

MARSHAL PILSUDSKI IS DEAD

EUROPE HEARS GRIP WAS FATAL TO DICTATOR

Polish Capital Mum; Cabinet Called.

BY DONALD DAY.

[Chicago Tribune Press Service.]

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Paris Reports Him Dead.

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An official communique issued at Warsaw last Thursday, disclosed that Marshal Pilsudski had been ill. It was the first time since 1928 that the government had taken public notice of the 67 year old marshal's health. The communique was supplemented by a statement that he had the grip.

No regular bulletins concerning his condition were issued, but the fact that officials mentioned that he was confined to his home was taken to mean the marshal's condition was more serious than had been admitted.

Called Father of His Country.

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The marshal had been scheduled to confer with French Foreign Minister Pierre Laval this week-end, but Laval went on to Moscow today without having been able to see his host.

London Gets Report.

LONDON, May 12.—(A)—Reuter's [British] News agency dispatches from Warsaw said that Marshal Josef Pilsudski died today.

Warsaw Issues No Statement.

BERLIN, May 12.—(A)—Persistent rumors circulated today that Marshal Josef Pilsudski, strong man of Poland, died at 9 p. m. tonight from an uremia attack. No communique was issued at Warsaw, and the Warsaw radio continued to broadcast music.

MAN OF INTRIGUE.

Marshal Josef Pilsudski, man of intrigue, astute politician, courageous, patriotic, honest in a concrete sense, but irascible and frequently unstable, was one of the outstanding figures on the European political stage. His life was colorful. From earliest childhood he dreamed of the independence of his country, and trained himself in intrigue and conspiracy to achieve that end, although at times it must have seemed to him little better than a forlorn hope. Long before the war he schemed for the restoration of Polish liberty and suffered exile.

Under the tolerant Austrian rule, he trained the Polish Galician youth in the use of firearms. In the great war, with an Austrian pledge of future Polish independence, he raised a Polish legion to fight against Russia.

Condemned to Death.

Later, in 1916, when Germany issued her famous manifesto proclaiming the quasi-independence of Poland and drafting her citizens into the armies of the central powers, he refused to cooperate any longer with the Germans and their allies. Then he was in the limelight as a prisoner in the fortress of Magdeburg, condemned to death, but saved by Austrian intervention; then as leader of a new born Poland, the commander in chief of her armies, throwing back the Red army of invasion that reached the gates of Warsaw and storming with his legions the city of Kief, in Russian territory.

Then came the accolade. He was created the sole marshal of Poland. No one before or since has received the honor. Then he became prime minister, following Paderewski, the famous pianist. There followed a period of partial eclipse, in which his energies were absorbed in military duties and the cultivation of a small estate in the country not far from Warsaw.

A Spectacular Comeback.

His return to the limelight was spectacular. In 1926 Poland industrially and financially was in a bad way. Her credit abroad was suffering. She was attempting unsuccessfully to float loans in foreign markets. Business was stagnant, the currency was becoming alarmingly inflated.

The outlook was very dark, and the political situation was disturbing. The president appointed ministry after ministry but they fell almost daily before the assaults of the sejm, until as a last resort Witos, leader of the