A BABY REPUBLIC.

A Talk With President Amador About His Country and Its Relations to the United States.

Panama's Resources—A Land of Undeveloped Pastures, Plantations and Mines—Its Political Parties and Revolutions—Uncle Sam as a Good and Great Friend—What Has Been Done With Our $10,000,000—New Roads and Schools—The Troubles of a President—Health Conditions and How Americans Can Keep Well on the Isthmus.

(Special Correspondence of the Deseret News by Frank G. Carpenter.)

PANAMA. The "White House" of the Panama republic is light blue. It is a large two-story building, situated not far from the offices of the canal, with a fine outlook over Panama bay and Uncle Sam's new islands. Its official title is "The Palacio de Gobierno," and it forms both the offices and residence of President Manuel Amador-Guerrera, the George Washington of this new republic.

A squad of policemen armed with rifles was marching up and down in front of it when I called there not long ago with Minister Barret. As we approached they saluted us, but the minister raised his hand and the guns dropped and we passed through.

Entering the door we came into a patio, or hollow court, surrounded by the living and reception rooms of the mansion. In the center of the court palms were growing. Its floor was of tiles and balconies ran about it at the second story. We crossed the patio and went upstairs to the state reception room, and hence on into the president's private parlors, where Mr. J. E. Lefevre, the executive secretary, met us and told us that his excellency was expecting our visit.

PRESIDENT AMADOR IN 1905.

A moment later the president entered and Mr. Barret formally presented me, and we arranged an appointment for today, when he should give me a talk for my American readers. I called and the result is the interview which follows.

But first let me introduce you to this president of the world's baby republic and the father of its independence. I have given his name as Manuel Amador-Guerrera. In America he would be known as President Amador, but here the Guerrera is added, after the Spanish fashion, for that was the name of his mother. He is the son of Jose Maria Amador and Mercedes Guerrera. On his mother's side he is the grandson of a colonel who fought for the independence of Colombia. The president was born in Colombia, and was educated at the University of Cartagena.

He was just about of age when he graduated there as a doctor and came to Panama to practise medicine. This was more than 50 years ago, and from then until now Dr. Amador has been one of the leading citizens of the isthmus. As far back as during our Civil war he was vice president of Panama State, and when General Grant was beginning his first term in the White House Dr. Amador had been elected its president. There was a revolution, however, which prevented his holding the office, and which resulted in his banishment to Cartagena. Later on he was pardoned and came back to Panama. He again took an interest in politics, which he has kept up to this day. Indeed, it is largely due to him that Panama is now a republic. He went to New York just before the revolution and secured the assistance which aided in making the cause a success. He returned on the 27th of October one year ago, promising to proclaim the independence of Panama before the 5th of the month following. This he did on Nov. 3, and after the constitution was adopted he was elected the first president, which position he has now held for more than one year.

The president of Panama is one of the fine-looking rulers of this age. He is more than six feet tall and is straight and well formed. His forehead is high and full, his complexion rosy, and although he is 71, his dark hair and mustache are only sprinkled with gray. I asked him for a photograph. In reply he brought me one of President Roosevelt which he had just received, saying that he was having a photograph taken to send back to him, and that he would have a copy of the same struck off for this letter. This he has since done.

The president is the picture of health. He is a living evidence that here on the isthmus men can reach a green old age and keep young. His life has been a strenuous one. In addition to his political work he has carried on the practise of medicine for 50 years. He was long the physician of the Panama railroad and also of the Pacific Mail and Equitable Life Insurance companies, and he therefore knows well the health conditions of this part of the world.

HEALTH AT PANAMA.

One of my first questions was whether Americans could safely live at Panama. The president replied:

"There is no reason why your people may not be as healthy here as in the states if they will conform to the ordinary customs of life in the tropics. A few may have malarial fever at the start, but this danger will diminish as time goes on and after a while they will become immune. Our malarial fevers attack foreigners more readily than natives. This is also the case with yellow fever. The man who has been on the isthmus for 10 or 15 years is apparently out of danger.

"How about the mosquitoes, doctor? Do you think they cause fevers?"

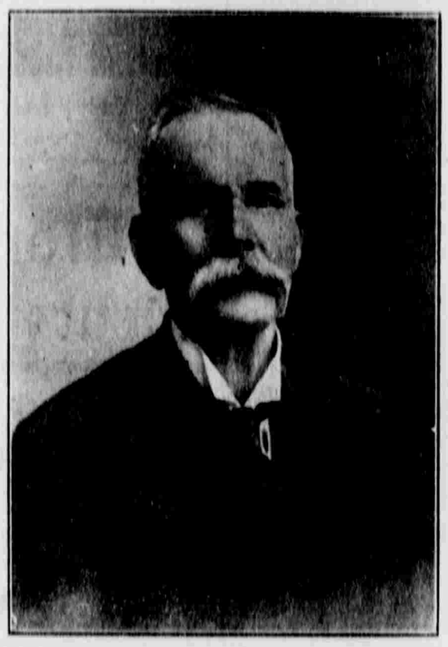
"Yes, I believe in the mosquito theory. Yellow fever and malarial fever are carried by the bites of certain mosquitoes at certain stages of their existence. I think, however, that there are other means of catching the yellow fever than by such inoculation. According to the modern theory every man who has yellow fever gets it from the bite of a female mosquito which has just been feasting off the blood of a man who has yellow fever. They even go so far as to say that the female mosquito takes such feasts only when she is anxious to breed, and that it is only at such times that she introduces the yellow fever germs into her victims. If this is so the question arises as to how the first yellow fever mosquito became inoculated with the yellow fever germ. Was she born with the yellow fever in her blood and was thus able to communicate it to the first yellow fever patient, or was the first yellow fever patient born to enable the first female mosquito in that interesting condition to get the first bite of a yellow fever patient and then start the chain to running which has come down to now?"

"How about your malarial fevers?"

"They are not necessarily fatal, and seldom cause death. They succumb quickly to quinine and are largely prevented by taking tonic doses."

"Tell me, Mr. President, how one should do who wishes to live long and keep well in this part of the world?"

"He should observe regular hours and avoid excesses of every kind. The worst thing is drink. A man here should use no intoxicating liquors. This rule prevails generally as to life in the tropics. As for me, I was the doctor of the Panama railroad when it was built, and I passed through the terrible sickness of that time. I have been here during the whole construction of the canal and have always enjoyed excellent health. I attribute this largely to my regular habits. I go to bed at 10 o'clock every night and I arise at 7 every morning. I am careful of my eating and try not to overwork, although I have at times been forced to do so. I have led a quiet life as far as I possibly could, and, as a result, although I am now three score and ten, I am, I judge, as young as most men of my years in any part of the world."



PRESIDENT OF PANAMA IN 1905.

From a Photograph Taken for President Roosevelt and Secured for the Saturday "News" by Frank G. Carpenter.

The conversation here turned to Panama, and I asked the president as to whether his country offered many opportunities for foreign investors. He replied:

"The republic is almost entirely undeveloped, and in the evolution of the future I think there will be many chances for Americans and others to make money. We have as yet no roads. The only way to get over the county is on mule trails, or by going up and down the coast in boats and thence into the interior. We hope to build roads just as soon as we can. We shall first make wagon roads, and shall try to render the whole country accessible to the coast, with the idea that the products may be carried down to the sea and thence shipped to the markets here and at Colon. Later on we shall build railroads, and in the far future there will probably be a railroad running from one end of Panama to the other. There is already talk of a railroad to the Chiriqui region, but that will have to wait until our resources are sufficiently developed to warrant its construction. As it is now there would not be enough passengers and freight to pay the operating expenses of such a road."

"What are your chief resources?" I asked.

"We have many. We have a vast amount of mahogany timber and are exporting rubber and ivory nuts. Much of our land is fitted for cattle raising, and we have several hundred thousand cattle and horses here. The Chiriqui country, which lies between this and Costa Rica, has many large ranches. The cattle are especially fine and they command a ready sale in the market. There are also many ranches in the provinces of Los Santos, Cocle and Veraguas, and hides form one of our chief articles of export."

"What is the character of your soil?"

"It is as rich as that of any part of the tropical world. It will produce coffee, cacao, sugar cane and every vegetable common to this latitude. We have excellent fruit lands both here and in other provinces. The banana exports from Bocas del Toro already amount to hundreds of thousands of dollars a year. There is no reason why fruit and vegetables might not be raised for export on the strip of land which has been granted to the United States. Such productions will be in steady demand during the construction of the canal, and farming along those lines would pay. As to sugar cane and coffee, they can be raised in many places. Our people, however, have not paid much attention to farming and that development is a matter of the future."

"Does Panama want outside money?"

"Yes," replied the president. "We are glad to welcome both capital and men. We have public lands which can be leased in tracts of 5,000 hectares, or a little more than 12,000 acres. We are ready to rent them to responsible parties on very liberal terms."

"How about mines?"

"Panama is rich in minerals. We have gold, silver, iron and probably copper. The country has not been carefully prospected, but we have several gold mines which are now in profitable operation. One of these is the Darien Gold Mining company, which employs hundreds of miners. It is an English corporation. I understand that it pays good dividends."

"What are the relations between your republic and the United States?"

"We look upon the United States as our great and good friend," replied the president of Panama, "and it is our hope that she will always continue to hold that position. She was largely the cause of our becoming independent and we feel that our future depends upon her. We are satisfied that she will put through this gigantic canal, and that with the flowing together of the Atlantic and the Pacific will come a great moving caravan of ships from all over the world, making us the half-way station between the continents. This cannot but improve our conditions. Indeed it seems to me that no land upon earth has brighter prospects than ours."

"Have you political parties here?"

"Yes, indeed. But what republic has not. We have Liberals and Conservatives. We have men of different opinions. We have men in office, and also men who are out of office and want to get in."

"Do you expect to be troubled with revolutions in the future?"

"No," replied the president. "Our treaty with the United States will prevent that. Colombia has been torn up by revolutions ever since she became independent. This cannot be true of Panama, for the United States will not permit it, even if we so desired. Our people thoroughly understand that fact. Our progress is to be upon the road of peace rather than that of war and bloodshed."

"Do you anticipate any trouble with Colombia?"

"No. You, as I have said, are our great and good friend. I do not think we will be further bothered by the mother country."

"Where did Panama's independence originate, Mr. President? Some people think it was born in the United States and nursed by the United States government?"

"That is not so. It originated here. Our people felt that they could not endure the loss and delay entailed upon this country by the action of the Colombian government. We saw that we must act quickly if we would secure the canal, and we therefore decided to make ourselves independent of our mother country. Some of us went to the United States, and, although we did not see the president or any of his cabinet, we learned enough to believe that your country would come to our assistance if we made our rebellion in the proper way against the outrages which were being perpetrated upon us. We acted upon that supposition and have not been disappointed."

"What are you doing with the $10,000,000 which you received from the United States?"

"Some of it has gone into public works. We have already spent in the neighborhood of 3,000,000 silver dollars in that way. We are improving our harbors and will gradually make roads into the interior. Six million dollars of the remainder has been invested in real estate mortgages in New York city and about $3,500,000 is now on call there at a low rate of interest. We receive only about 2 per cent on that, but we know we can get the money when we want it."

"What are you doing as to establishing schools and bettering your educational condition?"

"We have already done much. Under the old form of government there were only 200 or 300 children attending the public schools of this city. We have now 2,700 enrolled, and this number will be doubled as soon as we have the schoolhouses to accommodate them. We have sent abroad 50 young men and women who are being educated at the public expense to serve as officials and teachers, others are being fitted for engineers and others for other responsible positions."

"How do you like being president of the youngest republic of the world, your excellency?"

"I can't say that I like it," replied Dr. Amador. "The life is a little too strenuous for me. There are so many men who want things, and it is so often impossible to give men what they want. Our people cannot realize that the enormous sum we have received from the United States should not be scattered broadcast over the country. Some of them think there ought to be offices for all, and others bring forward impracticable schemes for the government to carry out. It may be easier after a time. The government will soon be thoroughly established and its machinery will move upon well-oiled wheels. Just now we are chopping our republic out of the woods, and the whole organization has to be constructed and put into operation.

"You have asked me how I like being president. I would say that I did not want the position, and that I requested the people to take some other and better man. They insisted, however, that I should accept the responsibility and here I am. I have always been interested in the political welfare of my country; but I assure you I would rather practise medicine than politics, and I shall be glad, indeed, when I am allowed to go back to my profession."

FRANK G. CARPENTER.

Monday Will Be a Great Day At Auerbach's

We have prepared for big crowds, as the Great Bargains enumerated here will indicate, and which are certainly worthy of your most serious and careful consideration. **WE MUST CROWD TWO DAYS BUSINESS INTO ONE, AS OUR STORE WILL BE CLOSED ALL DAY TUESDAY, TO FITTINGLY OBSERVE MEMORIAL DAY.**

MONDAY SPECIAL!

A SELECT LOT OF 20 CENT ETAMINE VOILES AT 12 CENTS PER YARD.

There's no doubt about the rapidity with which these stylish Shirt Waist Suit Fabrics will disappear at this price, and you know, voiles are the most popular material of the season. They come in designs that remind you of the finest wool fabrics, also in warp print effects. Every one is asking 20c for them. Special for Monday at (per yard)..... **12c**

MONDAY SPECIAL!

ONE MORE MAY SALE.

RIBBONS! RIBBONS! RIBBONS!

Thousands of yards of honest, pure Silk Ribbons, not back numbers or useless shades, but every desirable color in plain Taffeta Ribbon, Nos. 40 and 60. Ribbons that sell regularly for 15c and 20c a yard, go on sale, Monday all day, at..... **10c**

ESTABLISHED 1864

F. Auerbach & Bro.

ONE PRICE TO ALL NEVER UNDERSOLD

SPECIAL MONDAY!

IN OUR DRESS GOODS DEPARTMENT.

46 inch Mohair Luster, Colors Navy Blue and black. SPECIAL MONDAY ONLY, 75c VALUE FOR, per yard **43c**

MONDAY SPECIAL!

40c WHITE MERCERIZED WAISTING, 22c

If you'll read this WHITE WAISTING SPECIAL you'll be here MONDAY SURE.

New Imported Jacquard Effects in the Patterns most preferred; also woven dot Popanetts—the latest of the English weaves—40c waisting. Special for Monday only, at, per yard..... **22c**

MONDAY SPECIAL!

JAP SILK! JAP SILK! JAP SILK!

3 BIG SPECIALS—3. ALL DAY MONDAY ONLY!

75 pieces of White Japanese silk, all of the best imported qualities, very fine weave, soft and glossy, and suitable for ladies' waists, children's waists and graduating dresses; will wash and iron beautifully. These come in three widths, 24, 27 and 36 inches wide, and are never sold at less than 50c, 60c and $1.00 per yard. Monday, all day, we will sell them at the following low prices:

24 inches wide, per yard, 35c 27 inches wide, per yard . 42c
36 inches wide, per yard....66c

MONDAY SPECIAL!

THE BEST UNDERWEAR BARGAIN OF THE WHOLE SEASON.

100 dozen Ladies' low neck, sleeveless Swiss Ribbed Vests in an extra fine 20c grade, tape drawn neck and arm holes and trimmed in plain cotton loops or lace, don't overlook this Monday special, it's a money saver at, each..... **10c**

Limit, four to a customer.

ITEMS OF SAVING FROM

THE BEST STOCK OF READY-MADE GARMENTS IN THE CITY!

$2.45 FOR WASHABLE SHIRT WAIST SUITS in light, medium and dark shades, materials dimity, lawn, mercerized suiting and fancy weaves, waists, elaborately trimmed, skirts to match, $4.00 and $5.00 values.

$8.95 FOR SILK SHIRT WAIST SUITS, made of fine quality chiffon taffeta, pretty tab stock collar. It is the very newest plaited styles, comes in four different shades, you will pay elsewhere $15.00.

12.50 FOR SWELL TAFFETA SILK SHIRT WAIST SUITS, three styles, made of finest quality of plain or changeable taffeta in blue, golden brown, green and black, fancy tucked waists skirts to match, $17.50 and $20.00 values.

15.00 FOR VERY NOBBY SILK SHIRT WAIST SUITS, all cut generously full, both waist and skirt with all the newest style effects, plaited, tucked and shirred, in all the desirable light and dark shades, values up to $25.00.

16.95 FOR WHITE SHIRT WAIST SUITS, just received a line of pretty sample suits, made of fine Persian lawn, elaborately trimmed in the very latest designs, values up to $27.50.

$7.75 FOR PANAMA WALKING SKIRTS, three special styles, some beautifully trimmed with self folds, full kilt plaited in new designs, come in new blue, brown and black, $10.00 and $11.50 values.

$7.50 FOR PEAU DE SOIE SILK COAT, 27 inches long, made of extra good quality Peau de Soie, sailor collar trimmed with 5 inch black lace, new style sleeve, sold regular at $19.75.

15.00 FOR BLACK TAFFETA SILK COAT, three-quarter length, made of fine quality taffeta, full plaited back and front, handsome deep applique collar, all sizes, worth $22.50.

$2.95 FOR JAP SILK WAIST, front trimmed with small pin tucks and German Val Insertion, extra full sleeves, fancy stock collar, sizes 32 to 44, $4.50 value.

$1.00 FOR BLACK SATEEN PETTICOATS (the Elite make) made with large umbrella flounce, hemmed bottom, trimmed with 3 inch ruffles, all lengths, our regular $1.50 grade.

FOR MONDAY—50 SHORT KIMONAS, 25c Ten dozen Short Kimonas, made of good quality Dimity Lawn, come in white ground with fancy dots, extra full sleeve, sizes 32 to 44, Monday only— **25c**

Clothing Bargain Budget!

Contains Interesting News for Sharp Economists.

BOYS' KNEE-PANT SUITS—Good, durable suits for boys from 8 to 16 years, in light and medium tweeds and cheviots, worth $3.50 and $4.50. Special price for this week at..... **$2.50**

BOYS' KNEE-PANT SUITS—In extra fine light tweeds, cheviots and serges, ages 8 to 16 years, worth $5.50 and $6.50. Special this week at..... **$4.50**

YOUTHS' LONG-PANT SUITS—In light and dark tweeds, ages 12 to 20 years, worth $6.00. Special this week at **$4.50**

YOUTHS' LONG-PANT SUITS—In fine imported tweeds and checks, all wool—a perfect fit guaranteed—ages 14 to 20 years; worth $10.00. Special this week at..... **$7.50**

MONDAY SPECIAL!

$5 and $6 BONNE FEMME CURTAINS, $3.60

Real Arabian and Battenberg Lace Bonne Femme Curtains in swell novelty designs, with deep handmade lace edged bobbinet flounce, exquisite patterns; curtains that are positively worth $5.00 and $6.00. In this sale, Monday, at **$3.60**

NEW WASH DRESSES FOR MISSES' AND CHILDREN

Dresses that are distinctly stylish, finished as you would desire them, reduced for this week's special selling to make them the most superior values. Values that must appeal to every economical buyer.

Misses' White Dress of fine Wash Chiffon, elegantly trimmed on yoke, ruffle and cuffs in valenciennes lace edging and insertion, sizes 6 to 14, an excellent $2.50 Dress, on sale at **$1.50**

A beautiful White Dress of fine Wash Chiffon in sizes 6 to 14, elegantly trimmed in lace insertion and edging, a dress you'd consider very reasonable at $4.50 each goes on sale at **$3.15**

Misses' Dress of fine quality fast colored Chambrey, made "Buster Brown" style in sizes 6 to 14, trimmed in white pique and wide open worked embroidery, an excellent $2.00 dress, on sale at **1.69**

Child's Buster Brown White Chiffon Dress trimmed in rows of valenciennes Lace Insertion, a very elegant $2.50 dress, on sale at.... **$1.65**

Misses Sailor Suits, sizes 6 to 14, made of fast colored plain Chambrey, in blue or red trimmed in rows of white bias folds, very pretty style, value $1.65. On Sale at **1.15**

Child's White Dress of fine lawn with yoke of hemstitching and tucks and trimmed with hemstitched ruffle, sizes 2 to 5, a $1.50 Dress on Sale **99c**

Child's Dress of splendid quality blue or pink checked fast colored Gingham, with white pique and wash braid trimmed yoke, surrounded by ruffle, an excellent 65c dress, on Sale **39c**

Child's Dress of good quality printed percale in neat, small figures or stripes, sizes 1 to 5, regular 40c value, on Sale at **25c**

MONDAY SPECIAL!

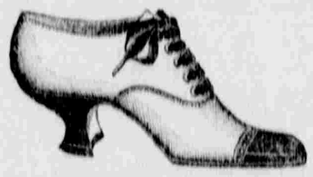
TOWELS!

1600 of Them.

20c Towels 11c each

Turkish Bath Towels, bleached and unbleached, the same you pay in other sales 20c for, hemmed Huck Towels, fringed bird's eye weave Towels, extra large Towels, extra heavy towels. You'll wonder where on earth we got them them from, too. You'll wonder how the price can be so reasonable. You have bought Towels, but never before at this price. Not over two dozen sold to one customer. None sold to dealers. Monday, all day, at (each)— **11c.**

Big Money Savings.



Terse Mention of Monday's Many Opportunities to Save on

SHOES!

A BARGAIN FOR THE BOYS.

Boys' Sample Shoes, worth up to $2.50, go at— **$1.25**

LADIES' FINE VICI KID DRESS SHOES with French heels and light hand turned soles. This line of Shoes has been selling at $4.50. Sale price for this week..... **$2.95**

LADIES' EXTRA FINE PAT. KID OR VICI KID OXFORDS, French heels and light soles, worth up to $3.50. Sale price for this week..... **$2.25**

LADIES' BLACK OR BROWN VICI KID OXFORDS, Cuban heels and light soles, worth $2.25. Sale price for this week..... **$1.65**