

astronomers, who are desirous of making use of astronomical information. And in such respect this sacrifice ceases so to be considered and is transformed into an act of public utility with regard to all astronomical details which stand in clear relationship with the outer world, in which almost daily conflicts come to the surface between the different designations of dates. Conflicts, among others, which even are injurious to astronomical labours in such observatories, where observations are continually adjusted to the day.

Great Britain, apparently, has the greatest reason to be satisfied with the Washington Resolutions, for, in her case, there is the greatest accomplishment of her wishes, with a minimum of discomfort and sacrifice. The cartography of the whole Kingdom and its Colonies is already based on the Meridian of Greenwich, and the notation of time in commercial relations in civil life in England and Scotland is determined by mean Greenwich Time, which hereafter also will be recognized as Universal Time. This preference is a tribute of gratitude for the immense expenditure of time and labour which for more than two centuries English astronomers, navigators and geographers have continuously bestowed on geography and navigation, far exceeding all that in this respect has been done by all other countries. But, on the other hand, this preference has imposed upon England the moral obligation to exert herself to carry out earnestly the wishes expressed at the Washington Conference, namely, the establishment of accord between ordinary Astronomical and Nautical Time notation. It is deserving of comment that this obligation is recognized and that the present Astronomer Royal, Mr. H. M. Christie, already has taken the first step in this direction. Since the 1st of January of this year, the date of observations, and chiefly in the interior economy of the Greenwich Observatory, the date will be set forth equally for the mean Greenwich Time hitherto used and also for Universal Time. In all the publications issued from this Observatory the old mode of notation will be maintained until it appear advisable to use exclusively Universal Time. At the same time Mr. Christie has given instructions that the great dial which stands at the entrance to Greenwich Observatory, which in a manner regulates the time for the whole of England, being continually brought into requisition by the public, henceforth will show Universal Time from midnight to the 24 succeeding hours. It must appear not less important that the directors of the Nautical Almanac have in deliberation whether and when the corresponding changes in its arrangement with regard to all other disseminated Ephemerides are to commence in order to make them accord with the Date-notation of Universal Time. Possibly it might be arranged to come to pass for the year 1890.

While the Directors of the Pultowa Observatory make their full acknowledgment to the Astronomer Royal for this precedent which