

PORTS NOT OPENED

Count Cassini Denies Arranging Manchurian Question with Secretary Hay.

FORMALLY REPUDIATES PACT ANNOUNCED

Declares Visit of June 28 Was Friendly, but Entirely Unofficial.

CHARGE MAY HAVE EFFECTED SETTLEMENT

Ambassador, Fourteen Days from Washington, Knows Nothing of Recent Events.

EXPECTS ULTIMATE MUTUAL AGREEMENT

Minister Declares International Relations Cordial and Hopes for Peaceful Understanding in Chinese Matter.

PARIS, July 20.—Count Cassini, Russian ambassador at Washington, today denied in a formal interview, that he had consented, on behalf of his government, to the opening of any Manchurian ports.

"It is not correct as stated," he said, "that I arranged with Secretary Hay on my departure the question of open ports in Manchuria. It is true that Mr. Hay called on me on June 28, but it was a friendly visit and entirely unofficial.

"I expect, however, that a mutually satisfactory understanding regarding Manchurian questions will eventually be reached between the two governments. But I repeat no such arrangement has been made by me. What has been done by the charge since my departure, fourteen days ago, I do not know.

"Regarding the Russian petition, the United States government already knew that such a petition would not be received. No such petition would be received by any independent state. The United States, above all, would not consent to any foreign interference in its domestic affairs. Beyond this, I do not know anything about the matter.

"My relations with the United States have always been pleasant during my stay at Washington. My present absence is due to the fact that I am taking a much needed holiday. I did not see the president before my departure, as he was absent from Washington. Mr. Hay but our interview was not official.

"I expect to return to my post as soon as my leave expires, which will be in three months."

Count Cassini will remain here ten days longer and then go to St. Petersburg.

Recent Possible Misunderstanding. WASHINGTON, July 20.—In conversation at the Russian embassy on the afternoon of June 28 with the Associated Press representative, Count Cassini referred to Secretary Hay's call on the day previous and expressed his gratification at its results.

The ambassador, in reply to the question as to whether Manchuria was under discussion during the call, replied in the affirmative, saying he had assisted Mr. Hay in an interview with the latter's pledges regarding Manchuria and at the proper time would concede certain ports.

The ambassador then recalled the conversation between himself and the secretary, pointing out that while no agreement had been reached, the understanding was that Russia should give the United States what it had asked for. To this it was said Mr. Hay expressed his satisfaction, and as he was leaving Count Cassini said he hoped an announcement would be made in a few weeks.

It is believed here that the point the ambassador is endeavoring to make is that the general understanding reached between himself and Secretary Hay at the conference on June 28 did not specify the ports to be opened, which at that time had not been decided upon.

Moreover, when the ambassador says no definite agreement had been reached, it is assumed he refers to the fact that no written exchange was named between Secretary Hay and himself at that time.

LONDON, July 21.—The Standard says: It is reported at Portsmouth that the cruiser King Alfred will, after the naval maneuvers, be held in readiness to take the prince and princess of Wales to New York, they having accepted an invitation to visit President Roosevelt.

There is no official confirmation of the report.

FEUD JURY GETS TO WORK

Kentucky Farmers Sift Evidence in Recent Arson and Highway Cases.

NEITHER WILL TALK OF INTERVIEW

Commissioner Jones Pursuing His Policy of Displacing Indian Agents with Bonded Superintendents.

TOO LATE FOR KANSAS HARVEST

Men Coming from the East Are Sent to Nebraska to Find Employment.

NEBRASKA PREACHER IS GAME

Purses and Captures a Thief Who Stole His Pocketbook.

CAR COLLIDES WITH A WAGON

Number of People Are Hurt, but None Thought to Be Seriously Injured.

LOWRY BUYS RICH COAL LAND

Soe President and J. J. Hill Now Control Southern Illinois Fuel Deposits.

ARCHBISHOP KATZER DEAD

Wisconsin Prelate Passes Away After Nearly Twelve Months' Illness.

PRINCE TO VISIT ROOSEVELT

Edward's Heir and His Wife Accept Invitation to Call on President.

MARLBOROUGH GETS OFFICE

Duke to Be Appointed Under Secretary for the Colonies, and is in Line for Promotion.

SAY FANNING WILL RULE ELKS

Delegates Gathering at Baltimore Consider Indianapolis Man's Election Certain.

IOWA MAN HEADS MUSICIANS

F. C. Watrous Elected President by International Union Annual Convention.

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CANNON AND SHAW CONFER

Agreement Between Party Leaders Being Reached on Financial Legislation.

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COSTLY BLAZE AT TECUMSEH

Hopkins Block with Merchandise Stocks and Offices Suffer Heavy Damages.

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GREATEST OF POPES PASSES TO GRAVE

History of Last Illness.

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Death Finally Conquers Pontiff's Iron Will, Scoring Last Victory.

BLACK ANGEL CLAIMS LEO AT 4:04 P. M.

Final Moments Are Peaceful and Painless, Following Long Insensibility.

PAPAL COURT SURROUNDS SICK BED

Relatives, Cardinals and Diplomats, Weeping, Witness Last Sad Scene.

ROMAN CHURCH CONFIDED TO OREGLIA

Holy Father's Dying Act Indicates Belief that Dean's Reign at Vatican May Be Made Permanent.

ROME, July 20.—The pope died shortly after 4 o'clock this afternoon. His last moments were comparatively peaceful and plain and he had no desire for any special honors. He was preceded by a period of insensibility.

"Around the bedside at the final moment were the cardinals, the relatives and the members of the papal court. Before lapsing into unconsciousness the dying pontiff moved his lips, his last articulate words being those used in bestowing a benediction.

Gradually the shadow of death spread over the pontiff, his extremities became cold, his features assumed the fixed rigidity of death, and Dr. Lapponi noted the gradual fading of heart beats, which gradually became slower and slower, until they finally stopped.

The news of the pope's death spread rapidly throughout Rome and caused a most profound sensation. The whole city is in mourning.

A large crowd has gathered about the Vatican, but perfect order prevails there and elsewhere in Rome.

The pope's death agony was short and was terminated by a paroxysm of choking. After a short interval Cardinal Serafino Vannutelli intoned the requiem for the weeping of those present. Then all kissed Pope Leo's