

terms. It is the only system in use at this date, north of the 49th parallel and west of 89th meridian. There is not a province in Canada where it is not already in use. It has been adopted on the railways in Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Prince Edward Island, Manitoba, Assiniboia, Alberta, British Columbia, and partly in Quebec and Ontario; so satisfactory are the results of the new notation that it has been determined to extend its application and it is expected that before long it will be in general use for railway purposes throughout the Dominion.

23. In the United States a strong expression of opinion in favour of the 24 hour notation has been obtained. The American Society of Civil Engineers, deeply concerned in the perfection of the railway system of the Republic, has since the year 1880 taken an active interest in time reform. This Society led the way in preparing the minds of men for the general acceptance of the Hour Zone system six years ago, and since then it has vigorously directed attention to the "24 hour notation." It has a special Committee whose duty under the authority of the Society is to correspond with Railway Managers on the subject, and in every proper way to promote the adoption of the new notation. The communications which have been sent out by the American Society of Civil Engineers to the leading railway men throughout the country have elicited a very large number of replies. They embrace the opinion of, it is believed, a considerable majority of the managers of all the Railway Companies in North America, and of all who have been heard from about 97 per cent. are in favour of the adoption of the 24 hour notation in the railway service of the country at an early date. It is quite obvious that there is a widespread feeling in favour of the change and it only remains for the General Time Convention, an organized body, representing all the railways in the United States, to take decisive action in the matter, so that the new notation may be brought into use simultaneously in every section of the country.

24. Canada in adopting the hour zone system and in introducing the "24 hour notation" has undoubtedly taken the lead in carrying into effect, in the most practical manner possible, the essential principles of Universal time. The "24 hour notation" has likewise been introduced in the Railway service of China, and it is not a little remarkable that one of the oldest Eastern civilizations conjointly with the youngest Western civilization should set an example in breaking through the trammels of custom to inaugurate a reform which every intelligent person believes to be desirable. Universal time will be substantially adopted in North America so soon as the "24 hour notation" is brought into use throughout the United States. There is but one step necessary to secure to Great Britain all the advantages of Universal time, that is the adoption of the "24 hour notation"; this one reform concerns the railway system and railway travellers especially, and in a country where all travel more or less, I cannot but think that if English railway managers were informed as to the ease with which the change has been introduced in Canada, and the satisfactory results which have followed, they would very speedily take means to obtain similar advantages. I am confirmed in this view by an examination of the letters which have been received by the Science and Art Department, South Kensington, copies of which I have been favoured with. These letters go to show that the resolutions of the Washington Conference on this subject are cordially favoured by the following important bodies and departments, viz. :—