

HIS HOLINESS POPE PIUS XII

SCHOLAR • STATESMAN • SUPREME PONTIFF

A waft of white smoke curling heavenwards, a momentary silence of awe, a sudden tumultuous shout of 300,000 people, the rhythmic beat of typewriters and telegraph, a universal broadcast throughout the four corners of the world—told an eager world that Eugenio Cardinal Pacelli had been chosen Supreme Pontiff of the Catholic world. Then, a tense world, involved in political strife, eagerly placed its hearty approbation on this man whose precocity and brilliance had early manifested itself.

EDUATED in the Pontifical Academy's school of diplomacy, this man of scholarly attainments received his first international test of great importance when he was named Papal Nuncio to Germany during the World War. It was he who carried on papal negotiation for Pius XI in an effort to halt this scourge of mankind. Again, after the Armistice, he returned to chaotic Germany to begin the work of reconstruction.

AS THE 261st successor to St. Peter, His Holiness enters a world buffeted on all sides by isms of every sort. Outlawed as a papal candidate because he was "anti-German and anti-Fascist" his election augurs continuation of the policies of Pius XI who repeatedly denounced supernationalism and racist theories. His closeness to Pius XI might also be gleaned in that the last words of the late Pontiff and the 'first wish' of Pius XII was for peace—peace for all the world.

IT IS to him, the noblest Roman of them all, that the people turn as the bulwark against another world conflict, for men of all creeds and no creed are forced to admire and respect him. His early training will now stand him in good stead; his acceptance by four Popes as a man worthy of high positions indicates early recognition of his talents; his position as Secretary of State gave him an insight into world affairs and prepared him for the Seat of Peter!

IT IS a fearful world which looks to him as a kindly light which will lead it out of this darkened labyrinth of international strife. "Opus Justitiae Pax" — "The work of justice is peace," his motto, indicates he will wage peace against the warlike. A man among men, a man of moral courage, a man of deep human understanding — Pope Pius XII in wearing the Fisherman's ring, takes to himself not only the task of ruling 351,000,000 Catholics, but also the task of counselling men shaping the destinies of nations.