

*Herschede*

**OWNER'S  
MANUAL**

*Herschede*

**Owner's Manual**  
Grandfather Clocks  
Grandmother Clocks

**Roger Gordon Clockmakers Limited**  
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**Read this manual in its entirety before  
attempting to set up your Herschede clock.**

Herschede Hall Clock Co., Starkville, Mississippi 39759



# Certificate of Guarantee

Your Herschede clock is guaranteed against factory defects in workmanship and materials. Under this guarantee any part or parts that become defective within *one full year* from registered date of purchase will be replaced and repaired without charge, *excepting* shipping damages, obvious misuse and abuse. Transportation charges to be paid by you. After **ONE FULL YEAR** all adjustments, oiling and repairing should

be handled by your local clock repairman. He will make a nominal charge for repair parts and labor.

The Herschede Hall Clock Company will repair or replace the movement in a chain wound rod chime clock for a maximum charge of \$15.00, plus transportation charges, if the movement should fail to operate properly within **FOUR YEARS** from registered date of purchase.

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## Dear Herschede Clock Owner:

Congratulations!

You now own one of the world's finest chiming floor clocks. Get to know it well—you will be living together a long, long time. Given proper care and maintenance, your Herschede clock will serve you faithfully and accurately for years to come. Before long you will come to think of it not as a mere timepiece, but as a beloved companion that radiates warmth and charm throughout your home.

One of the many features that makes your clock unique is the name Herschede on the dial. This honored and tradition-rich name is the oldest in the American chiming floor clock business. We have been making gold medal winning clocks since 1885. We are, in fact, the only clock maker in America that makes its own tubular bell clock movements. We are clock makers. Not just cabinet makers.

Now, before going further, let's look briefly at the individual parts of your clock.

**The Case** Your case is, above all, a fine piece of furniture—superbly designed and hand-finished. It will become a center of interest in your home. A conversation piece that brings praise and compliments from friends and acquaintances. A symbol of your good taste. Herschede clock designs are rich in tradition, many going back to the 18th Century. With their fine proportions and with the warmth and richness of their coloring and finishes, these clocks not only add magnificence to traditional settings but give modern arrangements a touch of grace and elegance.

**The Movement** This is the delicate and finely balanced mechanism that makes your clock tick and chime. The movements in our chain wound rod chime clocks come from West Germany's fabled Black Forest, where skilled clockmakers have been at work since the 17th Century. These movements, though smaller and simpler than those that go into our tubular bell clocks, are highly accurate and reliable.

If you own one of our larger tubular bell clocks, your movement was made in our Starkville, Miss., plant (Herschede is the only manufacturer in America that makes its own tubular bell clock movements). This precision-made mechanism has no equal anywhere in the world. No expense is spared in its manufacture. And the master craftsmen who fashion it are the envy of clockmakers the world over. With regular oiling and cleaning, this movement will perform accurately and dependably for generations to come.

**The Chimes** All Herschede clocks play the Westminster chime, the most famous of chime melodies. Based on Handel's symphony "I Know That My Redeemer Liveth," it was made famous in 1859 by London's fabled Big Ben. Besides Westminster, Herschede nine tubular bell clocks play the Whittington and Canterbury chimes. The latter, inspired by the grandeur of Canterbury Cathedral, was composed especially for Herschede.

## Whittington

1st Quarter. 2nd Quarter. 3rd Quarter. 4th Quarter. Hour.

“Turn again, Whittington  
Lord Mayor of Londontown.”

## Canterbury

1st Quarter. 2nd Quarter. 3rd Quarter. 4th Quarter. Hour.

I'll pass this way but once, Any good that I can do, Let me know it now  
Let me not neglect it, Let me not defer it, For I'll not pass a-gain;  
I'll pass this way but once, Any good that I can do, Let me know it now, For I'll not pass a-gain.

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“I'll pass this way but once  
Any good, that I can do,  
Let me know it now  
Let me not neglect it or defer it  
For I shall not pass this way again.”

## Westminster

1st Quarter. 2nd Quarter. 3rd Quarter. 4th Quarter. Hour.

“Lord, through this hour  
Be Thou our guide  
So, by Thy power  
No foot shall slide.”

Herschede chain wound rod chime clocks chime every quarter hour on Symphony Chime Rods. The tall and dignified Herschede tubular bell grandfathers, on the other hand, have either five or nine Crown Symphony Tubular Chimes tuned to a concert pitch (we have developed our own alloys for chime perfection). A special suspension system, unique to Herschede tubular bell grandfather clocks, increases the chime vibration from 11 to 35 seconds—an accomplishment unmatched by any other clockmaker. In addition to quarter hour chimes, all Herschede clocks have an hour strike—a deep, throaty tone that counts the passing hours.

From cabinet to movement to chimes, no effort has been spared to make your Herschede clock the finest you can buy in that particular price range. Treated with care and consideration, your Herschede tubular bell grandfather clock will become a family heirloom that can be passed from generation to generation, becoming more treasured and more valuable with each succeeding year.



## Setting up the tubular bell clock

Your clock has arrived in four separate boxes (A,B,C&D). Contents of each box are noted below.

### BOX A

1. Clock case
2. Door key (in small envelope attached to security pad around clock)
3. Finial (attached to side rail inside of case)

### BOX B

1. Clock movement
2. Pendulum bob
3. Lyre (Model No. 250 only)
4. Suspension spring
5. Winding key
6. Four wood screws (in small envelope atop seat board)

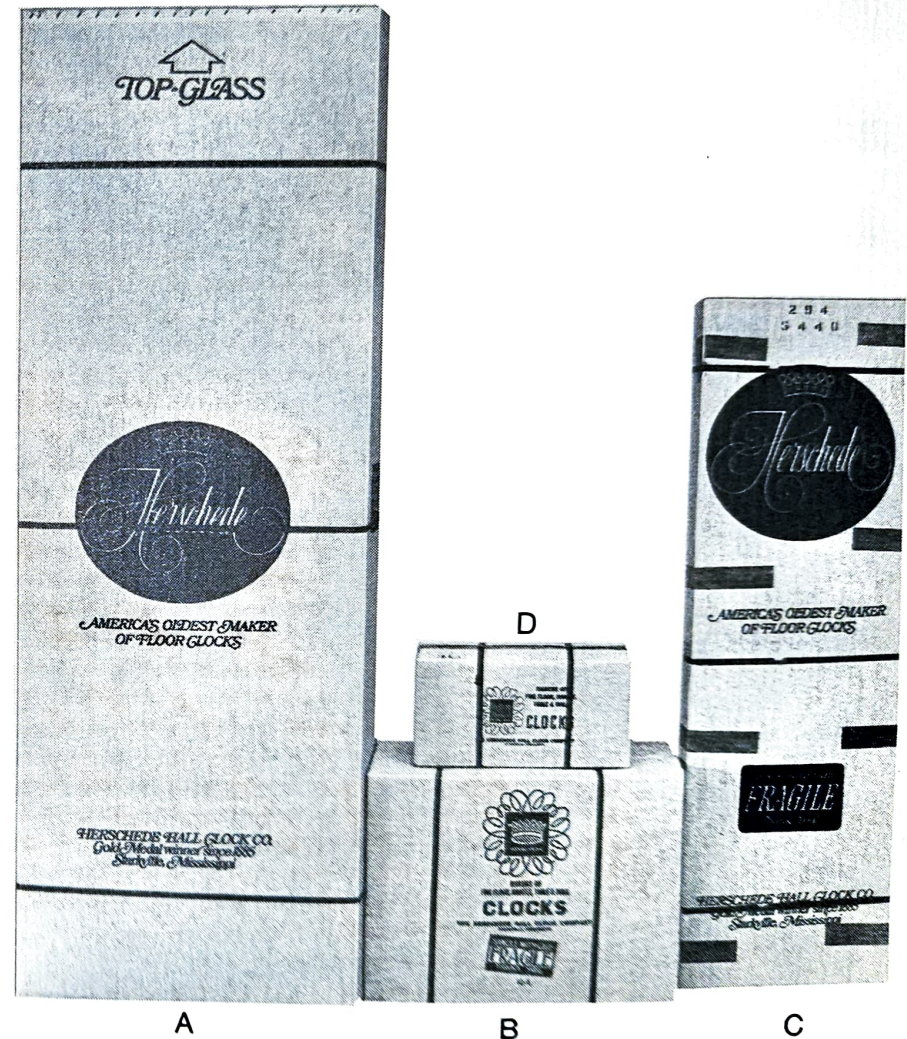
### BOX C

1. Chime tubes
2. Pendulum rod

### BOX D

1. Chime weight (marked CT on bottom), 20 lbs. for 5 tube models; 26 lbs. for 9 tube models
2. Time weight (marked TT on bottom), 11 lbs.
3. Strike weight (marked ST on bottom), 11 lbs.

**Check contents of boxes carefully before discarding. Some people inadvertently throw away the winding key and suspension spring with packing materials.**

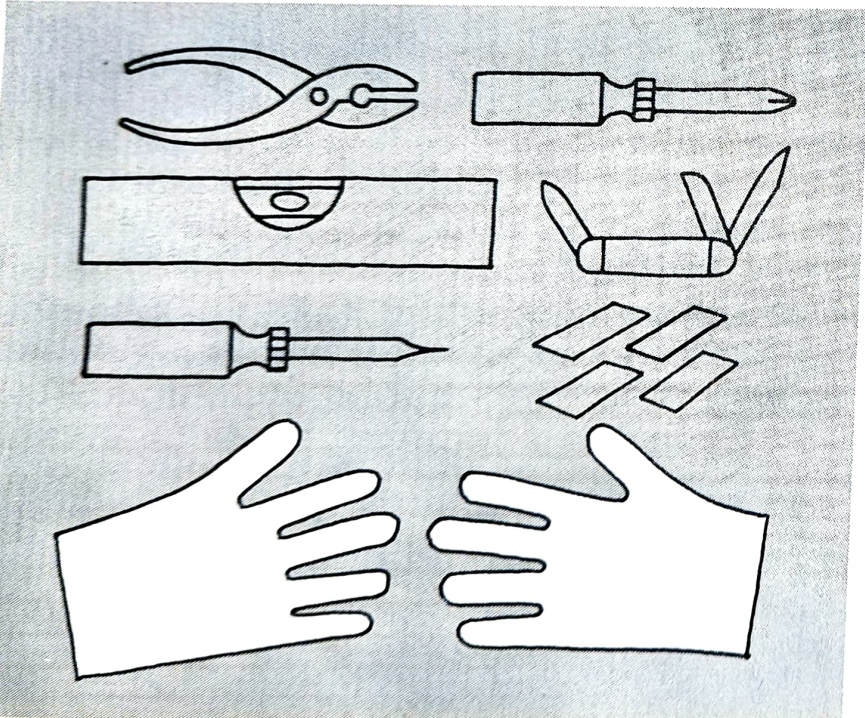




## Tools for assembly

To assemble your clock, you will need the following tools and aids:

1. Wire cutters or pliers
2. Phillips screw driver
3. Spirit level
4. Pocket knife
5. Thin bladed screw driver
6. Shims (for leveling clock)
7. White cotton gloves or soft cloth (to use while handling brass parts and tubes)



## Unpacking

Unpack Box A first. Set upright and remove packing materials (don't forget door key). To get clock case out of box, grasp left side about midway up and lift from bottom. Once case is free, set it near its *permanent* location. Turn cabinet sideways and remove back panel by loosening four phillips screws. Remove top panel in same manner.

Next unpack the movement (Box B). Don't forget the small package containing the bob, winding key and suspension spring. Locate and lay aside for time being.



## Installing movement

Remove protective tissue wrapping from movement, but **DO NOT** remove cardboard strip holding hammer and springs until movement is in case. Holding movement by the tube rack (Fig. 1), set seat board (A) on side rails (B) in cabinet. Slide movement forward until it is flush with face of cabinet. Line up clock face with opening in cabinet. Using key, open front door. Next, using a nail or long, thin object, line up screw holes in seat board and side rails. Screw seat board to side rails, using four phillips screws located in small envelope on top of seat board. Screws should be *tight*.

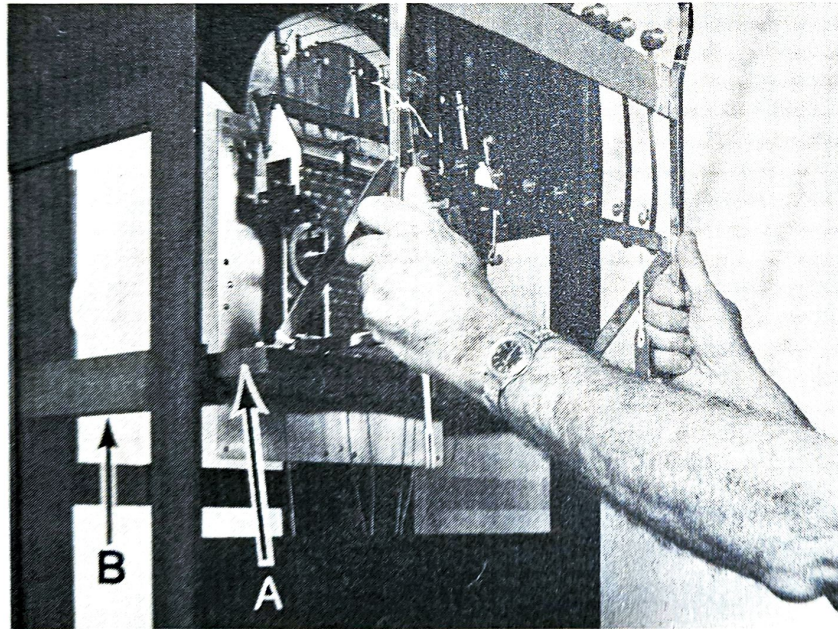


Fig. 1

## Hanging chime tubes

Open Box C containing chime tubes. A white ticket identifies the strike (hour) tube in both the five and nine tubular bell movements. The pendulum rod is taped to the side of this tube. Gently remove rod (it is very delicate) and set aside. Unwrap the plugged (solid) end of the strike tube, exposing a small brown string. (Do not unwrap rest of tube at this time. This would only expose it to fingerprints.) Insert strike tube through back of cabinet and lean against cabinet wall. Remove protective cardboard holding hammer springs. Cut and remove *white cords only*. *Do not cut black strings*—they are part of the chime system. Read red tag. It warns you not to tamper with adjustment screws on hammer springs (Fig. 2). They were pre-set at the factory. You are now ready to hang the strike (hour) tube. In the *five tube movement*, the hour tube should be hung on the extreme right button, as seen from back (Fig. 3). The rest of the tubes should be hung from *right to left* (as seen from back), starting with the longest chime tube and proceeding to the shortest. In the *nine tube movement*, the hour tube hangs on the second slot of the hour tube hanger. This hanger is located not on the tube rack but on the left side of the cabinet (Fig. 4). Getting there with the hour tube is a little tricky. First, slide the lower end of the tube to the left back corner of the cabinet. Next slide the upper end under the chime rack on the extreme right (Fig. 5). Now slide the tube along the back of the seat board to the extreme left and hang on the hour tube hanger. Hang rest of the tubes on buttons at back of the



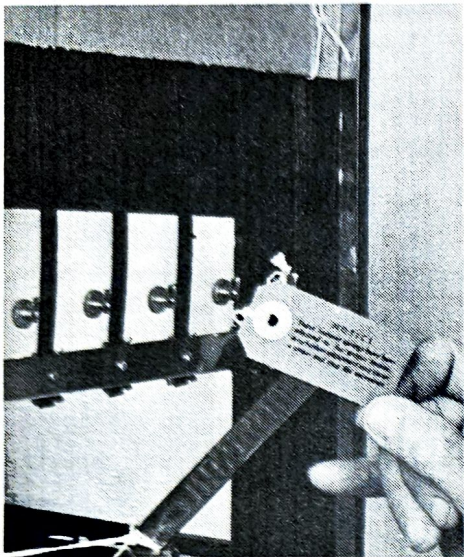


Fig. 2

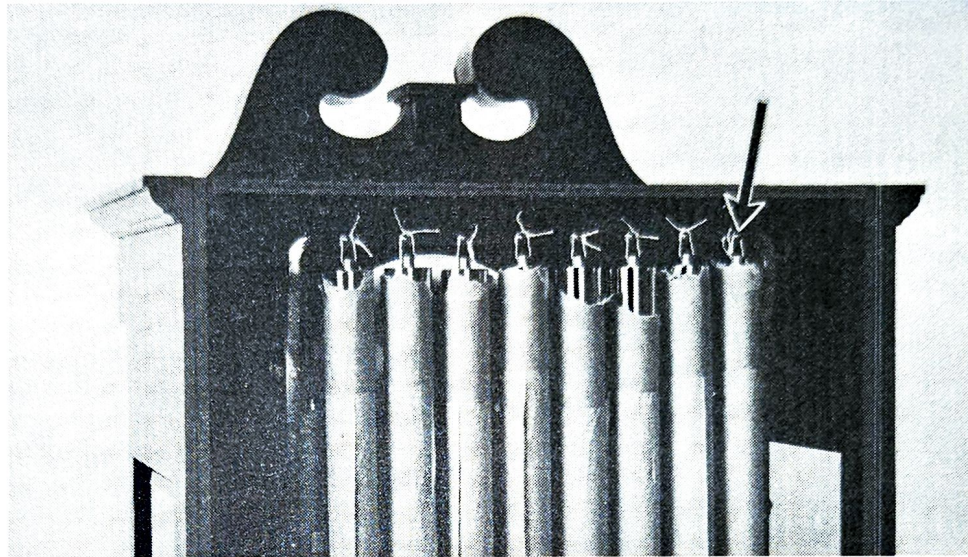


Fig. 3

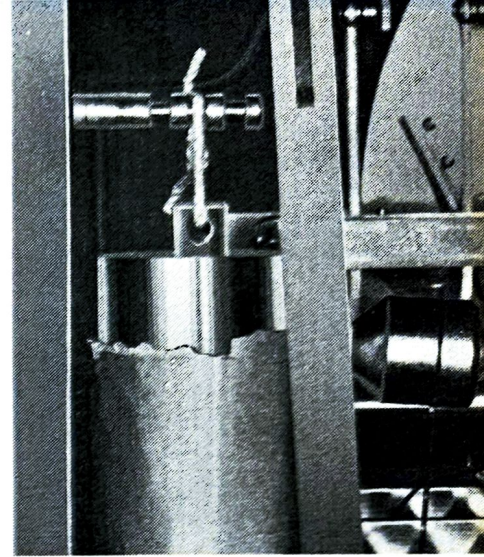
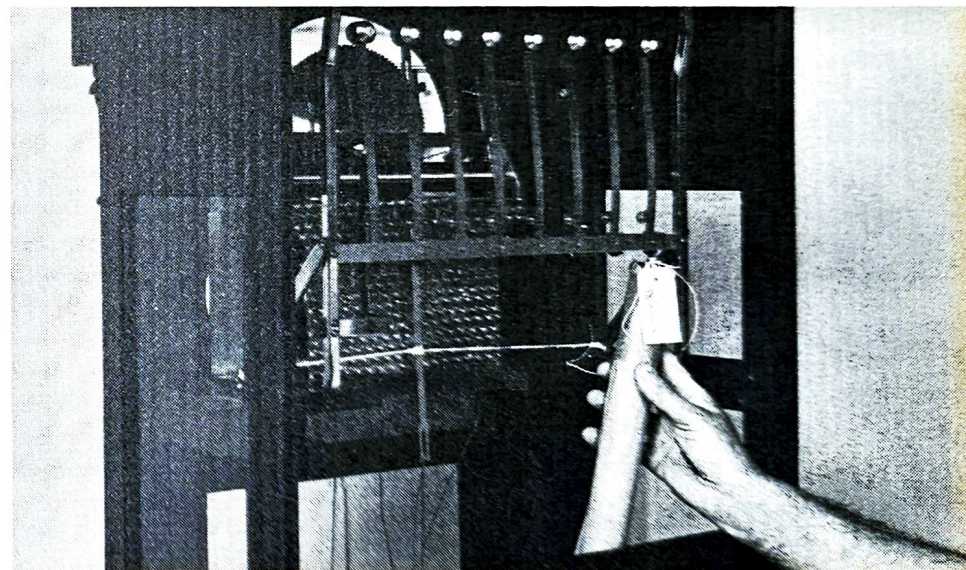


Fig. 4

tube rack (Fig. 3), starting with the longest tube on the right (as seen from back) and proceeding to the shortest. Replace back of cabinet and position clock in *permanent* location.

Move to front of cabinet and slide wrapping paper from chime tubes. Pull gently from bottom of tube and “snake” off. (NOTE: Wear white cotton gloves or use a soft cloth when handling chrome or brass parts. Moisture in your hands will tarnish metal. Wipe off fingerprints immediately if you accidentally touch something you shouldn't )





## Leveling cabinet

Place a spirit level on seat board to level cabinet from front to back and side to side. Use cardboard or wooden shims under cabinet feet.

Most clock problems result from imperfect leveling. The clock won't keep accurate time and parts wear unevenly. The life of your clock depends on its being perfectly balanced. Check the balance periodically—especially if the clock is on carpet and may settle after original leveling.

## Assembling pendulum

Assemble pendulum (Fig. 6). Remove adjusting nut (A) from rod (B). Slide rod through bob (C), making sure polished side of bob is on same side as the beat adjustment disc (D). (NOTE: On Model No. 250 insert lyre (Fig. 7) on pendulum rod before installing bob.) Replace adjusting nut. Screw on until top of bob reaches scratch mark on back of pendulum rod. Remove suspension spring screw (E). Insert suspension spring (F) in slot (G) and replace screw. Screw should be snug but not tight. Install pendulum in clock through front door. Hang T-bar in anchor bridge (Fig. 8). Insert beat adjusting pin in anchor fork (Fig. 9).



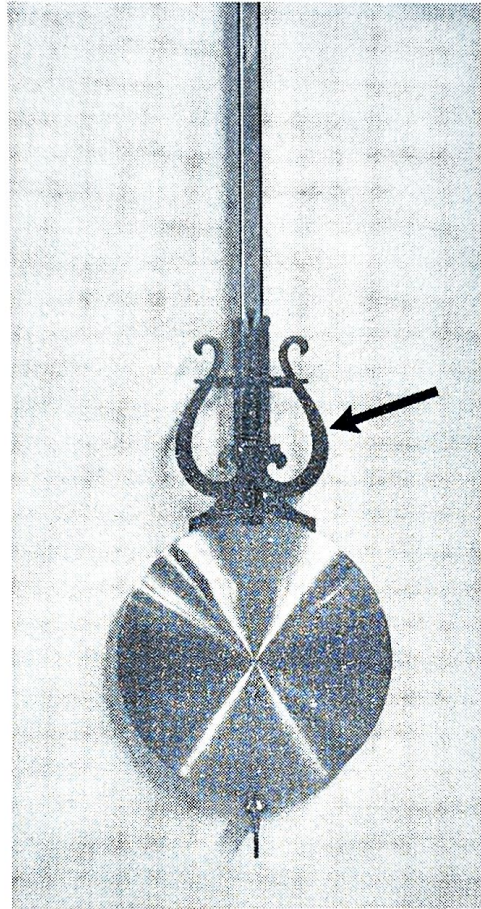
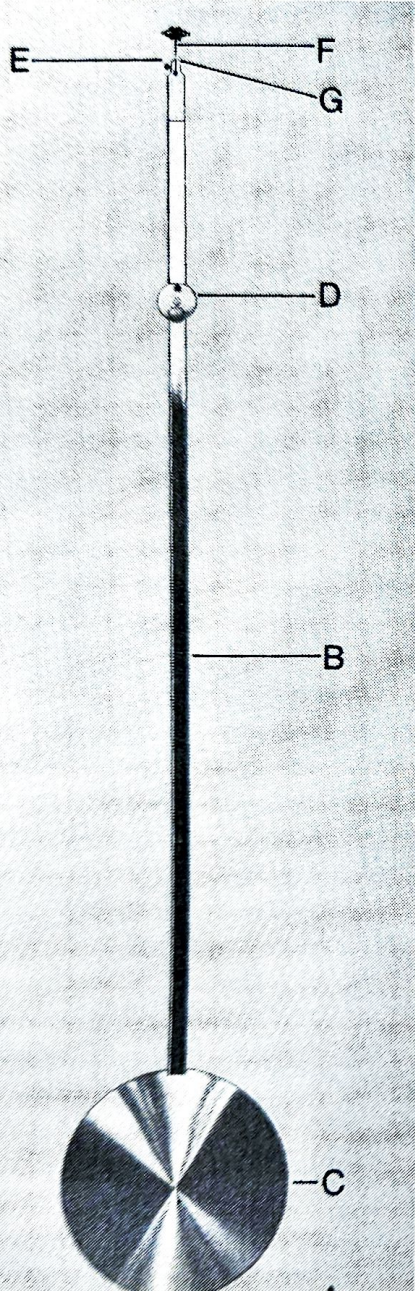


Fig. 7

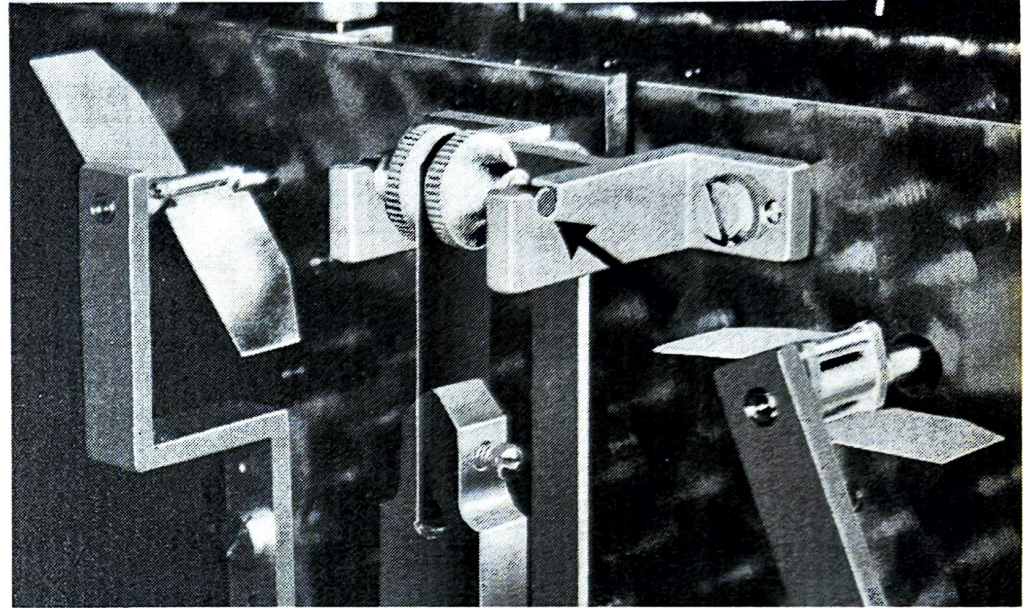
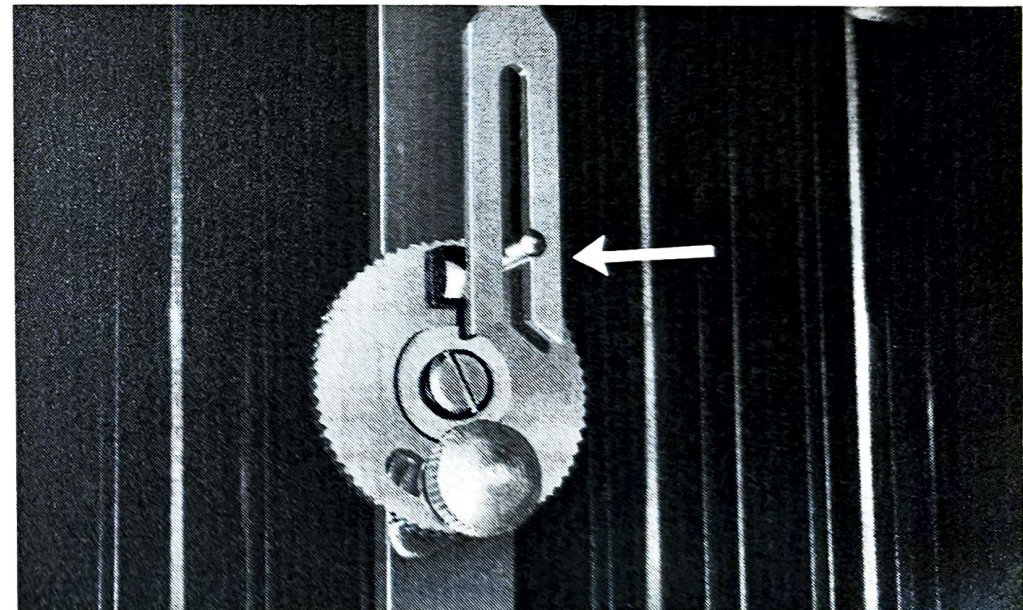


Fig. 8





Now you are ready to hang the weights. Open Box D and remove brown wrapping paper from weights (leave white tissue paper until weights are hung). Free cable pulleys by removing brown protective envelopes. Hang the large weight first. It goes on the right cable (facing front of clock). Stamped CT (for Chime Train) on bottom, this weight powers the chime gears. It weighs 20 pounds in a five tube movement and 26 pounds in a nine tube movement. The other two weights weigh 11 pounds each. Hang the one stamped TT (for Time Train) in the center (it powers the time mechanism) and the one stamped ST (for Strike Train) on the left (it powers the hour strike). To install weights, flip pulley (Fig. 10) and hang on stirrup. Pinch cables around pulley to prevent it from slipping and slowly, *gently* lower weight toward bottom of cabinet. (Do not let weight slip; it may snap cable.) Remove tissue paper. NOTE: On clocks with an electric movement, hang weight pulley cords on hooks under seat board, then hang weights on pulleys. The weights are dummies and have no actual bearing on the operation of the clock. At this point, the clock should be plugged into a standard 110 volt electrical outlet.

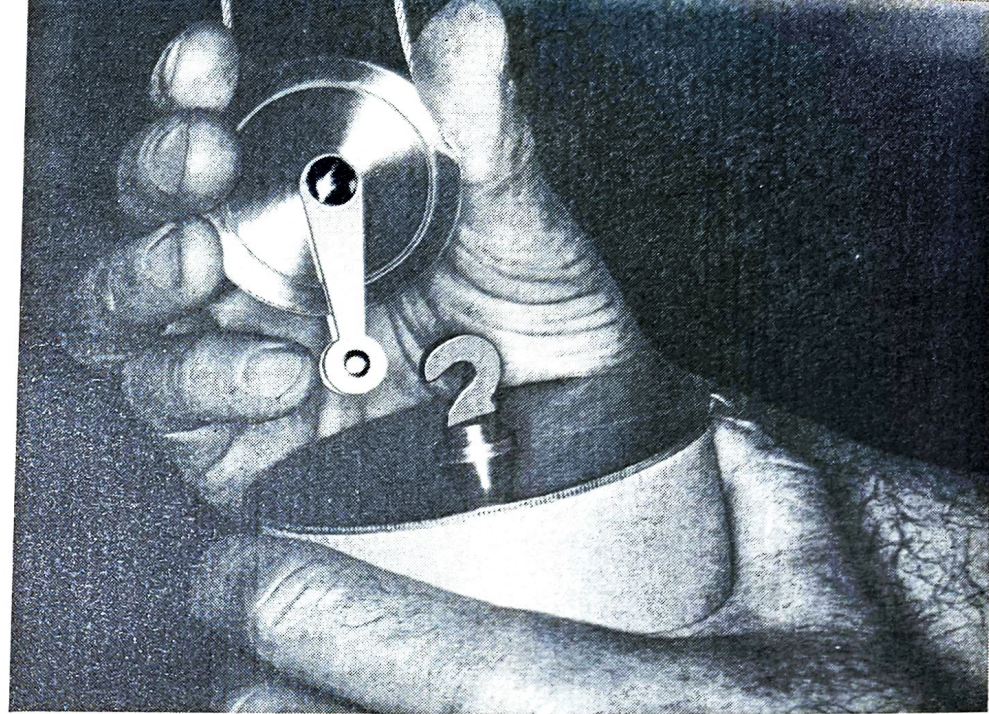


Fig. 10



## Setting clock

Push strike silent lever to strike position (Fig. 11). Turn chime indicator counterclockwise to chime (Fig. 12). Select chime (Fig. 13). Insert winding key in arbors (Fig. 14) and wind weights until top of weights are even with top of door opening. Check cable to see that it tracks properly in the winding drum grooves (Fig. 15). Swing pendulum gently to the left and let go. Listen to the beat. It should have an even, regulated tick and swing evenly in both directions. Rarely does a tubular bell clock arrive out of beat. If it needs adjusting, however, loosen the beat adjusting nut (Fig. 16, A) and move the beat adjusting disc (B) either left or right (using trial and error method) until the beat becomes regular. Tighten nut.



Fig. 13

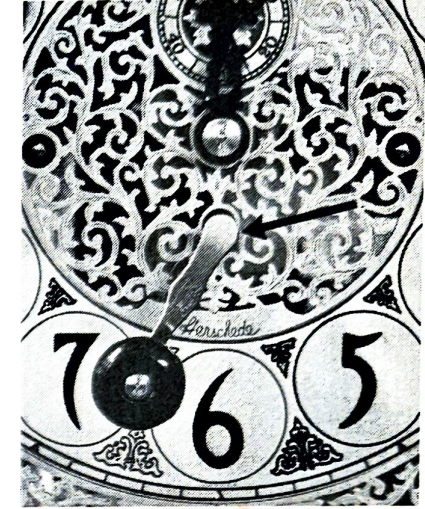


Fig. 14

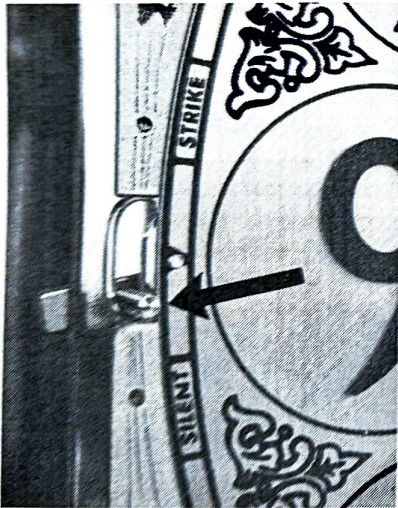


Fig. 11



Fig. 12

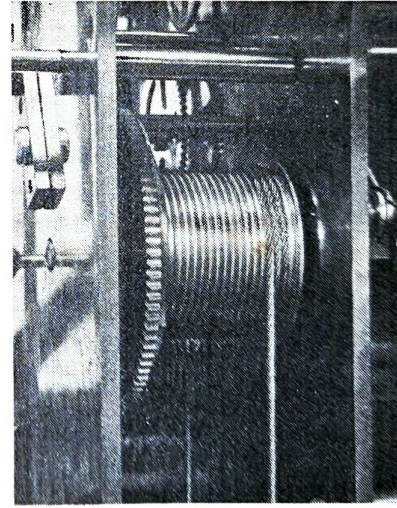


Fig. 15

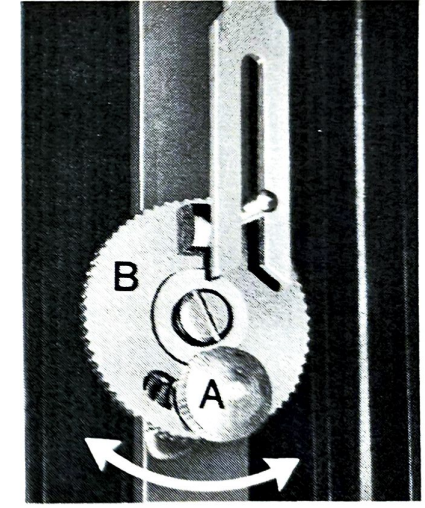


Fig. 16



## Setting moon dial

Position moon directly beneath numeral 15. Using an almanac as your reference, count the number of days past full moon. Move moon dial (Fig. 17) with middle finger two clicks clockwise (facing dial) for every full day (24 hours) past full moon. For example, if moon is five days past full moon you would move dial 10 clicks clockwise to set.

Replace cabinet top, screw in finial and your clock is set for many years of dependable service.

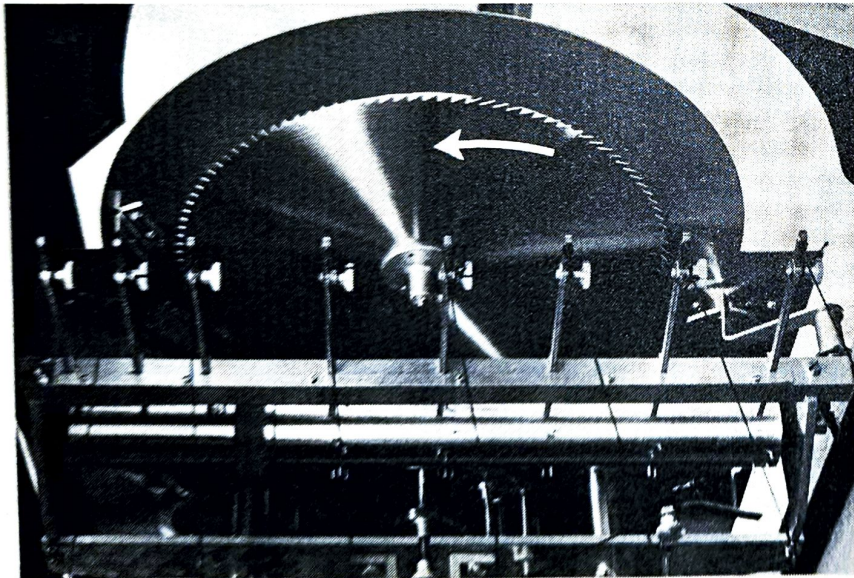


Fig. 17

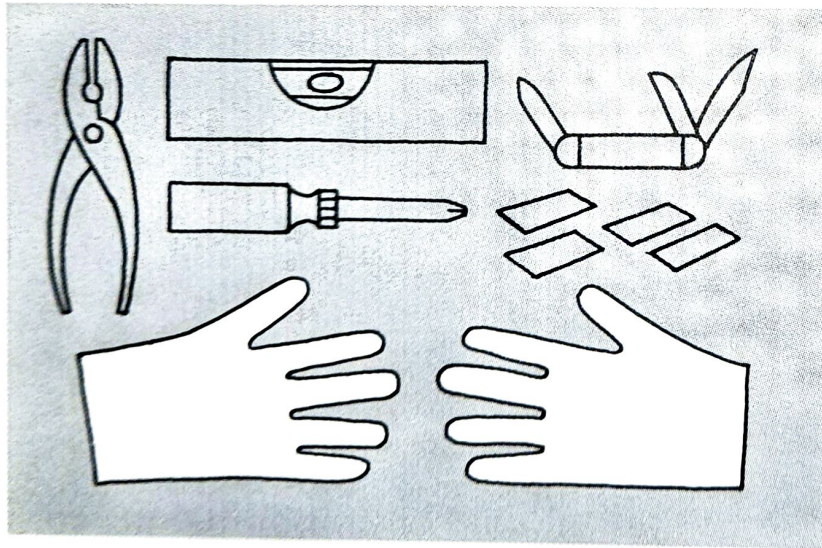


## Setting up the chain wound clock

### Uncrating

This clock comes in a single box. Check first for damage and file damage claims, if any, with carrier. Next assemble tools and aids. You will need:

1. Wire cutters or pliers
2. Phillips screw driver
3. Pocket knife
4. Spirit level
5. Shims (for leveling)
6. White cotton gloves or soft clean cloth



### Installation

Open box and remove weights (located at base of carton) and pendulum (located inside carton at front of clock). Lift clock from carton and set on base. Open top door and remove tissue paper from clock hands.

Remove four outside phillips screws from upper back of clock (on Model No. 325 remove top of case only). Save screws. They are for shipping purposes only and may be needed for later reshipment of clock.

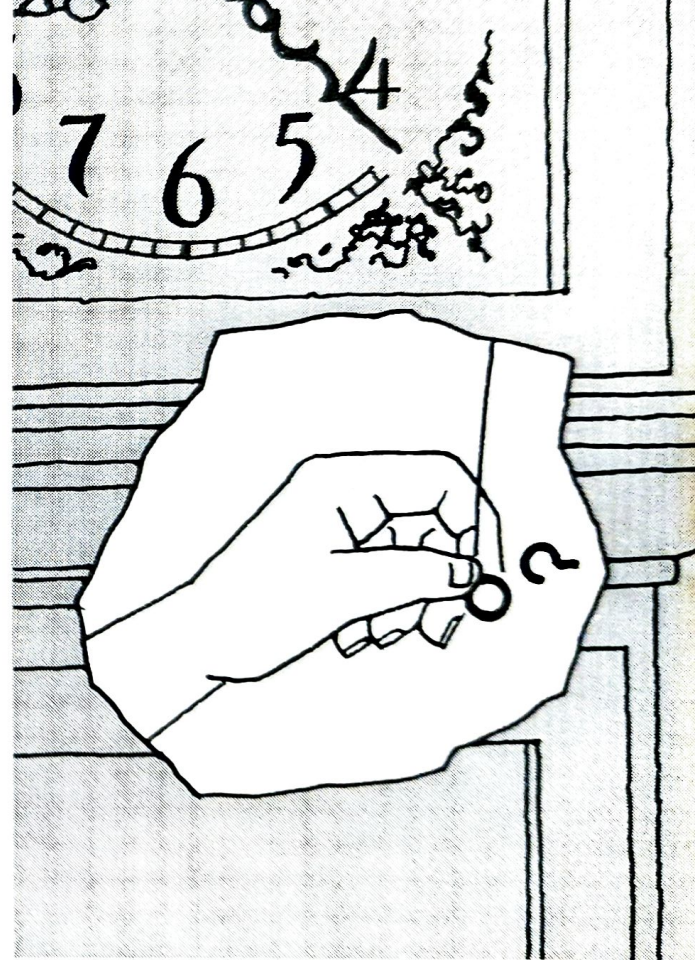
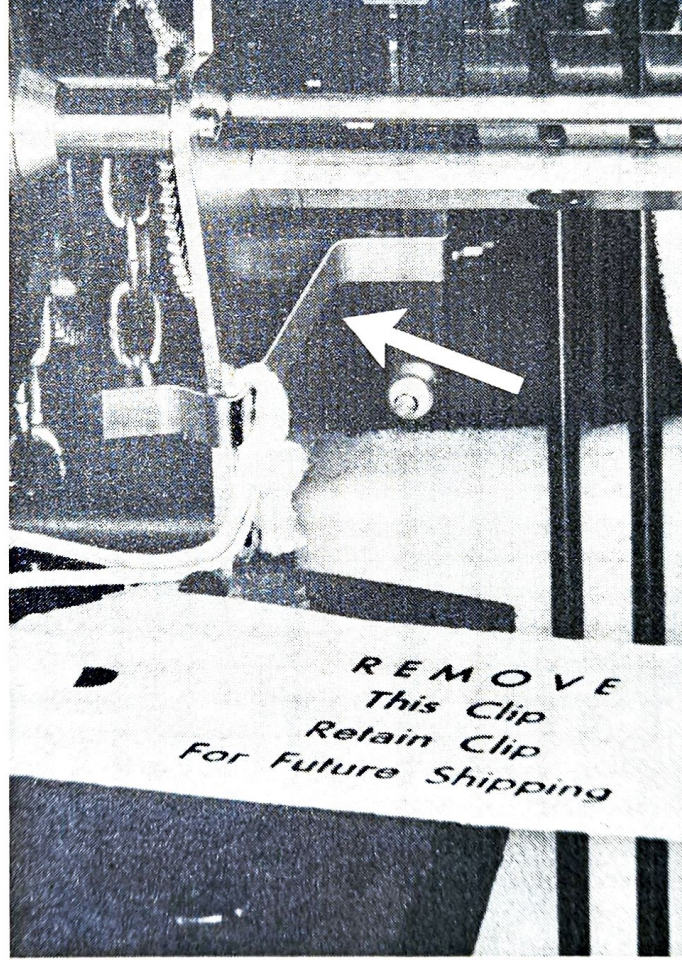
Place the clock in its permanent location. With the use of glide levelers on bottom of base and the level located inside top door, level the clock. (NOTE: For more accuracy, we recommend use of a spirit level. Level from side to side and front to back.)

Remove hood. Grasp hood by sides and gently tilt backwards (Fig. 18). Lift slightly and slowly bring forward. Set aside.

Remove metal clip holding pendulum suspension arm (Fig. 19). From front of clock, place thumbs on clip and gently push backwards. When clip clears suspension arm pull out through side of clock. Save for future use.

Remove foam rubber from around chime rods. With right hand, pull straight down until foam clears rods. Remove foam rubber from chime hammers. Save for future use. Unhook brass rings from eye screw on right and left of case (Fig. 20). Remove wire and rubber bands from weight chains.







## Hanging pendulum

Insert pendulum through lower door and attach to pendulum suspension arm (Fig. 21). Be sure shiny side of pendulum bob faces outward.

## Hanging weights

Hang weight marked CT (for Chime Train) on the extreme right chain (facing front of clock). The other two weights are the same and hang on the middle and left chains. Raise weights by pulling on chain not connected to weight. Top of weights should be even with top of door opening. This will operate clock for eight days. Remove tissue paper from weights.

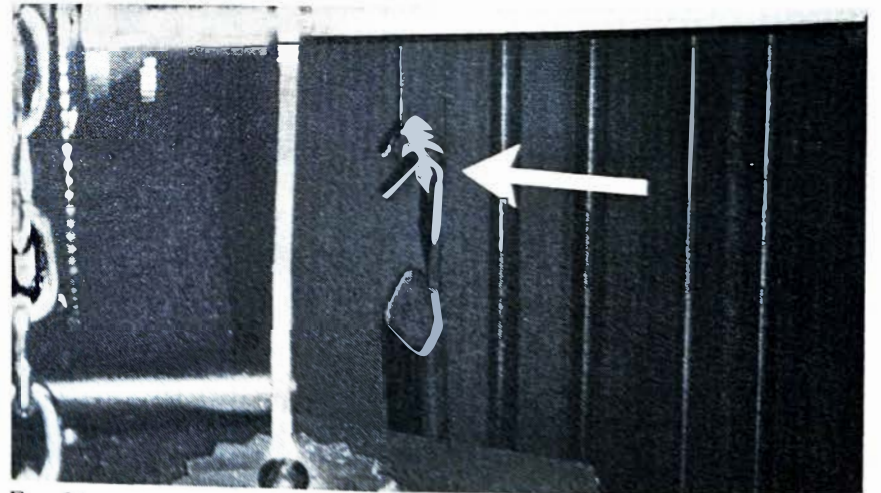


Fig. 21



## Regulating the pendulum

Nudge the pendulum lightly in either direction to get it started. It will continue to run. Now check the beat of the clock for an evenly and regularly spaced tick. Your clock was adjusted at the factory and no further adjustment should be required. However, a jar or shock in transit could result in an uneven beat. To adjust, push the crutch gently to the right or left with a pencil (Fig. 22) until ticking becomes regular and pendulum swings evenly in both directions. You may have to do a little experimenting before you get the desired beat. You can be sure the clock is in beat if it runs continuously for more than two hours.

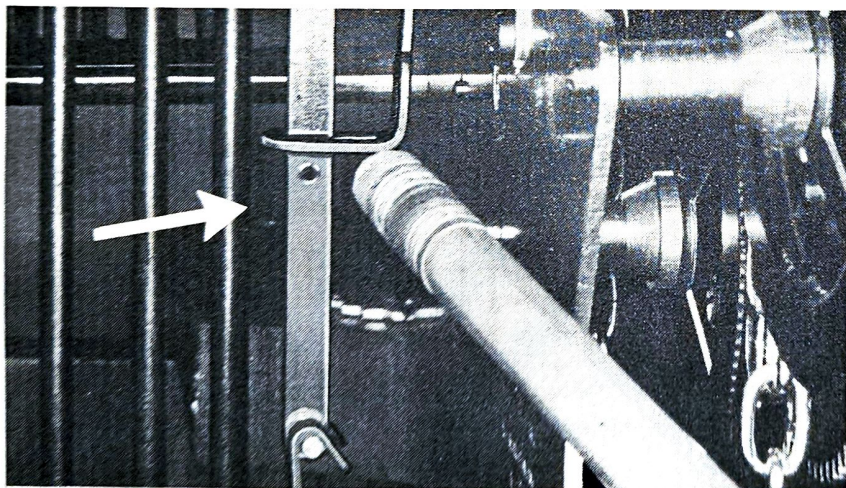


Fig. 22

## Setting the time

Move the minute hand clockwise (hour hand will follow), stopping at each quarter hour to allow the clock to chime. When the minute hand reaches 12 o'clock the clock should chime and strike the hour. Don't worry if clock fails to chime at any quarter hour during setting. It will automatically adjust itself as the minute hand passes 12 o'clock.

If you wish to silence the chimes, loop the eyes in the end of the cords attached to the chime restraining arms over the pins provided for this purpose (Fig. 23). The cord on your right, as you face the clock, silences the chimes. The cord on the left silences the hour strike.

**Allow clock to first strike any quarter hour before silencing.**

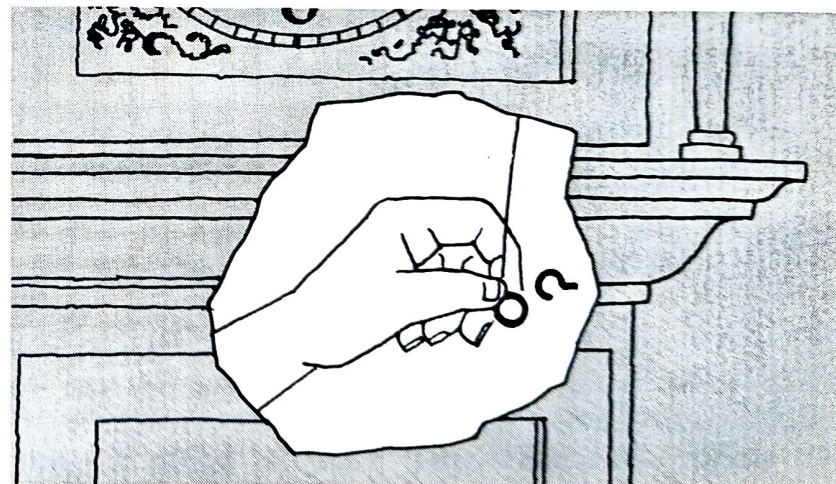


Fig. 23



## Care and maintenance

Your Herschede clock requires very little attention. There are a few things you can do, however, to increase its life considerably.

1. Wax and polish your clock cabinet as frequently as you wax and polish your other fine furniture. Any good furniture polish or paste wax will do.
2. Oil your clock every three years (use only good clock oil) and clean it every third oiling (nine years). Unless you are mechanically skilled, we don't recommend you attempt this yourself. Instead call a reputable clock service station (see list of recommended service stations in your owner's kit).
3. Check every few months to see if your clock is level. This is especially important if your clock rests on carpeting. The clock feet could settle unevenly, throwing the clock out of balance.

### A few do's and don't's

DO wind your clock every seven or eight days (before weights reach ends of their chains or cables). If weights run down and pendulum stops, wind weights partly up. Set clock, then wind weights slowly to top and gently swing pendulum.

DO wind one weight (chain wound rod chime clock) at a time, pulling up gently. Do not jerk.

DO hang weight marked CT (underneath the weight) on the *right* (facing the clock). Otherwise, clock won't operate properly.

DO remove pendulum and weights *before* moving clock. Failure to do so could result in a broken or damaged suspension spring.

DO see that your clock is level at all times. Most problems stem from an unlevel clock. It won't run accurately and parts wear unevenly.

DO remove key from door of grandfather clocks to prevent tampering. Grandmother clocks don't have a door lock. Warn children not to tamper.

DO check contents of cartons thoroughly before discarding. Otherwise, you might inadvertently throw out suspension spring and winding key with packing materials.

DO advance minute hand *only* on tubular bell clocks. You may safely advance the hour hand on chain wound chime rod models.

DO have a trained clock serviceman oil and clean your clock at recommended intervals (see *Care and maintenance*). We recommend a good synthetic clock oil such as Nye and Mobis brands.



DO put lubricating grease (vaseline will do) on door catch to facilitate opening and closing.

DO be extra careful when removing or hanging weights. They are heavy and could damage cabinet if dropped.

DO allow clock to go through its chime sequence when advancing minute hand. Failure to stop at each quarter hour could result in a broken pin inside movement.

DO move clock in a vertical or standing position to keep chains or cables from slipping off sprockets.

DO disassemble and repack clock, or have someone do it for you, before reshipping. Failure to do so could result in serious damage.

DO specify clock model and type movement (five tube or nine tube if tubular bell) if you have occasion to write the factory about a problem. If you have a chain wound rod chime clock please tell us whether the weights are smooth and shiny or have brushed brass finish.

DO stop pendulum swinging when leaving for more than a few days.

DON'T touch chains or weights with your bare hands. Perspiration contains acid that causes weights and chains to tarnish. Wipe immediately with soft, clean cloth if touched.

DON'T try to refinish a tarnished or etched weight. Return to factory for refinishing.

DON'T wipe, dust or clean *inside* clock. You might do more harm than good. Keeping door closed will minimize dust accumulation.

DON'T move hour hand or minute hand counterclockwise.

DON'T move minute hand when clock is within five minutes of any quarter hour. This could throw it out of sequence.

DON'T silence chimes when setting clock. We recommend you leave clock on chime setting and allow it to chime at each quarter hour as you advance minute hand.

DON'T attempt to hang pendulum without first removing hood on chain wound rod chime models. This could result in a broken spring.

DON'T locate clock near heating or air conditioning vents. Excessive humidity could affect cabinet or movement.

DON'T attempt to adjust hammer springs (see page 9). Call your clock service station if hammers are hitting too soft or too hard.

DON'T use polish or wax on brass trim (Model No. 250 only). Wax will cut lacquer on brass and cause tarnishing.



## What to do when trouble troubles you

Your Herschede clock should repay you with split-second accuracy if it receives regular maintenance.

Should you ever encounter difficulty in regulating your clock or have trouble with the movement, there are a few simple repairs which you can make to get your clock going again. Locate the problem and probable cause of the trouble in the guide on the following pages and follow the directions on what to do.

If the trouble is serious or you are uncertain as to its origin, be sure to see an Authorized Herschede Service Station as soon as possible.

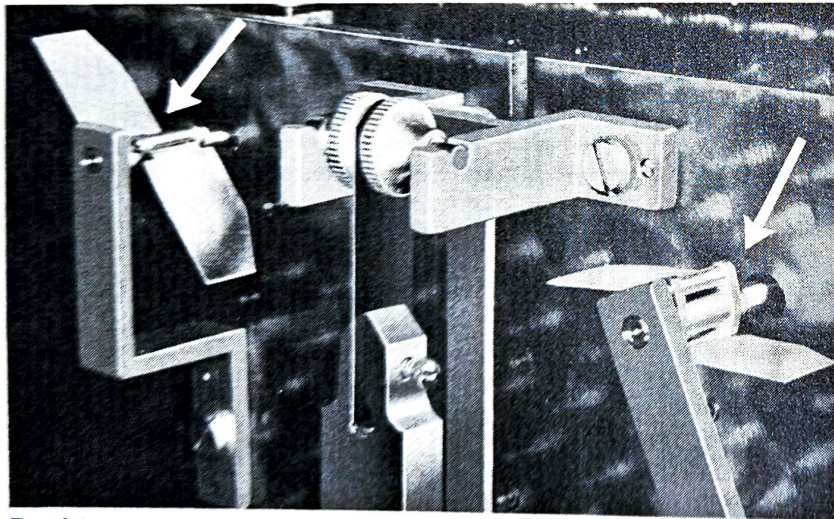


Fig. 24

## NOTICE: LEVELING MOST IMPORTANT!

By far the greatest number of problems are caused by the clock not being level. An unlevel clock won't operate properly and parts will wear unevenly. Be certain that your clock is level to start with and check periodically to see that it retains its balance.

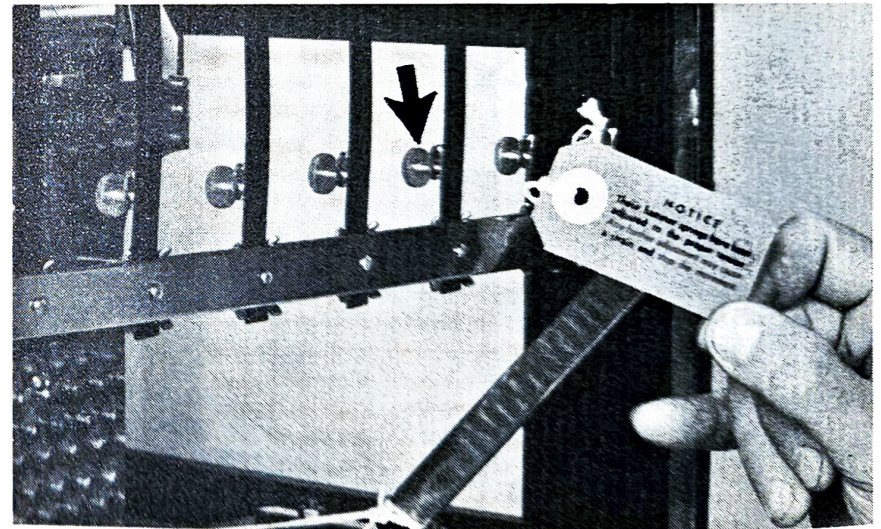


Fig. 25



PROBLEM	PROBABLE CAUSE	WHAT TO DO
Clock runs too fast or too slow.	Pendulum bob is not in correct position.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. To speed up clock, turn adjustment nut at bottom of pendulum to the right. This raises the bob.</li> <li>2. To slow down clock, turn adjustment nut to left. This lowers the bob.</li> </ol>
Chimes or hour strike are out of tempo.	Fan regulators are out of adjustment.	Close the adjustable fan blades on tubular bell clocks <i>only</i> (Fig. 24) to increase the tempo. Spread blades to reduce tempo. Each blade must be moved equally to keep fan in balance.
Chain wound rod chime clock strikes the wrong hour.	Hour strike is out of sequence.	If the clock strikes 5 o'clock when hour hand is actually at 3 o'clock (the correct time), move the hour hand clockwise to 5 o'clock. This will adjust the hour strike. Now reset the clock as usual. Move the minute hand clockwise, stopping at each quarter hour to let the clock go through its chime sequence.
Chime tones are too loud or too soft.	Chime hammers are out of adjustment.	In tubular bell clocks, chime tones can be finely tuned for loudness by turning adjusting screws (Fig. 25) right or left, depending on tone you want. However, these are pre-set at the factory and we don't recommend you move them unless you have an exceptionally good ear for music.
Clock strikes the hour five minutes before the hour, or minute hand is off center.	Hands are out of adjustment.	Remove nut in front of hands, take off minute hand and turn bushing with pliers. NOTE: Unless you are mechanically skilled, we recommend you call your clock service station.



PROBLEM	PROBABLE CAUSE	WHAT TO DO
Weight falls immediately upon winding.	Click spring or click is broken.	Call your clock service station.
Pendulum on chain wound rod chime clock swings crooked.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Twisted hook on pendulum stick.</li> <li>2. Broken or bent suspension spring.</li> <li>3. Warped pendulum stick.</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Replace pendulum stick (available from factory).</li> <li>2. Replace suspension spring (see page 10 for instructions).</li> <li>3. If pendulum stick is warped, factory will replace it.</li> </ol>
Pendulum bob on chain wound rod chime clock hits one side of case when clock is running.	Clock is not level.	Level clock.
Pendulum bob hits both sides of case.	Faulty movement.	See your dealer. Factory will replace your movement or the clock.
Pendulum bob on chain wound rod chime clock hits chains or weights and is level from front to back.	Crutch is out of position.	Bend crutch (see page 19) backwards. Suggest you call your clock service station rather than attempt this yourself.
Pendulum bob doesn't swing enough.	Faulty gear train.	See your dealer. Factory will repair or replace gear train.



PROBLEM	PROBABLE CAUSE	WHAT TO DO
Clock chimes or strikes continuously.	Faulty movement.	Movement needs to be replaced. See your dealer.
Chime hammers in grandmother clock aren't hitting chime rods.	Hammer rods are out of position.	Remove hood and bend hammers into position.
Chain wound rod chime clock cannot be regulated.	Pendulum bob is out of position on pendulum stick.	<p>If clock is running slow and you have turned the adjustment screw right to raise bob and nothing happened, check the little tongue on back of bob to see if it is curling up rather than raising bob. If so, pry the tongue out from the pendulum stick. When slowing the clock, the adjustment screw is turned to the left. Sometimes the bob sticks on the pendulum stick. In this case, slide the bob down with your hand (wear cotton gloves) after you have unscrewed it some. Be careful. Hold pendulum stick with one hand to avoid breaking suspension spring. Better still, remove pendulum from clock to make adjustment.</p>
Broken suspension spring.	Trying to hook pendulum without first removing hood (in chain wound rod chime clock). Or moving the clock without taking the weights and pendulum off.	<p><b>CHAIN WOUND</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Remove hood.</li> <li>2. Remove thumb screw holding suspension spring.</li> <li>3. Insert new spring.</li> <li>4. Replace thumb screw.</li> <li>5. Set clock in beat.</li> </ol> <p><b>TUBULAR BELL</b> See page 10.</p>