

THE FRENCH CLOCK

[L] A bar of Rodico® will last ages - I buy a couple of bars every 2 years or so. I tend to use a new bar as a bounce pad in watch repair and when it gets a bit soiled it goes into the Rodico® box for clock work.

[M] The little lumps in the movement are at MOST about 10mm spheres - certainly no larger and often smaller.

[N] Do not skimp the number of pads you use. A larger number of small pieces is far better than a few large lumps. Small pieces will keep wheels upright and in a much more stable condition and help enormously to protect against pivot damage especially in French clocks. I am sure you realise that some small adjustments on a round French movement can be done by removing the little pivot capping plate CAREFULLY

[O] The pin wheel is the one with the short pins set into the rim of the wheel. These pins raise the tail of the hammer against the hammer spring and thus it strikes on release.

The warning wheel is the last wheel in the strike train and is found immediately before the Fly (Fan USA)

FINAL ADJUSTMENTS BEFORE REPLACING IN THE CASE

77. The best way to check your work is to arrange to run the basic movement (less dial but with Hands fitted) on some kind of test stand. This may be a commercial model or some home-made arrangement that will allow of all functions yet leave the movement and its front levers visible and available for adjustments.

78. I have not described in minute detail the re-assembly of the rear components as anyone doing this work so far will have the ability to fit the back cock and the bell stand. But the front plate components can be tricky.

A: RACK STRIKE MODELS

79. It will be observed that in the RACK STRIKE movements the Gathering Pallet has no fixed position as it sits on a slender smooth extension of the arbor. It is positioned so that at rest it is pointing well clear of the Rack teeth yet not so far to the left as to foul the rack during the small initial 'warning' run of the train. If it jams, simply move it slightly clockwise on its shaft. If during the run it is not entering the Rack Teeth well, move it slightly anticlockwise. This might take several attempts before all is correct. When it is in the right place tap it home firmly but GENTLY - that steel shaft is delicate!!