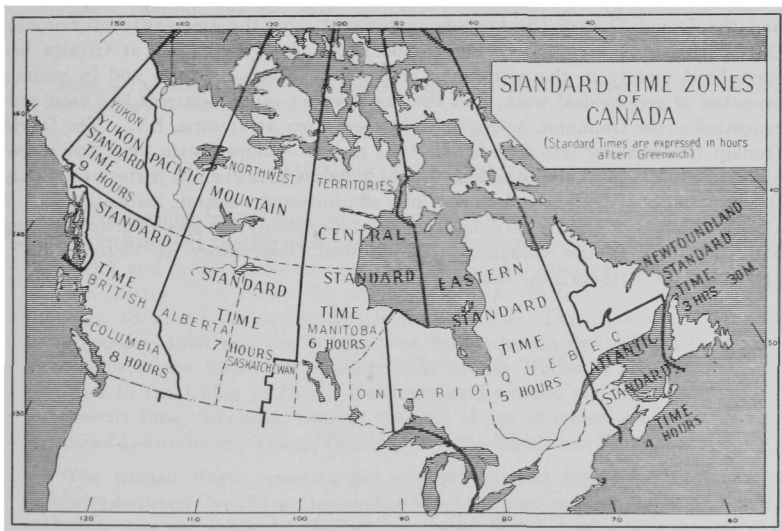


Section 2.—Standard Time and Time Zones

Standard time, which was adopted at a World Conference held at Washington, D.C., in 1884, sets the number of time zones in the world at 24, each zone extending over one twenty-fourth of the surface of the earth and including all the territory between two meridians 15° longitude apart. Standard time is Greenwich time, all other time zones being a definite number of hours either in advance of or behind Greenwich.

Canada has seven time zones, the most easterly being Newfoundland standard time, three hours and thirty minutes behind Greenwich mean time. In the west, Pacific standard time, used throughout British Columbia and part of the Northwest Territories, is eight hours behind Greenwich, and Yukon standard time, used throughout the Yukon Territory, is nine hours behind Greenwich. Some municipalities adopt the time used by the local railways which, in certain cases, differs from the standard. There are also villages that adopt such time as seems best to suit their convenience, but, in general, the legal boundaries of the different time zones are actually in use. The boundaries of the time zones in Canada are shown on the following map.



Daylight Saving Time.—For some years before World War I there was active propaganda, particularly in the cities, for the use of an earlier time, usually referred to as 'daylight saving time', one hour ahead of standard time, during the summer months. It was considered, from the economic as well as from the health point of view, that people in industrial towns and cities would gain by having longer periods of sunlight at their disposal for recreation. Canada adopted daylight saving time in 1918, but the Canadian Act lapsed at the end of that year. Since that date, however, various towns and cities have adopted daylight-saving by-laws for varying periods in the summer months.