

After our official conversation, we had tea and a pleasant talk together, during which time he told me that his wife was feeling badly as their son, who is now 16, had been expected to be with them about this time. He had left Japan on one of the ships that was to have landed at Seattle a day or two ago, but which did not come in for fear of being seized. The lad was now on the ocean and they could not communicate with him and he could not land. I asked him to express my sympathy to his wife in the situation that had arisen.

He told me how sorry he and his wife had been not to come out on Thursday night, but that they had arranged to give a little dinner to the Consul from Vancouver and his wife, who had been married recently.

He said some things about the press bothering him, and I said I thought it was well to give them as little information as possible. I then said I would like them to come out some day next week, once the visits of the Prince were over, and he said they would be happy to come. He asked me if he might bring his camera to take some pictures, and I told him by all means to do so.

I expressed every hope that matters would not go any further than they have and that reasonable counsel would prevail in preventing any worse disturbances in the Far East.

As indicating the Minister's friendly feeling toward myself, he told me privately—which he said he perhaps should not—that when Matsuoka visited Hitler, though Hitler knew that Matsuoka was going on to Russia, there was not the slightest hint given Matsuoka that Germany intended to attack Russia, though, the Minister added, preparations were well under way at that time. I said to him it only shows the deceptive character of the Nazi regime, and what they would do to Japan were they to be able to make headway with other countries for a little while. It was world domination they were after and were using other countries for their own ends. I said I had been pleased with the way Matsuoka had stood by his agreement with Russia. That it seemed to me one of the most hopeful of all the signs of the situation in the Orient. That one man had stood out for adhering to an obligation.

The Minister told me that while he had not full particulars, he thought Matsuoka had not been well treated by the government. I recalled how he had told me that he thought Matsuoka would stand by his agreement with Russia. He did mention that Matsuoka was very vain and was very ambitious, etc., but that he thought he would be true to the agreements he had made.

It was quite clear from the Minister's manner that he was feeling the situation pretty deeply and like one who had received a first class surprise and had been more heavily hit by the blow than anticipated. His manner was like that of a man who had suddenly found himself in a very different position than he had expected to be in, deprived of possessions and power which he had hitherto thought would serve his ends.