

Thus the exact position of the twenty-four secondary or hour meridians is practically determined, and provision is thereby made for extending around the globe so as to secure complete uniformity, the hour system of regulating time which has been adopted with so much advantage in America.

These hour meridians, so designated, completely establish the relation between Cosmic time and longitude and likewise between Cosmic time and local time. Once every day the relationship will be prominently brought under the notice of every individual. Any one, for example, living on the 6th hour meridian, will know at noon that it is at that instant six o'clock Cosmic time; or, take a citizen of Toronto, the local time of which would be governed by the 17th hour meridian. At the instant of noon he will know that it is 17 o'clock Cosmic Time. Invariable time will thus agree with longitude, conversely longitude with time. The earth itself becomes the great chronometer, and in its daily relations the passage of the sun will everywhere be the index of Cosmic time.

The resolutions of the International Conference establish a means of reckoning time which promises, in the years to come, to be of the highest advantage to the human family. Cosmic time, or whatever name may be given to Universal time applied to civil purposes is an entirely new feature. It has now obtained recognition by a properly constituted authority, although until recently, I believe, it has remained unconsidered. Astronomers have long had equinoctial time, which is absolute time, dating from an epoch determined by the sun's motion among the stars; beyond this I cannot find any nearer approach to the mention of Universal Time as now understood.

The conclusions of the Conference mark a new era. The civil time of England is adopted as Universal Time. It may be said that Greenwich time is already known on every sea, that it has been carried by British ships wherever British explorers and colonists and merchants have penetrated, but Greenwich time is the local time of Greenwich, and, heretofore, it has always been held as such. Universal time, based on the Prime Meridian of the globe, and recognized by the several civilized nations is an entirely different conception. As the time of the world common to every nation, it is held that the term Cosmic will better express that meaning than Greenwich. Cosmic and Greenwich time are identical, by accident, but the expressions imply two totally different ideas, and known national