

time-reckoning. The question is engaging the attention of the Canadian Institute of Science, the American Meteorological Society, the American Society of Civil Engineers, the American Association for the Advancement of Science, and other Societies. The community generally and the great railway and telegraph interests are being awakened to its importance.

It is felt that the question is one in which all countries have an interest, and although it has presented itself, perhaps more prominently in America than elsewhere, it is eminently desirable that Americans should take no narrow view of a scientific matter of world-wide interest.

It is held by those who have seriously considered the subject, that a solution of the problem which would be good for America would be advantageous to other countries. It is considered, that in introducing a reform in time-reckoning in North America, the system should be such as would commend itself generally; that it should be one which by its appropriateness and simplicity would have every prospect of being adopted ultimately throughout the world.

A highly important feature of the movement is to employ every means to render the system generally acceptable, so that, whenever the necessity may arise in any other community for its introduction, it may be spontaneously adopted; a course calculated to secure ultimately complete uniformity in all countries.

I shall give in brief an outline of a proposition for defining and regulating civil time which is favoured in many quarters, in Canada and the United States of America :—

1. It is proposed to establish one standard time which may be common to all people throughout the world, for communication, by land and sea, for all ordinary purposes, for synchronous observations, and for all