

**Shabouth.**

Shabouth, the Feast of Weeks, falls this year on Wednesday, June 4th. Originally a festival of the first fruits as enjoined in Deut. XVI: 9 "Seven weeks shalt thou number unto thee; from the time the sickle is first put to the standing corn shalt thou begin to number seven weeks. And thou shalt keep the feast of weeks unto the Lord thy God after the measure of the free-will offering of thy hand which thou shalt give according as the Lord thy God, blesseth thee. And thou shalt rejoice before the Lord thy God, thou and thy son, and thy daughter, and thy man-servant, and thy maid-servant, and the Levite that is within thy gates, and the stranger, and the fatherless and the widow, that are in the midst of thee, in the place which the Lord thy God shall choose to cause His name to dwell there. And thou shalt remember that thou wast a bondman in Egypt; and thou shalt observe and do these statutes."

1. Biblical times the feast of weeks

was merely a farmer's holiday at the end of the first seven weeks of harvest and its ceremonial, the simple agricultural offerings brought as a thanksgiving token for the new crop they gathered.

In common with other agricultural festivals the feast of weeks underwent a gradual transformation. As the Jewish people began to enjoy a historical consciousness, they linked traditional events with surviving festivals and institutions transmitted from a remoter ancestry. Though the intercession of Rabbinical Judaism, the Feast of Weeks was enlarged into a historical festival, in which the giving of the Decalogue was commemorated.

By this transfer a universal significance was attached to the festival in which the ripened fruits of the spirit were offered in praise and thanks, as an offering from the People of the Covenant. To this day the Ten Words are read in the synagogues and the pledge of loyalty made by the fathers of old to the covenant of Israel re-

newed by their sons in love and faithfulness.

Within the last century the Feast of Weeks obtained an added charm by introducing a confirmation ceremony in connection with observation. This ceremony was sponsored by the leaders of Reform Judaism, who made of it a feast of consecration of the Jewish youth, boys and girls, to the ancient covenant of their fathers. Yearly the children of the Religious Schools of our Reform congregations attest their loyalty to their ancestral faith, which is the intent and purpose of the confirmation service. This service does not exact from them any other confession than that of a belief in One God, and in His Justice and Truth as manifested in history. The service also symbolizes a graduation from the religious school where boys and girls have been taught Biblical and Jewish History, Jewish Ethics, Hebrew, and Jewish literature.

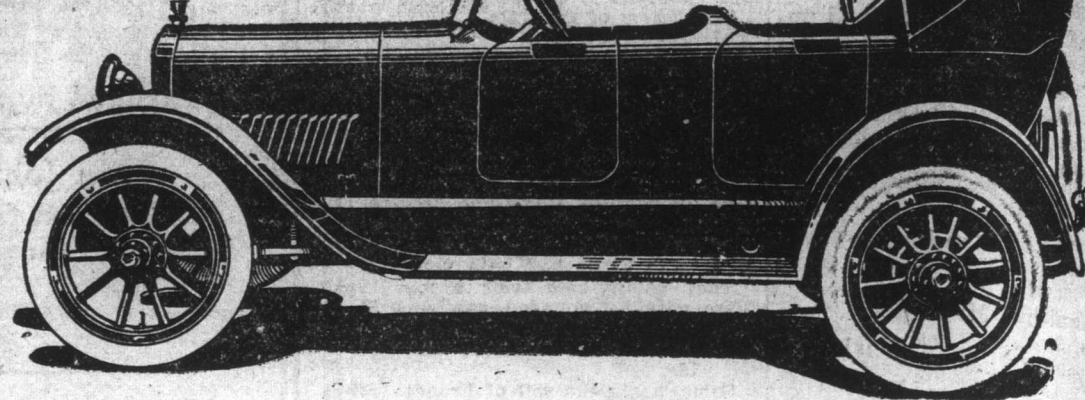
Black net gowns trimmed with blue ribbon and pink roses are very French in character.

**The King Who Lost America.**

On June 4, 1783, George the Third, King of Great Britain and Ireland, was born, and on October 25, 1760, he succeeded George the Second, his grandfather because his father, Frederick, Prince of Wales, had died in 1751. George the Third was the first of the Hanoverian line of British sovereigns born in England, and he made it his boast that he was a true-born Englishman. George the First was ruler of Hanover, with the title of Elector in Germany, before he succeeded to the British throne at the death of Queen Anne in 1714, and George the Second, his son and successor, came to England with him. George the First spent a great part of the rest of his life on the Continent, and George the Second could never learn, so that he left ecclesiastical appointments very much to Queen Caroline his wife, to whom Joseph Butler, celebrated author of the "Analogy of Religion," owed his appointment to Bishop, first of Bristol and afterwards of Durham, having been previously her clerk of the closet, or private secretary. George the Third was greatly indebted to his mother for the formation of his mind and character, and his personal reputation was unspotted through the almost sixty years of his reign and the nearly eighty-one years of his life. In 1764, the fourth year of his reign, he suffered for six weeks from weakness of mind and again from 1789 for four months; and finally from 1810 till his death in 1820 so that, in this last attack of insanity, his eldest son, afterwards George the Fourth, had to be appointed Regent. All this was probably due to the war between Britain and its American Colonies, by which the present United States obtained their independence; and to that between the British and revolutionary France; besides this King's opposition to Roman Catholic emancipation, and the death of his daughter Amelia, the youngest of his fifteen children. Towards the end of his life, his favourite seaside resort was Weymouth, in Dorsetshire, to which he thus gave popularity, as his son George the Fourth did to Brighton. The father of the writer of this article was when a child taken to Weymouth by his mother from their home in Bath, and King George III. meeting them there, stopped, stroked him on the head and said: "What a fine little boy he is!" which, of course, she never forgot.

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**Beatty on Jutland.**

**WHAT SAVED THE HUN IN THE GREAT BATTLE.**

During his brief stay at Naples, Admiral Sir David Beatty said to an interviewer that if the war had continued 1919 would have seen the U-boat menace almost entirely eliminated owing to the measures the Allies had in readiness. He was greatly displeased with the way in which the campaign was carried on in the Adriatic. The Italian Fleet had been on a level with its great traditions. The sinking of the Dreadnoughts Szent Istvan and Viribus Unitis gave proof in particular of the bravery and daring of Italy's sailors. Admiral Beatty declared that the super-Dreadnoughts, in his opinion, would retain their usefulness in future, as squadrons of such vessels were necessary to gain decisive results from a naval battle. "Battle-cruisers of high speed will also be of great use. Their number will surely increase." The correspondent asked Admiral Beatty about the conduct of the German fleet at the battle of Jutland. He answered that as a seaman he must loyally acknowledge the enemy's conduct of that battle. The German ships were well manoeuvred, their fire was exact, and the discipline of their crews steady. The smaller craft sacrificed themselves freely to secure the retreat of the larger vessels towards Heligoland. The enemy command succeeded in saving the fleet from encirclement and reaching its base. "The enemy was enormously aided by favourable light and by mist, which prevented me from per-

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Factory, Water St. West. Offices, 137 Water Street, St. John's, Nfld.  
apr 3, 1919, t.t.

from them in a fleet action.—News of the World.  
The variety in capes is infinite. Satin and crepe de chene in brown shades are a fashionable combination. Horsehair is an excellent foundation for a small lace brimmed hat.  
Just received an assortment of Climbing Plants and Evergreens, Honeysuckles, Climbing Roses, Cedars, Clematis, Aristolochia, Virginia Creepers and Laurel. BISHOP, SONS & CO., LTD. (Grocery Dept.) Phone 679.—may 20, 1919.

**SUPERSTITIONS ABOUT SALT.**  
Superstitions concerning salt are among the earliest known to mankind. There is much evidence in Holy Writ for the ceremonial uses of it, and the old Mosaic law commands that ere a sacrifice of a meat offering shall be seasoned with it. Homer calls it the vine, and many of the old Teutonic races looked on salt springs as holy and worshipped them. The origin of this superstition seems to be the fact that since salt cannot corrupt it should be regarded as a symbol of immortality. Winard's Liniment Cures Diptheria

**The Pioneer of the Trans-Atlantic Line**

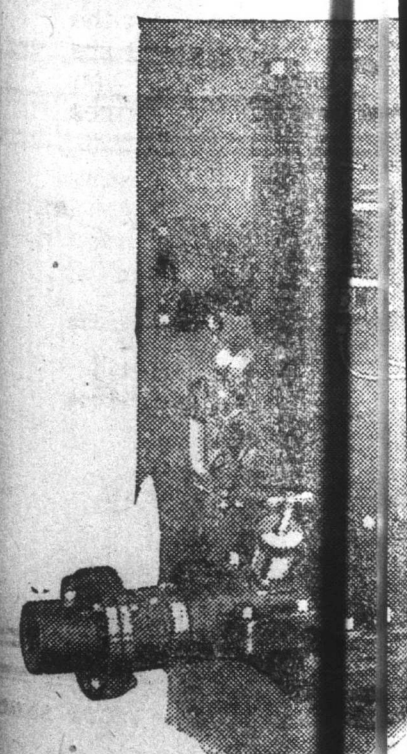
ROBERT G. SKERRETT, "Scientific American."  
While the blue ribbon of trans-Atlantic passenger service has long been held by vessels of other flags, nevertheless, for blazing the way for steam navigation between the United States and Europe belongs to America. One hundred years ago, on the 24th of May, the steamer "Savannah" cleared Tybee, Ga., and started upon her memorable voyage to Liverpool. It was the ambition of her owners to establish a fast line between the port of Savannah and England, and by qualifying reliance upon the powerful winds, to make it practically possible, through the agency of steam.



**"Will M..."**

"If I could only sleep, my nerves would soon begin to relax after night I lie thinking about everything under the sun."  
"What chance is there of my getting so long as this goes on?"  
"None. Nerve force is being nearly twenty-four hours a day and there is no rest and sleep to replenish the waste."  
"One thing sure I cannot do longer, for I know that every day—finds me more nervous, and less able to stand of the day's work."  
"I suppose the doctor would do something to make me sleep, but I want that. I am weak enough as it is, and I want something to build me up rather than to tear down the body."

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