Fully fenced yard. This one must be seen. Only \$60,900.



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Tastefully decorated 3 bedroom raised bungalow. Fully finished rec room, stone fireplace, bar, 2 baths. Lovely inground pool. Exquisite condition. Listed at \$67,900.

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12 ACRES \$45,000.00

Wood building lot with ponds close to Acton. 766 feet frontage.

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