

HOROLOGY

# Daylight Saving Time Will Move Us Closer To England

## But Unless Hawaii Adopts a Time-Saving Plan of Her Own, We'll Be Farther Ahead of Her; Name Undetermined

**W**HEN all clocks in the United States are set an hour ahead at 2 a.m. on Monday, Feb. 9, the whole country will be shifted an hour closer to England and an hour farther away from Japan and other points West.

With regard to England, we shall be right back where we always used to be, with Washington five hours behind London, instead of the present six hours, for London is already on daylight saving, with her clocks an hour ahead of her standard Greenwich time. Last summer she set her clocks two hours ahead and will probably do so again this summer. Unless we do likewise, this will set us back to the six hours difference in time.

But England may do more. She may eventually set her clocks three hours ahead. There has been agitation for this plan but it is not yet decided.

If London does this we shall hardly be able to keep up the pace and maintain the normal difference of five hours. London, nearly 800 miles farther north than Washington, has more daylight to save than we have in the summer time.

Hawaii is not covered by the Act. Unless Hawaii independently goes on daylight saving time, the five and a half hours that the Eastern time zone U.S.A. is now ahead of Honolulu, will be stretched to six and a half.

Japan, the Philippines and Singapore are a day later than the U.S.A., being across the international date line that runs down the Pacific, but their clocks are 10, 11 and 12 hours, respectively, earlier than E.S.T. Singapore is just half way around the globe from Washington. If these countries keep to the standard time of their time belts, these differences will be stretched to 11, 12 and 13 hours.

Australia, though a small continent, nevertheless has three time belts as compared to the four of the United States. Standard time there is 9, 10 and 11 hours earlier than in Washington, but a day later.

No one knows just what to call the new time-baby.

Will it be called daylight saving or standard time? Alas! No one seems authorized to do the christening.

The Interstate Commerce Commission merely fixes the boundaries of the time zones. They disclaimed any authority to specify the sort of time to be used in them or to give it a name.

The U. S. Naval Observatory furnishes correct time to each zone according to Government specifications, call it what you will. They use Greenwich time themselves, the time all astronomers use based on zero degrees longitude which runs through Greenwich Observatory, near London.

The broadcasting stations had received no official word. They hadn't even begun to consider the matter. Columbia as-

sumed that it would be called daylight saving time as it always had been. At NBC the opinion was that it would be called standard time.

Since the one-hour shift is to be made all over the country, the nation will have simply a new standard time, for the duration, in place of the old standard time. There will no longer be any need for a distinction between daylight saving and standard time, they believed.

At the National Bureau of Standards, on the other hand, it was claimed that lack of such a distinction would be very confusing to historians, statisticians and business men in dating past events and calculating time intervals between them.

The act authorizing the change does not give much light. It styles itself an act to establish daylight saving time. But the bill itself merely states that "the standard time of each zone . . . shall be advanced one hour." And after the end of the war "the standard time of each zone shall be returned" to what it was before the war, unless Congress decrees otherwise.

In March 1918, toward the end of World War I, Congress passed "An Act to save daylight and to provide standard time for the United States." The clocks



**HELLDIVER**

*This Wright-Cyclone powered airplane was designed by Curtiss-Wright to provide the U. S. Navy with a "super" dive-bomber that would out-perform any other plane of its type in the world.*