

Bipartisan Daylight?

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Is there a case for switching back and forth to “save daylight”? To me, it seems a typically dumb thing governments do.

I can quote experts who argue that Daylight Saving Time doesn't save much, and causes no small amount of harm, while others could quote experts saying the opposite.

It really comes down to holding to respectable standards. The reason to oppose Daylight Saving Time is that our time zones should have a touch of truth about them.

Before railroads stretched across America, words like “noon” and “midnight” and “ante meridiem”

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and “post meridiem” possessed clear meanings in every locality. The morning ended when the Sun was directly overhead (solar noon), and the afternoon began just after.

The hours of the day corresponded to this.

But with railroads, traveling quickly west or east engendered chaos as engineers' pocket watches provided no real manageable time to schedule



trains and keep them to schedule. So time zones were invented, grouping longitudinal neighbors together to make it easy to know when to adjust moving clockwork mechanisms. Still, there was a connection between clocks' noontime and true noon *somewhere* in each time zone.

Anyway, Daylight Saving Time (which I've written about before) was invented to nudge us to getto work earlier, allowing us more leisure time at day's end.

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But also: no more true noon anywhere in America, ever again. Well, considering how gerrymandered the time zones are: *far fewer true, solar noon locations.*

Another chasm between Man and Nature, courtesy of Government.

This is Common Sense. I'm Paul Jacob.