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THE MONETARY CONFERENCE.

At the International Monetary Conference which is to be opened in Brussels on the 22nd November, eighteen powers will be represented. Of these, Great Britain, Germany, Denmark, Sweden, Norway and Portugal use the single gold standard. France, Italy, Belgium, Switzerland and Greece comprise the Latin Union, working under bimetallism, but with certain restrictions regarding silver. Spain, Servia and Roumania have also adopted the money The Nethersystem of the Latin Union. lands mostly uses silver in circulation, but in 1875 passed a law allowing the unrestricted coinage of gold and suspending silver coinage indefinitely. Russia has the single silver standard. Austria-Hungary has also been a silver country until recently, when legislation was passed looking to the adoption of the gold standard,

as being the most strongly committed to the single gold standard. Even with them there is a strong element in favor of rehabilitating silver. This feeling is especially prevalent in English commercial circles. A director of the Bank of England is credited with the assertion that Eng land will stand in with the United States in favor of some monetization scheme for silver. This is contrary to previously received information, and is almost too good to be true. There is, at any rate, room for the belief that the conference will have a decided influence upon international monetary affairs.

The passage through the Suez Canal grows shorter every year. According to the average report the average duration is 24 hours 31 minutes, some 35 minutes less than 12 months ago. The improvement is due to the electric light enabling the asset looking to the adoption of the gold than 12 months ago. The improvement is due to the electric light enabling the Tobacco Co., Toronto; McAlpino Great Britain and Germany are regarded vessels to continue their yoyage at night. Scotland; Stanway & Bayley, Toronto.

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