

At the last session of Parliament a Bill was introduced by a private member, on petition of the Canadian Institute and others, with the object in view of permitting and legalising the new system of reckoning time, but the matter being but little understood, the Bill was withdrawn. Now that the principles of the system are set forth in a memorandum, which is endorsed by the highest authorities in the service of the Home Government, and the Home Government has seen fit to bring the matter to the attention of the Dominion Government, I would respectfully recommend that a Bill similar to that introduced last session be again presented, this time as a Government measure. This measure would not compel the use of the new system, but merely permit it and define it.

I remain, sir, your obedient servant,

CHARLES CARPMAEL, *Director.*

WM. SMITH, Esq., Deputy Minister Marine, Ottawa.

No. 3.

BILL INTRODUCED IN THE SENATE OF CANADA,
1890.

An Act respecting the Reckoning of Time.

(*Reprinted as proposed to be amended in Committee.*)

Preamble.

WHEREAS on the invitation of the President and Congress of the United States of America, an International Conference was held at Washington in 1884, consisting of duly appointed delegates from twenty-five nations, at which Canada was duly represented, to determine certain leading principles by which the inhabitants of the world could have a common system of reckoning Time; and whereas the said Conference, after prolonged deliberation, unanimously passed resolutions embodying the principles which should govern all nations in the measurement and notation of Time and recommended the meridian passing through the Royal Observatory at Greenwich, England, as a prime or initial meridian for the purpose of a Time-Zero; and whereas the "Hour meridian system," commonly called Standard Time, now in general use in Canada, and the twenty-four hour notation employed in operating the Government railways of Canada and the Canadian Pacific Railway from Lake Superior to Vancouver, are in harmony with the said resolutions and recommendations of the said International Conference; and whereas petitions have been presented to Parliament, urging that it would be in the general public interest to have these reforms in the measurement and notation of time legalized and sanctioned by Parliament; and whereas, since the general adoption throughout Canada of the mode of reckoning known as Standard Time, doubts have arisen as to the reckoning which has force in law and it is expedient to remove all such doubts: Therefore Her Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate and House of Commons of Canada, enacts as follows:—