

keep in constant touch with the land. "Local time" requires a knowledge of the ship's position and any record of events at sea is dependent at present for the hour on the accuracy of the local time. Various suggestions are considered by M. Renaud to avoid the difficulty. Perhaps the most practical is that ships' logs be kept in both local and Greenwich time and that all reports be furnished with the latter time only. Zone time is also perfectly practicable. The reader who has travelled much at sea can enjoy a relaxing hour in considering his personal preferences concerning the "how" and "when" of the daily alteration of the clock.

M. Bigourdan gives a full account of the Egyptian calendar; M. Maurice Hamy summarizes our present knowledge of the connection between solar phenomena and terrestrial magnetism and M. Emile Picard has a brief account of the life and work of Darboux. The last of these "Notices" will be read with interest as showing the varied activities of a scholar who is known to most of us solely as a pure mathematician.

Minor changes and improvements in the body of the volume are somewhat more numerous than usual. One useful feature is the addition in the Index of references to articles appearing in the three previous issues. It will be remembered that the growth of the *Annuaire* has required a division of the subjects, which are now treated in alternate years or at longer intervals. The new Index will save much trouble in searching previous volumes. The principal astronomical events and tidal data for 1919 are to be found in a supplement.

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## NOTES.

THE April number (volume 19, number 2) of the *Transactions of the American Mathematical Society* contains the following papers: "Proof that certain ideals in a cyclotomic realm are principal ideals," by H. H. MITCHELL; "The order of primitive groups (III)," by W. A. MANNING; "On the degree of convergence of Birkhoff's series," by W. E. MILNE; "Problems in the theory of ordinary linear differential equations with auxiliary conditions at more than two points," by C. E. WILDER; "Transformations of applicable conjugate