U. S.-Panama Pact May Be Extended

Abrogation of Taft Agreement Would Strangle Republic, Says Porras.

Panama, April 23.—Discussing the possibility of the United States insisting on abrogation of the Taft agreement on May 1, President Porras today said:

"I do not anticipate the canal zone being thrown open for business if the Taft agreement is abrogated on May 1, as proposed by the United States government. Such action would be tantamount to strangulation of the small, poor and defenseless republic of Panama.

"Despite everything, Panama continues to see in the United States the guiding star which will light its way through the centuries. The United States is Panama's best friend, and it would be unworthy of us to believe her capable of any action so flagrantly detrimental to our most sacred interests as that of throwing the canal zone open for business."

Washington—Failure of efforts by representatives of the Panama government and State department officials to draft a treaty to supplant the Taft agreement which expires by mutual consent on May 1, probably will be met by orders of the Washington government authorizing extension of the agreement until the proposed treaty is made effective.

The Taft agreement consists of several executive orders issued by President Roosevelt while William H. Taft was secretary of war.

RABID DOG BITES HUMANE EMPLOYE

Oliver Arne, humane shelter employe, was bit Wednesday by a stray bulldog said to have been suffering from rabies.

The dog was shot. Arne was given pasteur treatment.

Church Cornerstone Laid.

By International News Service.

Atkinson, Neb., April 23.—A crowd estimated at 300 persons was present here today to attend the ceremonies incident to the laying of the cornerstone of St. John Lutheran church.

Men Who Are Making Omaha

Any man who sets up a town, makes it grow and live, turning a farm into a populous village, and then seeing that village become a portion of a great metropolitan city, is entitled to be called a builder.

That is what Erastus A. Benson did. Mr. Benson is and has been a real estate dealer; not a speculator, although he will take a chance, but a developer, all his life. He came to Omaha on a business matter in 1886, and has been here ever since. On his first visit he was shown a tract of ground of about 900 acres northwest of Omaha. It looked so good he bought it, and started the village of Benson. From that grew up the present thriving corner of Omaha, that had its own schools, water works and other attributes of city life long before it was annexed.

As an incident to the development of the community he had set into motion, Mr. Benson built a street railway, leading down to Fortieth and Cuming streets, where it connected with the old Mercer line. For many years he operated this line, at first with horse cars, then with trolley cars. The Mercer line was merged with the other city lines in 1889, but it was a long time before the Benson line was taken in, although it is now a portion of the city system.

About the same time as he set Benson going, Mr. Benson took on another considerable tract of land, from Forty-second to Forty-eighth streets east and west and from Harney to Davenport streets north and south, known as Briggs Place, which he also developed. He also has handled much other residence property, it being said that five people out of every 100 now living in Omaha live on property that E. A. Benson developed.

That would be record enough for most men, but not for E. A. Benson. He has handled a number of big deals in different parts of the country, particularly in the south, since coming to Omaha, and still is active in the game of developing property.

He has made his home in Omaha since 1887. He is a charter member of the Chamber of Commerce, of the Happy Hollow club and of the University club. Mr. Benson's chief sport is being a red hot republican of the old school.

WIFE, ANAEMIAC, LEAVES HUSBAND

Fear that his wife, an anaemiac, might obtain work in an Omaha home where she might prove dangerous, urges John Hoffman, 2703 Arbor street, a truck driver, in his search for her. Mrs. Hoffman, 27, disappeared from her home last Friday.

She has been subject to mental disturbances for the past four years, he says.

Hoffman, fearing for the safety of his 6-year-old daughter, Ella, took steps a week ago to place his wife in an institution. The woman has a delusion that someone is going to kill her, the husband says. She is an expert housewife and may seek employment in a private family.

OMAHANS SAIL FOR BRAZIL ON MAY 3

Roger P. Holman, sales manager of the coffee department, Paxton & Gallagher company, and Mrs. Holman will leave Saturday for a two months' trip to the coffee districts of Brazil, where he will study that end of the coffee business. They expect to sail May 3. They will visit Rio de Janeiro, Santos and Sao Paulo.

Holman declares that Brazil today is raising seven-tenths of the coffee grown in the world. He will inspect the eight new government warehouses which house the entire crop.

AT THE THEATERS

The sightlr art, the art of mobile color, is to be at the Brandeis tonight as an extraordinary and arresting feature, presented by Thomas Wilfred, with his wonder ful invention, "The Clavilux." Mr. Wilfred's instrument is a truly marvelous achievement, one which opens a new field to man's sense of beauty and makes an appeal to the soul.

To see a dim, vaporous mass of grayish green slowly melt into a definite form of glowing yellow, which rises, and as it rises unfolds, flower-like, into what might betoken four crimson tulips ;to watch the birth of a mystic, prophet-like figure, all blue and tawney, form a shaft of living whiteness, and gasp as it dies in a silent thunderstroke of the red of blood—these are sensations so strange to the eye as to render the recording brain almost incapable of adequate utterance.

"The Clavilux," is one of the marvels of our time and its future achievements in the line of aesthetic culture can only be surmised.

Today and tomorrow are the last opportunities to see Irving's Midgets at the World. This company of 25 tiny men and women are headlining the great "Anniversary Bill" at that playhouse. The largest crowds of the season have witnessed the show. Starting Saturday the World offers a smashing six-act bill of exceptional comedy attractions. Harry Abrams & Co., in "Shoe Echoes," Holland & Dockerill in an equestrian sensation, Elsie Clark, the phonograph girl, and Marston & Manley in "Do You Follow Me?" are among some of the featured offerings.

Tomorrow evening as an added attraction following the first night performance of "Trifling Polly," half a dozen amateur acts will be seen at the New Empress theater. The list of amateurs for tomorrow gives promise of affording unusual entertainment. "Trifling Polly," the current musical comedy attraction will be seen for the last times Friday. Starting Saturday the Bert Smith Players offer their prize western musical play, "The Stuttering Sheik," with Billy Van Allen in the role of "Sputters," the cowboy Romeo.

"No more will the neighbors be annoyed by Johnny or Mary next door practicing the violin or piano," says Clyde Doerr, who, with his famous orchestra, is at the Orpheum this week. "Now they will be tortured by amateur saxopone students," he says. "Hundreds of young men are seeking to become professional musicians since the advent of big salaries in dance orchestras. However, the saxophone is really a beautiful sounding instrument, when it is correctly played." Clyde Doerr is acknowledged as the finest saxophonist in the country, so he should know.

Miss Williams at the Gayety is boosting for the increase of pay for postal employes that is provided for by the Edge-Kelly bill that is before congress right now, urging that congress be appealed to by letter in the fervent hope that underpaid mail men, postoffice clerks and other employes will be awarded a fair wage through passing the Edge-Kelly measure. Only today's and tomorrow's two performances remain of the Gayety's current season.

Iowan Dies in China.

Shenandoah, Ia., April 23.—Part of the funeral services for E. I. Cummings, aged Iowan who died of bronchial pneumonia while visiting his daughter, Mrs. Elmer Gall, wife of a missionary at Tung Chow, China, was held in Chinese so that the natives, who held him in high esteem, might understand. Burial was beside the grave of Mr. Cummings' grandson, Arthur Gall. Mr. Cummings left his home at Tabor last August to visit his daughter in China.

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the Hunchback of Notre Dame
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One Week Only
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DIRECTION OF A.H. BLANK

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With His Invention
THE CLAVILUX
The first instrument to make possible the use of light as a fine art.
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BRANDEIS THEATER --- THURSDAY, APR. 24
Prices $2.00, $1.00
Good Seats Still Available

The Nebraska

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Musical Comedy Hit
Watch Out for
"THE STUTTERING SHEIK"
He Will Be Here SATURDAY

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TODAY—TOMORROW
Last Two Days
IRVING'S MIDGETS

A GREAT BILL IN CELEBRATION OF N·V·A·WEEK
Orpheum
Twice Today, Mat. 15c-50c; Nite 15c-$1
CLYDE DOERR | Wellington CROSS
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FREE DANCE
Style Revue and Dance at Empress Rustic Garden, Wed. Eve., April 30th.
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