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The Swiss Observer

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NEWS AT RANDOM

Dr. FELIX CALONDER. †

Federal

As briefly reported in our last issue, the death occurred in Zurich, on June 14th, of Dr. Felix Calonder, a former President of the Swiss Confederation and Federal Councillor, at the age of 89.

Dr. Calonder was well-known to some of the older members of the London Swiss Colony having resided, in the early twenties, for some months in this Metropolis. During his stay he took a great interest in the life of the Colony. Both the City Swiss Club and the Swiss Mercantile Society made him an Honorary Member.

He was born on December 7th, 1863 at Scuol-Schuls (Ct. Grisons) the son of Johann Calonder (Master Builder). He received his schooling in Trin and at the "Kantonsschule" Chur, and afterwards studied *Juris Prudence* at the Universities of Munich, Paris and Berne. On having obtained the degree as a doctor of law, he established himself as a lawyer at Chur, where he soon made a name for himself.

At the early age of 28, Dr. Calonder was elected

a member of the Grand Council of the canton of Grisons, and in 1900 entered Parliament. (States Council). He soon gained the reputation of a shrewd and clever parliamentarian, and on June 12th, he was elected by the two Federal Chambers a member of the Swiss Government. He was, together with the late G. Motta, to a great extent responsible for the entry of Switzerland into the League of Nations.

In 1920, he resigned from the Federal Council, and two years later (1922) he was appointed by the League

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