ROYAL SOCIETY OF CANADA

drifted through all the true seasons until Numa, about 713 B.C., added January and February. That is evidenced in our almanacs by September (7), October (8), November (9), December (10) still ending the year, which then began with March.

The quarters of the moon originated our 7-days week, as the moon's cycle is 29.53 days, one-fourth of which is 7.38 days. The adoption of the nearest day was inevitable and was most wisely ordained in the Mosaic Law and adopted by the early Christians, whose consistent observance of the Sabbath gradually impressed the Romans with its practical advantages over their ten days counted thrice on the hands as thirty days per moon. That led the Emperor Constantine, after he adopted Christianity, to worthily derive his title of "the Great," by decreeing the observance of every seventh day as Sunday, under the name "Dies-Solis" in 321 A.D., when Europeans rejoiced on receiving that greatest blessing of the almanac's fixed seven-days week and day of rest.

It is the glory of the Christian Church that it thus secured that priceless boon to humanity. Will its sections now unite for their common good with their governments to relieve us from moon-wandering Easters, which never do good by drifting that tends to empty the churches of people?

Citizens feeling the inconvenience caused by the churches maintaining shifting Easters, blame the church authorities on seeing the children catch cold by wearing Easter costumes in early Easters. Then the change from the warming winter football, etc., games to the standing cricket tempts youths to cripple their health, whilst toiling farmers, labourers, and artisans are tempted to take the first opportunity of planting potatoes, etc., in early Easters and have their crops ruined by subsequent frosts.

The adherence to wandering Easters has been a constant drag upon church usefulness. Numerous churches continue to keep parish accounts from Easter to Easter, as in your modern Cathedral at Ottawa. That antiquated accounting resulted in fifty weekly collections for last year and fifty-five for this, and a prospect of fifty-one for next. Such old fogey methods tend to confusion and fail to profit anybody.

The churches have an excellent opportunity to remedy all those evils by simply agreeing to permanently establish Easter (like Christmas), when it falls most conveniently for their people on April 23rd in 1916, and support reform of the months which have neither Church origin nor Bible authority, as their history proves them to be of Pagan origin by direct decree of the Cæsars, who, at least, understood the benefit of *fixed arrangements* for good government.

The Roman Pontiffs. as High Priests in Pre-Christian times, secretly controlled the declarations as to whether twelve or thirteen

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