

Blaise Cendrars will astound us no more

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Mr. Friedolin Stengel (63), of Bienne, was killed when his car collided, in dense fog, with another car on the road between Bienne and Berne; his wife and three other persons received serious injuries.

[A.T.S.]

* * *

VARIOUS

The King and Queen of Thailand and their suite numbering forty persons have left Switzerland after a prolonged stay. They were seen off at the Cointrin airport, on behalf of the Federal authorities, by Minister R. Aman, *chef du protocol*. The Geneva Government was represented by M. Edouard Chamay, President of the cantonal government.

* * *

The American Ambassador in Berne, Mr. Henry J. Taylor, has tendered his resignation to the new American President. He was accredited to the Swiss Confederation in 1957, in succession to Miss Francis Willis. He intends leaving Berne next month.

[A.T.S.]

BLAISE CENDRARS WILL ASTOUND US NO MORE

Blaise Cendrars, 73, novelist, poet, movie scenario writer and world traveller, died in Paris after a long illness.

The restless life of M. Cendrars, known as the "intellectual vagabond", could well be summed up by the title of one of his best-known works, "Bourlinguer", which means to knock about the world.

He was awarded recently the literary Grand Prix of the City of Paris for his collected works.

Born Frédéric Sausser-Hall at La Chaux-de-Fonds, Switzerland, he left his Scots mother and his Swiss father when he was 15 for the first of many trips around the world.

Before volunteering in the French Foreign Legion in 1914, M. Cendrars travelled in China, Russia, Britain and the United States. He supported himself by working as a farm hand, a beekeeper, a dish-washer and a music-hall entertainer.

M. Cendrars lost his right arm in the war in 1915. From 1917 until 1924 he specialized in movie work. Paris and New York were his headquarters between the two wars, and he travelled extensively in North and South America and Asia.

He was a friend and contemporary of such poets as Max Jacob, Jean Cocteau and Guillaume Apollinaire and of such artists as Fernand Léger, Chagall and Soutine. He was also a friend of American writer Henry Miller.

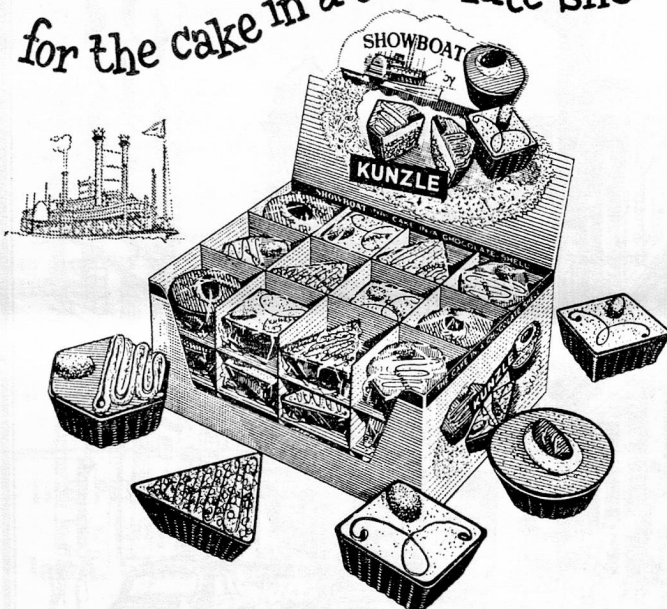
M. Cendrars's work was influenced by jazz, cubism and the movies, and he evolved a style which bordered on both poetry and newspaper reporting.

The first of his 30-odd works, "The Legend of Novgorod", was published in Moscow in 1909. His other works included "Gold", "Transsiberian Prose", "Easter in New York", "The ABC of Cinema", "Kodak", "Bourlinguer", and "Too Much, Too Much".

In World War II he served in the British Army in France as a captain until the collapse in June, 1940.

A Commander of the Legion of Honor, M. Cendrars is survived by his wife, a son and a daughter.

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