

1. Royal Astronomical Society.
2. The Royal Society.
3. The Board of Trade.
4. The General Post Office.
5. The Eastern Telegraph Company.
6. The Eastern Extension Telegraph Company.
7. The Eastern and South African Telegraph Company.
8. The Society of Telegraph Engineers.
9. The Trinity House.
10. The India Office.
11. The Colonial Office.
12. The Admiralty.

To these may be added the Committee of Council on Education, and the Board of Visitors of the Royal Observatory, Greenwich. Indeed, I cannot learn that a single objection has been received from any quarter.

25. As the fundamental objects of the Washington Conference were to remove all doubt and ambiguity in time-reckoning, to prevent discrepancies, to secure simplicity and introduce uniformity, it is manifestly important that the changes proposed, supported as they were at the Conference by the representatives of twenty-five nations, and subsequently looked upon in so many quarters as in themselves intrinsically desirable, should without unnecessary delay be accepted and as far as practicable put in force generally. The first important step is the selection of hour meridians and the adoption of the hour zone system. With these objects in view the accompanying map has been prepared; it shows the position of the twenty-four hour meridians and indicates in a general way the country or section of country to which any particular hour meridian has greatest proximity. It would greatly advance the unification of time throughout the world and greatly promote the common good of mankind if every nation with all convenient speed would take means to select the hour meridians on which its reckoning of time may be based. Appended hereto will be found a table indicating the hour meridians which in each case may be found eligible for selection, but in a matter of this kind each nation must judge for itself.

26. I have mentioned what has been done in America, more especially in Canada, in furtherance of this movement. If means be taken to extend the use of the hour zone system to all the British possessions around the Globe they will individually and collectively participate in the advantages of a common reckoning of time. I venture to submit, suggestively, the appended list of the principal British Colonies and Dependencies with the hour meridians which appear the most suitable for standards in each case.

SANDFORD FLEMING.

OTTAWA, 20th November, 1889.