

According to this classification of the Astronomers heard from, those of eighteen countries are in favour, and those of four are against, the adoption of the recommendations of The Washington International Conference of 1884 with respect to the Astronomical and Nautical Days. If we compare the shipping of the countries thus classified, (and the shipping has an important relation to the Nautical Almanac), we find that the first list, that is to say, the countries in favour of adopting the Civil Day for Astronomical purposes, represents  $\frac{17}{20}$ , or 85 per cent., of the tonnage of the world's marine.

Thus it appears that there is a preponderating weight of opinion among Astronomers themselves, that a change should be made in the Astronomical Day. The Joint-Committee, therefore, feel warranted in recommending that the Home Authorities be informed of the facts and that a respectful appeal be made to have the Nautical Almanac adapted to the change, proposed to take effect at the beginning of the coming Century. The Joint-Committee are of opinion that the proper course is to lay before His Excellency the Governor General a respectful Memorial asking His Excellency to bring the whole matter to the attention of the Imperial Government in order that some common international understanding may be reached, by which all nations shall assent to the change; and in order that the Nautical Almanac which has to be prepared four or five years in advance may be made conformable to the change.

All which is respectfully submitted.

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