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# POLAND'S DICTATOR IS DEAD

## GUARD WARSAW; NATION MOURNS FOR PILSUDSKI

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BY DONALD DAY.  
[Chicago Tribune Press Service.]  
(Picture on back page.)

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"Marshal Pilsudski is dead."

## Family at Bedside.

The marshal's wife, Marie, and his two daughters, Wanda, 16, and Jadwiga, 14, were at the bedside at the end.

High officers of the Polish army arrived at Belvedere palace throughout the night to mourn at the bier of the warrior who held the post of minister of war. At 1 a. m. it was reported that the cabinet had appointed Gen. Edward Rydz Smigly inspector general of the army and Gen. Thadee Kasprzycki minister of war. Both men were close friends of Pilsudski.

The government has ordered national mourning. A bereavement message at the "loss of the greatest man in Poland's history" was read at all army posts this morning. Theaters and all amusement houses have been closed until further notice.

Col. Josef Beck, who has risen to the post of foreign minister from a position as Pilsudski's aide de camp, is being mentioned as the likely man to step into the marshal's shoes as Poland's "strong man." Other candidates are Alexander Prystor, former premier, and Premier Col. Walery Slawek. These three men were the closest confidants of the marshal.

## Taken Ill with Grip.

A communique was issued by the government last week stating that Pilsudski was suffering from an attack of the grip. This was the first reference made regarding his state of health since 1931, when he was forced to take a vacation in Madeira.

Pilsudski was to have participated in a conference last week with Foreign Minister Pierre Laval of France relating to the war scare in Europe and particularly regarding the differences between Poland and France which grew out of the Franco-soviet security pact. But the marshal was too ill to join the discussions and Laval left for Moscow without having been able to see the statesman.

Pilsudski died on the anniversary of his coup in 1926, when he seized power after bloody street fighting in Warsaw. He and a small group of his former legionnaires virtually had ruled the nation ever since that time.

## Aimed at Presidency.

In 1929 the marshal sent his soldiers into the lobbies of the parliament and forced its dissolution because he was disgusted with legislative bickerings. He was instrumental, too, in carrying out a recent constitutional reform which concentrated great power in the president.

It was generally believed Pilsudski intended to force the resignation of President Ignace Moscicki and assume the presidency.

## ONE OF EUROPE'S LEADERS.

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. 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