

We need the four-week-month because the 7 days week has become the working and paying unit used by the masses of our vastly increased population. The people under Augustus were mostly fed by rations and seldom bought or sold — indeed, they were largely sold like cattle and slaved on days per week. They had not the freedom to enjoy the seven days which Constantine the Great conferred on Europeans about four centuries later.

Almanac needs in this busy age of world-wide trade, have grown beyond the scope of the narrow limits and antiquated methods that sufficed for the selfish fancy of Augustus.—now that all countries are opened up for the immense international trade now done, and are penetrated by the ever increasing railways, steamships, and other methods of communication.

That trade involves duplicate entries and troublesome diversity wherever different almanacs are used. The prevailing confusion impressed me whilst wintering near Jerusalem during December, 1900, and January, 1901, when five different Christmases and four New Years were there celebrated by various races and creeds.

Whilst we cannot forthwith remedy all that confusing effect, we can easily take the common-sense course of adopting a "Standard Month" at an early date for our own convenience; then the Eastern races will be quick enough to follow in order to gain the facilities that change will bring.

After twelve years of continuous consideration and investigation in various countries, I submit for your consideration, that the present erratic months fixed by the caprice of Augustus Caesar are becoming so irksome under the developing needs of our civilization now requiring greater convenience, that the simple month of four weeks (giving equal division into thirteen months and thirteen weeks to the quarters of every year) will prove most advantageous, and that it will ultimately become universal for the reasons given — the chief of them being that it would be easiest when fixed and permanently supplying the greater convenience we should derive from having all the months uniformly containing four weeks, so that Sundays would be the 1st, 8th, 15th and 22nd; Mondays, 2nd, 9th, 16th and 23rd, etc.; whilst the essential weekly wages, etc., would then always accord with the corresponding monthly payments. Then every almanac purpose would be completely served for national and international use by all nations, who might then begin the Universal Era and relieve their peoples from almanac anomalies and inconveniences.

Forethought is necessary as the most useful and widest used "*Nautical Almanac*," based on Greenwich Time, is now internationally adopted for navigation throughout the world, and is worked out and