

Newspapers Hush In Grief and Honor

The normally busy offices of Milwaukee's two daily newspapers fell strangely silent at precisely 11 a.m. Monday in the midst of reporting the final chapters of one of the century's most significant events.

Heads bowed, employees of The Journal Company stood or sat in silent tribute to the late John Fitzgerald Kennedy as requiem services for the assassinated president began in Washington, D. C.

In the city room of The Milwaukee Sentinel, the only sounds came from a muffled television set, broadcasting the pealing of church bells in the capital at the time. Reporters or editors stood or sat quietly. In the city room of The Milwaukee Journal, editors and reporters pushed their work aside briefly and stood in silence.

As the clatter of typewriters

stopped, the bell system in The Journal Company's building chimed 11 times.

In the composing room, typesetting machines clanked to a halt.

The giant presses on the ground levels were not running at the time, but pressmen removed their traditional paper hats and stood in silent meditation.

Office machines in the advertising and business departments were silent.

In the public service lobby, no customers stood at usually busy counters. Employees stood in small groups around transistor radios.

Tom Spidell, public service manager, said only 10 persons visited the lobby between 11 a.m. and 2 p.m., usually the busiest time of the day in that department.