

“PROJECT 5B”

(Adapted from the Journal of Calendar Reform for a computer word processing class.)

Only because our clock time is standard and ordered is the remarkable feat of worldwide communication possible. Why, then, is not our calendar as efficient as our clock?

It took untold centuries to grasp that the solar year is 365 days and a few hours long—and many weird calendars were devised in that time. The present Gregorian scheme of reckoning is indeed based on a knowledge of the true spread of the four seasons. It was a triumph of science for its day.

But those who worry about such things have long protested that it is an unnecessarily awkward system at best and many have been the suggestions for straightening out its kinks.

It seems unbelievable that we have held to this cumbersome, outmoded method of computing time for so long when we have made such progress in every other field. We must awaken to the fact that we need something better! The new World Calendar, with its mathematical precision and orderly division of time periods is easily understood. Its scientific correctness offers a practical, usable time-plan applicable to all phases of commercial, industrial, educational, religious and social life. It is just what is needed to economize on time and assist every nation in making “the crooked (paths) straight and the rough places plain.”¹

Today, when every second and minute, every hour and day, are so vital, have we the right, the justification, to cling so blindly to the Gregorian calendar on the premise that other things are more important? How can we plan for a just and durable peace with a calendar that is so confused, disjointed and inefficient? How can we effectively build a new world with an ancient outworn calendar? When we consider that our calendar is a fundamental requirement for everything we do, it does seem inconsistent to speak of just, when the calendar is unjust, and to speak of durable when the calendar is variable.

Let each of us do a part to bring this new World Calendar into being as soon as possible. It will advance international unity and world peace. We should use every device know to accomplish this.

¹ New Time Plan For New World. Elisabeth von Hesse, 1943.