

some races he had one in his mouth. Arthur Gibassier, the sports columnist of the "Petit Provençal" newspaper, became his adviser and manager. Bouin published his experiences in 1912 in a book entitled *How to become a running champion*.¹

After his second place in 1909 Bouin won the International Cross Country Championship (effectively the World Championship) three times in a row from 1911 to 1913. In 1911 – the International Amateur Athletic Federation (IAAF) had not yet been founded – in Colombes he recorded unofficial world records over 3000 m (8:49 3/5 min) and 10,000 m (30:58.8 min). That same year another star rose in the runners' heaven: Hannes Kolehmainen. The Finn, one year younger, took the English four mile championship on 1 July at Stamford Bridge in London (20:03.6).

The first meeting of the two came on 28 April 1912 at the meeting of the SC Charlottenburg in Berlin. Kolehmainen won in a race over 7500 m. To make sure he was better prepared for the next encounter, Bouin travelled early to Scandinavia to acclimatise for the Olympic Games in Stockholm. On the third day, Kolehmainen won the 10,000m in a time of 31:20.8, later recognised by the IAAF as a world record.

48 hours later the final of the 5000 m took place. This was the race on which Bouin was concentrating. While many had believed he would rely on his strong finish, he tried instead at half-distance to destroy the Finn with a fast-paced race. His lead grew and was soon four metres.

When the bell sounded the last lap, Bouin looked like the certain winner. "But Kolehmainen, with stubborn energy, gained decimeter after decimetre, and, just on the very winning-post, flung himself before Bouin and, in this manner, won the most interesting, the severest and the finest long-distance race that has probably ever been witnessed", states the Official Report.²

The defeat was painful. One year later Bouin returned

to the Stockholm Olympic Stadium, where he set a world record for the hour with 19,021.90 metres. The next placed, the Finn Albin Stenroos, who became Olympic marathon champion in 1924, was 1293.30 metres back. Looking back it is to Bouin's great credit that his best distance could only be improved 15 years later by the legendary Finn Paavo Nurmi.³

Like millions of other men, Bouin was mobilised in August 1914. He served as a soldier of the 163rd infantry regiment, stationed in Nice. The regiment fought in the first battle of the Marne east of Paris, where the advance of five German armies was stopped by a surprising counter-offensive. After that the exhausted regiment was moved to the Meuse, where meanwhile the Germans took the Fort Champ des Romains to interrupt the supply route Toul-Verdun. In a counter-attack on Mont Sec⁴ Bouin lost his life.

Officially he died in the small village of Xivray-et-Marvoisin. He was laid to rest near the castle of Bouconville-sur-Madt. When it later burned down, his body was repatriated along with those of 39 other soldiers and taken to Marseille. A bust by Constant Roux now adorns his grave in the Saint-Pierre cemetery.

In Marseille, Bouin's fiancée waited in vain – she kept her bridal outfit in her chest. When in the early sixties Michel Jazy became the first Frenchman since Bouin to set world records for long distances, she decided to gift him the medals that had belonged to her intended.

Killed in Sarajevo where the war began

By Béla Györ and Vilmos Horváth

Béla Zuławsky was born in Töketerebes (which is in modern day Slovakia) on 23rd of October 1869. He started fencing in 1890 at the Hungarian Athletic Club. He was soon one of the leading fencers alongside Halász, Tasnádi and other successful sportsmen. He chose a



France's wonder runner Jean Bouin as a soldier (2nd class) in 1914 at the front.

Name	Sport	Olympic Games	Date of death	Place of death
AUSTRALIA				
Healy, Cecil	SWI	1906–12	29 AUG 1918	Mont St. Quentin
AUSTRIA				
Braunsteiner, Karl	FTB	1912	19 APR 1916	Tashkent
Kofler, Adolf	CYC	1912	13 APR 1915	Monte Piana
Mayer, Leopold	SWI	1906	21 SEP 1914	unknown
Merz, Robert	FTB	1912	30 AUG 1914	Poturzyn
Neralić, Milan	FEN	1900	17 FEB 1915	Sarajevo
Watzl, Rudolf	WRE	1906	15 AUG 1915	Przemysl
BELGIUM				
Donners, Herman	WAP	1912	14 MAY 1915	Calais
Salmon, Gaston	FEN	1912	1917	unknown
Willems, Victor	FEN	1908–12	1918	unknown

Name	Sport	Olympic Games	Date of death	Place of death
CANADA				
Decouteau, Alex	ATH	1912	17 OCT 1917	Ypres
Duffy, Jimmy	ATH	1912	23 APR 1915	Ypres
Molson, Percival	ATH	1904	5 JUL 1917	Avion
Powell, Bobby	TEN	1908	28 APR 1917	Vimy
Taylor, Geoffrey	ROW	1908–12	24 APR 1915	Ypres
FINLAND				
Halme, Juho	ATH	1908–12	1 FEB 1918	Helsinki
FRANCE				
Alibert, Gaston	FEN	1908	26 DEC 1917	Paris*
Bach, Louis	FTB	1900	16 SEP 1914	Servon-Melzicourt



The Hungarian Major Béla Zulfawski, who had won the silver medal in sabre fencing in London 1908, died in 1914, in Sarajevo. He was laid to rest in the family grave at Kőszeg, in his wife's home town.

Photos: Volker Kluge, Béla Győr Archive



military career, so after he had finished school he was sent to Herzegovina for military group service. When he returned, he received a certificate as Master of Fencing from the Military Faculty Course in Wiener Neustadt. During his service he taught Hungarian, was a fencing instructor, and was also a class officer in the Military Subrealschool in Kőszeg from 1897. During his military carrier he received a 3rd class D.S.C. and was also awarded the order of the Iron crown third class.

He competed in two Olympic Games. In the sabre competition at the 1908 London Games, he was tied for the lead with compatriot Jenő Fuchs. Both men had won five bouts. In the deciding bout, Fuchs got the verdict, the first of his four gold medals. Zulfawski had to settle for silver. As an officer of the Hungary–Austrian Monarchy, he was not allowed to participate in the team event so he missed out on a gold medal. In Stockholm 1912 he participated in the individual foil and sabre, but finished outside the medals.

Zulfawski was a member of the Hungarian Team from 1908 to 1914 and enjoyed considerable success. He won gold medals at the big fencing championship at the millennium and at the military championship in 1898. At the Wiener Union Championships he won the sabre and took second in the foil, and he won also gold or gold–framed medal at further seven championships.

He was among the most popular members of fencing society of that time. A man who cheerfully passed on his knowledge to others. For the spectators, watching his fantastic performances on the piste was like a celebration of art. “Those places, where the clearest voice, the ringing of a sabre can be heard, really attract my heart”, he said many times.

By 1912 he was already serving as a captain in the 17th Regiment in Székesfehérvár. He also organised a fencing club in that city. On the 24th October 1914, only one day after his 45th birthday, Major Zulfawski was killed in action in Sarajevo, the very city where a Bosnian

nationalist had shot dead the Austro–Hungarian heir to the throne. The assassination which sparked the war. In accordance with the wishes of his widow, Zulfawski's body was brought back to Hungary and was buried there in her hometown Kőszeg.

Cecil Healy: not only a war hero

By Harry Gordon

Cecil Healy (1882–1918) was a hero long before he went to the Great War, where he earned the sad distinction of becoming Australia's first and only Olympic gold medallist to die in battle.

In the years before the war Healy was among the founders of the Manly (Sydney) Surf Lifesaving Club, in which unpaid lifesavers patrolled beaches which were often battered by huge seas. He became captain and gold honour badge holder of the Manly club, and was one of a small band who campaigned strenuously and successfully for swimmers to have the right to surf at any hour of the day.

On many occasions he put his life at risk to save swimmers from drowning, and was rewarded with a number of medals for bravery. One such distinction, awarded by the Royal Humane Society in 1911, followed the rescue of two bathers who were swept off their feet and out to sea.

Healy swam to their assistance, but found it difficult to render aid in the deep, rough water; other lifesavers swam out to him carrying three consecutive lifelines from a reel, but each time the lifeline could not stand the strain, and snapped. Healy, nearing exhaustion, bravely held the two swimmers above water until further assistance arrived, and all three were finally towed to shore.

The sturdily built Healy won the 100 yards championship of Australasia in 1905, equalling the then world

Name	Sport	Olympic Games	Date of death	Place of death	Name	Sport	Olympic Games	Date of death	Place of death
Boissière, Renon	ATH	1912	25 SEP 1915	Ville-sur-Tourbe	Jenicot, Albert	FTB	1908	22 FEB 1916	Vacherauville
Bonnefoy, Henri	SHO	1908	19 AUG 1914	Cernay	Lapize, Octave	CYC	1908	14 JUL 1917	Toul
Bouin, Jean	ATH	1908–12	29 SEP 1914	Xivray-et-Marvoisin	Lesseps, Count Bertrand de	FEN	1908	28 AUG 1918	Cauvigny
Caulé, Joseph	ATH	1912	1 OCT 1915	Souchez	Lesseps, Ismaël de	FEN	1908	30 SEP 1915	Vigny
Champsavin, Louis de	EQU	1900	20 DEC 1916	Nantes	Lutz, Georges	CYC	1908	31 JAN 1915	Bar-le-Duc
Corvington, André	FEN	1900	13 DEC 1918	Reims	Mas Latrie, Jean de	FEN / MPA	1908–12	5 SEP 1914	Rebas
Debax, Felix	FEN	1900	25 AUG 1914	Saint-Maurice, Gussainville	Maignant, Alphonse	ROW	1912	4 NOV 1914	Sint-Elooi
Devendeville, Charles	SWI / WAP	1900	19 SEP 1914	Reims	Motté, Alfred	ATH	1908–12	31 OCT 1918	Sézanne
Fenouillière, René	FTB	1908	4 NOV 1916	Reims	Nézière, Georges	ATH	1896	9 OCT 1914	Mouchy aux Bois
Flameng, Léon	CYC	1896	2 JAN 1917	Ève	Ponscarme, Léon	CYC	1900	24 NOV 1916	Verdun
					Racine, Joseph	CYC	1912	28 OCT 1914	Forêt d'Argonne