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HOME NEWS

It is with profound regret that we announce the death, at the age of 63, of Dr. GASTON CARLIN, Swiss Minister at Berlin.

Dr. Carlin succumbed suddenly to heart failure on Tuesday last, while out walking in the company of Dr. L. Vogel, Councillor of Legation at Berlin.

We shall publish in our next issue an appreciation of Dr. Carlin from the pen of a member of our London colony, who has for years been in close touch with the distinguished statesman while he was Swiss Minister at the Court of St. James's from 1902 till 1919.

The Swiss electorate had to decide on Sunday last whether amending bills should be introduced in the Swiss Parliament concerning—

1. Naturalization Laws;
2. Extradition Laws;
3. Laws relating to eligibility of State Officials to National Council.

All three initiatives were rejected by the populace with overwhelming majorities, thus: the first bill by 341,600 against 64,600 accepting votes, the second by 254,600 against 156,100, and the third by 251,720 against 157,750.

* * *

The fiscal accounts for 1921 of the city of Geneva show receipts of 19,952,086 francs and expenditure of 35,751,579 frs., leaving a deficit of 15,799,493 frs. to be met.

* * *

The balance sheet of the municipality of Neuchâtel reveals expenditure of 6,653,686 frs., against revenue of 5,476,124 frs.

* * *

In an international competition, which invited architects to submit re-building and extension plans for the city of Belgrade, the fourth prize of 35,000 Dinars was awarded to Mr. A. Bodmer, civil engineer, and Mr. F. Schwarz, architect, of Bienne.

The plans submitted by the architects Messrs. Rittmeyer and Furrer of Winterthur were secured for 20,000 Dinars by the Belgrade authorities, while the Zurich architects Messrs. Witmer and Senn received an award of 10,000 Dinars for plans and projects submitted by them.

* * *

The Swiss National Football Team, composed of Dessibourg, Gottenkieny, Haag, Probst, Schmiedlin, Bielser, Merkt, Sturzenegger, Leiber, Meyer and Ramseyer, was badly beaten in Vienna on Sunday last, when the Austrian National Team scored 7 goals against the Swiss team's one goal.

* * *

Toll of the Mountains.

Three young alpinists, who were ascending the 'Dom' of the Mischabel group, lost their footing and slipped over a precipice. Krayenbuhl and Henri Favre from Sion died immediately, and their companion received such serious injuries that his life is despaired of.

* * *

On Whit-Sunday two young men set out from the Maderan valley to climb up to the Hüfi Hut. Instead of pursuing the usual course, Eichmüller suggested a short cut over the Hüfi Glacier, although they were not properly equipped for that purpose, nor sufficiently acquainted with the difficulties and perils to which this deviation from the safer course exposed them.

As the snow bridges covering the numerous crevasses became thinner and thinner as they got higher, the more cautious young man of the two warned his friend and requested him to give up the 'dangerous exploit. Eichmüller paid no heed to his friend's repeated remonstrances, on the contrary, he told him to return if he lacked sufficient pluck to follow him. Expecting Eichmüller to realise that his attempt was foolhardy, he turned back and waited for some considerable time before descending to the valley alone.

By Whit-Monday the venturesome Eichmüller had not yet returned, and his friend, getting alarmed, gave information, and a rescue party set out to try and find him. After two days' search Eichmüller's body was found in a crevasse of some 15 metres depth into which he had been precipitated, and thus paid the price of his folly with his life.

* * *

OBITUARY.

The well-known Swiss painter, Mr. Karl Gehri, died at Münchenbuchsee, aged 72. Most of his works of art depict scenes of popular Bernese life. A noteworthy incident to recall is the fact that Mrs. Gehri presented her husband at an early stage of their wedlock with *quadruplets* in perfect health, and all the four children are to-day in the prime of life.