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Cooking with charm

Country Charm's cast iron, but still fully electric range combines Early American design with today's convenience. Scaled for modern kitchens, the range is a little over 24 inches deep and 38 inches wide. From floor to the top of the coffee mill handle (the timer in disguise), it's 68 inches. The stove is made and sold by The House of Webster, Rogers, Ark. 72756. The company also makes wall ovens with cast iron doors, electric cast iron skillets and cooking pots.

Home values change

Figures from the Bureau of Labor Statistics are testimony to the effect inflation has had on disposable incomes.

A consumer price index of 204.7 means it now costs consumers \$204.70 to purchase items that would have cost \$186.90 a year ago.

Though many a homeowner carries theft insurance as protection against his car being stolen, he may overlook the way inflation depletes the dollar value of his homeowner insurance.

The typical homeowner, according to a survey for Professional Builder magazine, has owned his home for nearly six years, bought it for less than \$40,000 and expects to sell it for nearly \$62,000.

But the typical homeowner may fail to make the connection that the \$40,000 home he purchased just six years ago will now cost more than \$60,000 to replace.

Some property insurance policies, however, are available with what is known as "inflation guard," or "established rate of inflation" coverage.

Insurance companies say this helps to regulate the cost of replacing a home by increasing coverage to keep up with the rate of inflation.

Another kind of "insurance" that many homeowners find invaluable involves the fire safety of their roofs. Asphalt roofing is among the building materials classified for fire resistance by Underwriters Laboratories, a non-profit testing organization. Building products that meet tough standards earn a UL label.

Asphalt shingles that bear a UL fire resistance label will not ignite easily, will not spread flame readily, or emit burning brands that could touch off other fires.

Class A shingles, most of which have a fiber glass base, will resist severe fire exposure.

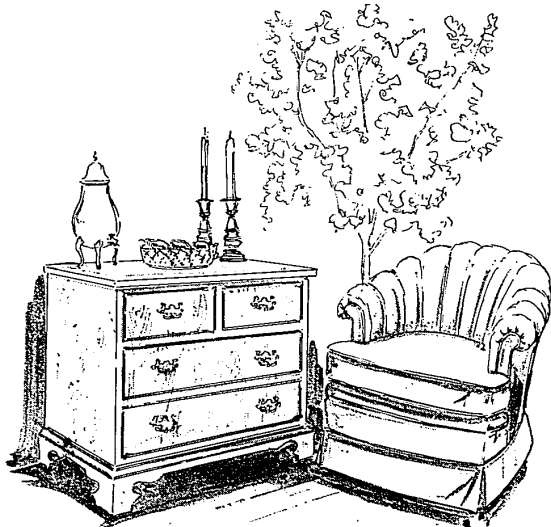
In most communities, roofing that bears a UL fire resistance label is required in new construction and re-roofing. This requirement has the support of the National Fire Protection Association and the International Association of Fire Chiefs.

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