

### FESTIVAL OF WEEKS WILL BE OBSERVED ON SUNDAY, MAY 27

Fitting Ceremonies Will Be Held in Jewish Synagogues in Respect to Occasion.

### PLEDGES TO BE RENEWED

Confirmation of Class of 22 Candidates Will Be One Feature of Program for Festival.

With fitting ceremonies in the Portland Jewish synagogues, Shabbath, or the Festival of Weeks, one of the impressive holidays of the Rabbinical calendar, will be observed this year Sunday, May 27.

Rev. Rabbi Jonah B. Wise, in Temple Beth Israel, will conduct appropriate opening services Saturday evening, May 26, at 8 o'clock.

Services in the temple in observance of the feast on Sunday morning, May 27, at 10 o'clock, will be given added significance by the confirmation of a class of 22 candidates. Rev. Dr. Wise will personally confirm the large class.

In the Ahavah Shalom synagogue, Rev. R. Abrahamson will conduct services Saturday evening, May 26, at 8 o'clock, and also twice on Sunday, May 27, and on Monday, May 28.

**Time Is Announced.**  
The times of service Sunday, May 27, will be 9:30 a. m. and 8 p. m., and on Monday, 9:30 a. m., the last being a memorial service.

The Sixth Street synagogue, as also the other synagogues, will hold special services, too.

The name, Shabbath, or the Festival of Weeks, is derived from the fact that the Mosiac legislation does not prescribe the date of this festival as being definitely on such and such a day, or such and such a month, which is the case with the other festivals, but instead simply states that seven full weeks are to be counted from the time the Omcer a measure of grain as an offering is brought. Hence, the name "the Festival of Weeks," and also the name "Pentecost," meaning "fiftieth," since the festival is seven weeks or the fiftieth day after the second day of Passover, so fixed by Rabbinic tradition.

**Origin Is Traced.**  
Like the other two so-called Pilgrimage festivals, Passover and Tabernacles, the Festival of Weeks was originally related to the agricultural life of ancient Israel. Its designation sometimes as the Feast of "First Fruits," as well as some of the features of its celebration is described in the Bible, and the further fact that the Book of Ruth, with its harvest scenes, is designated as the special scroll for reading on Shabbath indicate clearly the agricultural character of the festival.

**Pledges Are Renewed.**  
However, this aspect of the festival has become altogether secondary to its historical significance, since tradition makes Shabbath the anniversary of the revelation, at Sinai, when Israel assumed his sacred mission as the priestly people and holy nation. In keeping with this deeper meaning of the festival, Shabbath has been chosen by the modern American Synagogue as the most appropriate occasion for the impressive ceremonial of confirmation whereby the boys and girls in Israel renew the vow of Horeb and pledge their love and loyalty to the covenant of their fathers.

### Effort Is Made to Keep Men on Farms

Suggestion of H. H. Ward, of Oregon Patriotic Service League, Meets Approval of National Authorities.

The war and navy departments and the Council of National Defense recognize the merits of the contention of H. H. Ward, president of the Oregon Patriotic Service League, that recruiting officers should confine their efforts more to the cities than to the country districts. The problem of keeping as many men as possible on the farms is now being duly considered and Mr. Ward is assured that every effort to arrive at a satisfactory solution will be made. A letter to Mr. Ward from the Council of National Defense follows:

"Your letter has just been referred to the Council of National Defense for reply.

"The council appreciates the difficulties of the situation and the inevitable complications which the war and navy departments have to meet with regard to recruiting, especially in drawing farmers as you call attention to. We know that you also appreciate these difficulties, and that it must take some time to get such matters straightened out. On the passage of the military bill and decision with regard to exemptions thereunder, the matter will be much clearer. We assure you that this problem is receiving the serious consideration of the departments, and every effort will be made to avoid the difficulties which you refer to. We will take up your suggestion with these departments and thank you for calling it to our attention. Sincerely yours,

"(Signed) W. E. GIFFORD."

### Ian Hay Will Be A Portland Guest

Local Society People to Entertain Famous Lecturer; Traveler to Tell of Life in the Trenches.

Ian Hay (Captain Beth) will arrive in Portland on the Shasta Limited Tuesday afternoon en route to Tacoma where he will lecture. He comes from San Francisco where he spoke many times to large audiences. Several people are planning to entertain Captain Beth during his stay here.

Tuesday Mr. and Mrs. Henry L. Corbett will be hosts for a motor trip up the Columbia highway and at a dinner to be given at one of the attractive inns. Thursday, which is Empire Day, Harry Sherwood, British consul, is planning to entertain the members and their wives of the Royal Colonial institute, at a luncheon in honor of the distinguished guest. Thursday evening at the Arlington club Captain Beth will be the guest of honor at a dinner.

Captain Beth has been speaking to capacity audiences all over the country.

His lecture will be illustrated with official pictures. Proceeds go to the Portland chapter American Red Cross.

See Also Back Page Section 1.

# Oregon Journal

PORTLAND, OREGON, SUNDAY MORNING, MAY 20, 1917.

PRICE FIVE

## Meier & Frank Co.

# SHIRT SALE

## BEGINS TOMORROW (MONDAY) MAY 21<sup>ST</sup> 10,000 Splendid New Negligee Shirts SOFT cuffs - STARCHED cuffs All Sizes From 14 to 18

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