

L.T. - SUNOCO. FRIDAY, FEB. 10, 1939.

GOOD EVENING EVERYBODY:

There's a news dispatch from Rome tonight that gives a worldwide significance to the last moments of Pope Pius the Eleventh. So I can't begin in any better way than by reading the United Press account of the death scene at the Vatican.

There are some things written which call for reading aloud, and this is one of them—*the death bed scene:-*

"It was evident," the dispatch relates, "that the end was near. With the amazing fortitude which was the inheritance of years as a mountain climber, the Pope rallied again, and murmured, - 'Peace.' Then he kept murmuring in Latin, praying ~~hixixixix~~ in his last agony. As they watched," the news story goes on, "his right hand lying just on the edge of the coverlet moved feebly. Those in the bedroom gazed fascinated as his hand rose trembling an inch, then two inches, from the covers, and made slowly and weakly

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the sign of the Cross, - imparting the last apostolic benediction. Thirty seconds later his head inclined gently toward the right side of the pillow. His face relaxed, and he died. One by one those in the room dropped to their knees, and made the sign of the Cross."

(^{Pope Pius the Eleventh,}
So passed away the two hundred and sixty-first Pontiff of the Roman Catholic Church, with the one last word on his faltering lips - Peace!) And this is what may be of worldwide significance, according to the dispatch from Rome. It may alter Mussolini's policy, may discourage his sword rattling. With Franco winning the Spanish Civil War, the Duce has been expected to renew his threaten^{ing} demands on France - and thereby provoke a new crisis. But now the dying Pope's whisper has dramatized peace in such fashion that the Fascist Dictator may find the time inauspicious for warlike pronunciamientos. That last word of Pius the Eleventh rings throughout the world - in Italy too. And Mussolini, who has a good ear for harmony, may feel that the rattling of the sword would make an unpleasant discord just now. Moreover, they're saying in Rome that during the next several

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weeks it'll be difficult to interest the Italian people in Fascist ambitions - their attention will be focused on the election of the new pope.

Of all death notices, that of a Roman pontiff is of singular importance in the news. It's a great sombre headline that merely begins a striking series of events. (The Pope dies, a pope is elected - ~~in and there~~ ^{amid} wonder and suspense. Who will be chosen?) The suspense is only heightened by the splendor of ~~the~~ ^{it's} ancient ritual that surrounds ~~it~~. Today, on various continents, cardinals are beginning their journey to Rome, to cast their ballots in the conclave. There are three American votes. Normally there'd be four, but the death of Cardinal Hayes of New York has left a vacancy.) Today, two of the American cardinals made instant preparations to leave - Cardinals Mundelein of Chicago and Dougherty of Philadelphia. They'll sail on the Italian liner REX, the first boat out.

Cardinal O'Connell of Boston, whose seniority ranks him so high in both the United States and Rome, has been seriously ill, convalescing in ^{the} Bahama^s. It did not seem as if the aged and

of Boston
ailing prelate [^] could possibly attempt the trip to Rome, but a report came through this morning that he had engaged a plane to fly him from the Bahamas to Miami. That made it appear that he did indeed intend to sail for Rome. The latest, however, is an announcement by the airline company that the Cardinal has cancelled passage on the plane, too ill to travel.

Twice before Cardinal O'Connell made the voyage, and arrived in the Eternal City *too late* — after the new pontiff had been elected. [^]
The last time after the election of the Pope who has just died, he protested that more time should be allowed for the American prelates to get to Rome. And Pius the Eleventh promised him that this would be done - the customary ten days before an election would be lengthened. So now the cardinals will not go into conclave for some *fifteen* ~~or eighteen~~ days - toward the end of this month. And Cardinal O'Connell would be assured of the chance to vote, after his two previous disappointments - but *apparently* [^] he is not well enough to go.

Now the inevitable question - Who'll be the next Pope? Papal elections are always ~~most~~ unsafe to guess. The

candidate most prominently mentioned is rarely chosen. However, there are some general probabilities that can be stated.

The next Pope is almost certain to be an Italian. That's the tradition, and today there seems to be less reason than ever for breaking it. The solid series of Italian Popes dates back to the beginning of bitter national rivalries in

Europe. And in that period Italy was not a nation - an Italian ~~there~~ ^{fore} was likely to be a neutral. When Italy did become a nation, the

event was accompanied by a feud between the Italian government

and the Papacy - so an Italian Pope ^{was} ~~is~~ still reckoned as a good deal of a neutral. Under Pope Pius the Eleventh, the

Vatican made a Concordat, an agreement with Mussolini. ~~but~~ Still

they ^{are} ~~was~~ more or less at odds, the Vatican in opposition to the

Fascist race program. So once more ~~was~~ an Italian Pope ^{can} ~~be~~

~~be decidedly,~~ ^{toward the Italian Government,} ~~certain position of~~ neutral ~~is~~ - this in a world where national

rivalries and jealousies are more bitter and savage than ever.

There has been talk, indeed, that a German Cardinal might be elected - this on the assumption that it might pacify the

anxious state of church affairs in Germany. ~~But would a German Pope~~

~~be anti-Nazi or pro-Nazi? One way the Nazis would be enraged,
the other way the democracies would be alienated. The~~

But the

supposition seems less likely than ever today with the news from

Berlin. Flags were half-masted on public buildings in the German capital, according to custom - but ^{today} ~~in~~ Propaganda Minister

Goebbels' newspaper, DER ANGRIFF, published an obituary of

Pope Pius the Eleventh, in which the Goebbels' attitude does not observe the ancient maxim of speaking ~~xxx~~ only good of the dead.

Speaking of the dead Pope, DER ANGRIFF says: "He began as a spiritual reformer, and ended as a political adventurer who led his Church into a severe crisis."

(The name most prominently mentioned has been that of Cardinal Pacelli, the Papal Secretary of State.) And here again we have some comment from Berlin. If Cardinal Pacelli were elected, says the German dispatch, the struggle between the Nazis and the Church would become more acute than ever. Because the Nazis believe that it was Pacelli who directed the anti-Nazi policy pursued by the late Pope. Moreover, it's mighty seldom that a Papal Secretary of State has been chosen at the conclave.

Past performance shows that, among the many Italian Cardinals, the choice has usually fallen on one who has had large administrative experience, that is to say - one who has administered a great archdiocese. Pius the Eleventh himself was Cardinal Archbishop of Milan. ^{So} ~~the~~ ^{ab} probability narrows down to a half a dozen ecclesiastics who are cardinal archbishops in great Italian cities, the leading candidates being:- *Cardinals* Piazza of Venice, Dalla Costa of Florence, Fossati of Turin, Boetto of Genoa, Ascalesi of Naples, Lavitrano of Palermo and Schuster of Milan.

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Cardinal Dalla Costa of Florence is reputed to have anti-Fascist leanings - and ~~with~~ that may count against him. Cardinal Schuster, the Milan Archbishop with the German name, was really pro-Fascist - although he has recently taken a strong stand against Mussolini's race policy. The conclave is likely to select as near a neutral as possible in the worldwide struggle between Fascism and its opponents.

But we won't know for several weeks - until the white smoke rises ^{from} ~~the~~ chimney of the Sistine Chapel. By ~~old~~

tradition, the ballots are burned every time a vote is taken.

With ^{out the} ~~two-thirds~~ majority necessary to elect a pope, it's the

old custom to mix some damp straw with the paper ballots, so

when they are burned black smoke rises. Then when the election

is finally accomplished, the paper ballots alone are burned, ^{with} ~~with~~

telltale white smoke through the chimney.

SPAIN

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Tonight the Premier of Republican Spain is organizing resistance once more. All doubt about the plans of Premier Negrin were dissipated today, when he flew from France to the port of Alicante - which is in the Madrid-Valencia area, still controlled by the Republicans. From Alicante he proceeded to Valencia, and there he conferred with General Miaja, Commander-in-Chief of the Republican forces that are left. With Catalonia gone, they decided to defend their area of central Spain to the end.

A late dispatch repeats this defiance and says that Negrin and Miaja are preparing plans for the full mobilization of man-power in their area. It also states that Negrin ^{will} move the capital of Republican Spain back to Madrid - where it was before it started out on its many journeys.

(The Republican chiefs believe that in central Spain they can prolong the Civil War for some time. Their hope is that some European crisis may break, which would alter the international situation completely and would bring French intervention against Franco. That's the remaining Republican hope.)

London and Paris, who don't want any crisis to break,

are still doing their best to persuade the Republicanⁿ regime
to yield.~~to Franco~~ The British and French are ~~in~~ not convinced
of the hundred per cent seriousness of the defiant announcements
given out by Negrin and Miaja - those announcements of resistance
until death in central Spain.

IRELAND

In Ireland today a letter was made public, a letter threatening the heads of the Dublin government. It was sent by the ~~xxx~~ underground and secretly organized Irish Republican Army, and demanded that Prime Minister DeValera's government take immediate action for the union of Ulster with Nationalist Ireland. ^{do} If they ~~didn't~~ don't [^] something promptly about it, the I.R.A. ^{will} ~~would~~ take violent measures against them.

This letter, made public now was received a few days ago. And the immediate result was ~~the introduction of~~ strong measures against terrorists, measures introduced into the Irish Parliament. Meanwhile the government leaders are being vigilantly guarded.

JAPAN

16
The Japanese were on the advance again today. This time the Island of ~~Hainan~~ Hainan is their scene of conquest. Hainan is a big island off the ~~west~~ coast of French Indo-China, and the landing of the Mikado's troops there had swift repercussions in Paris. Japanese possession of the island constitutes a decided threat to ~~French~~ French communications in Southeastern Asia and it is believed that the Paris government will make a protest to Tokyo. Today the Japanese were pushing on in Hainan and the latest word from out of that remote part of the world relates that the Mikado's regiments have defeated the Chinese ~~defence~~ defenders and captured the provincial capital of the island.

MILITARY AFFAIRS

The public is going to be let in on information concerning the American defense program. The Senate Military Affairs Committee is holding secret hearings - discussing the whys and wherefores of the President's armament policy. ~~However~~, they decided today that the secrecy will be disclosed, so the people in the country will have a chance to know and judge. However, all the secrecy will not be disclosed. ~~the~~ Military secrets will remain inviolate. Well, you can hardly expect military secrets to be blazoned in big headlines.

NEW MEXICAN TRIAL

There ^{has} been a big trial in New Mexico, a prosecution of twenty-five defendants in a W.P.A. case. Among them were relatives of ^{United States} Senator Chavez, ~~of New Mexico~~. The charge was -- trafficking in W.P.A. jobs ^{crookery} ~~connected~~ with relief. Today the jury in a Federal Court handed down a verdict, exonerated ~~fourteen~~ fourteen of the twenty-five. In the case of the other eleven the jury disagreed.

BRULATOUR

There was an anxious moment today for Jules Brulatour, the sixty-eight year old film millionaire. He stood before the court to be sentenced for illegal possession of a pistol. The verdict was up to three judges, One of them wanting to send him to jail, -- thirty days in the calaboose for the magnate of film who was shot through the neck -- accidentally ^{he} says. ~~he~~ But the two other judges agreed that ~~the~~ ^a fine ^f was enough, and so they imposed a fine ^f -- of five hundred dollars.

SHOCK

FORGERY

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Tonight a man from Newark, New Jersey is on his way to Milwaukee -- bound on a singular mission. He is going to see his shadow, and beg his ~~ix~~ shadow to lay off. Clifford Shepard says his misfortune is that he looks so much like Eugene "Phantom" Sullivan, an international forger. Twice Shepard has been identified as the "Phantom". Once he was in jail for more than two years, convicted of forgery before it was proven that it was not he, but the "Phantom" who had committed the crime. Now he is in trouble again, identified as having passed a forged check in Plainfield, New Jersey, and once more it was the "Phantom" that did it, says he.

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The "Phantom" is now in prison in Wisconsin, and his double is going to confront him and appeal to him for exoneration.

If the "Phantom" will confess his double will be cleared. *And*
that's the tale of the Phantom --
9 1/4 + s-l-until ~~tomorrow~~ Monday.