

Letters to The Times of London

BEHAVIOUR OF A WATCH

TO THE EDITOR OF THE TIMES

Sir,—With considerable interest I read Mr. Knowles's letter in your issue of December 6. I am of the opinion that travelling 500 or even 5,000 miles in an electric train, or by any other form of transport, can have no possible adverse effect upon the modern watch. Unfortunately there is no scientific or logical explanation to account for the idiosyncrasies of watches—if there were, the life of the watchmaker would be a far happier one. I maintain, and this is generally substantiated, that if a good watch in good condition is worn with normal care it will go and keep good time under any conditions, and this includes the myth of personal magnetism.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

D. DE CARLE.

112, Regent Street, W.1.

Published in The Times of London, 9th November, 1946

ELECTRIC TIME

TO THE EDITOR OF THE TIMES

Sir,—Referring to Mr. Peck's lament, in fairness to the electric clock I feel it should be known that that term covers several systems. The delinquent is the synchronous motor or mains clock.

Many public clocks are controlled by a master clock which is electrically driven but does not suffer the variable service of the mains type. This also applies to the host of battery driven clocks and to the wonder of the twentieth century, the quartz crystal clock. This clock keeps time to within 1-1,000th part of a second in 24 hours, and I believe Greenwich Observatory have some that have shown no error in two to three months' running.

Yours faithfully,

D. DE CARLE.

7, Rochester Drive, Pinner, Middlesex,
Nov. 6.

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