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? WHY THE WEATHER ?

Dr. Charles F. Brooks,
Secretary, American Meteorological Society,
says:

MOIST AIR INDOORS SAVES COAL

To increase the moisture content of the air in the house in winter is to secure a comfortable warmth at a lower temperature than when the air is permitted to remain at its normal cold weather ultra-dryness. In any heated house a considerable amount of water vapor may be added to the atmosphere without producing dampness, and, of course, a proper degree of humidity is healthful to human beings as well as to furniture. Body evaporation is less, and the air does not so thirstily rob lungs, throat and nose of the moisture that their well-being demands. At the same time, a temperature which would seem chilly in dry air is high enough when humidity is sufficient. Thus, the coal bill diminishes as the moisture increases.

More and more people are realizing the undesirability of excessively dry indoor air and are placing open water receptacles in their rooms. Specially designed tanks, with or without wicking, are made for attachment to radiators, and for steam-heated houses special noiseless steam-emitting valves have been invented. At best, however, such devices only mitigate the excessive dryness, for unless a house is unusually tight large masses of new, dry air are entering faster than new vapor can humidify them effectively. Nevertheless, a partial help is better than none in making our houses more comfortable on less fuel.

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