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— and we still thought Tibet a very far-away place. Now we find it an hour's train ride from our office in the faces of these children full of the sensitive strength of a people fighting for "self-determination," that much-worn phrase, which in their case means fighting for the survival of a civilisation unsurpassed in its spiritual aspiration. Yambhu Lagang, alas, is only a gesture; but it is that.

—*The Swiss Observer*

NEWS FROM SWITZERLAND

SWISS RECEIVE MOST MAIL

According to the figures issued by the International Bureau of the Universal Postal Union in Berne, Switzerland comes first among European countries for the number of letters received per head of the population, with 118.5 letters, ahead of Great Britain (112.1) and Sweden (88.7), the lowest figures being recorded in Italy (37.5) and Finland (29.6). With regard to the amount of printed matter received annually per head of the population, Switzerland with 127 deliveries comes second after Belgium (192) and ahead of the Netherlands (93), with Norway (21) and Finland (16.6) bringing up the rear.

SCHOOL OF ADVANCED DRIVING

An International School of Advanced Driving promoted by a French engineer, Mr Robert Souaille, was opened quite recently in the canton of Neuchatel. It is equipped with a special track for training both professional and amateur motorists, according to the very latest psychological and practical methods, to react and control their vehicles under all circumstances, particularly in the case of skids or sudden unforeseen incidents. This school is intended above all to improve the standard of professional drivers, such as for example ordinary driving school instructors. But car manufacturers and road builders as well as traffic police even could also learn many things from a visit to the new institute.

NEW GAME OF SKILL

As its name suggests, "Goalmate" is an ingenious combination of chess and football! It is not, of course, played on a pitch but with a squared board on which each of two players controls 11 pieces positioned on the squares like a football team. Some of the rules are derived from football while others—governing the movements of the pieces and the method of scoring—come from chess. Each type of piece is, in fact, moved in a particular way as in chess, goals being scored by checkmating the opposing goalkeeper. "Goalmate" is therefore a game of skill needing intelligence and thought but not allowing such elaborate combination as chess. The idea is to play it "for fun" rather than as a profound "art." In short, "Goalmate" is not an easier or more difficult version of chess nor a substitute for it, but an enjoyable pastime for quick-witted people. Devised by an Englishman resident in Switzerland, where it is manufactured, the game calls for a sporting spirit and the ability to plan ahead quick thinking, boldness and caution. As such, it will undoubtedly prove a great success everywhere.

NEWS OF THE COLONY

HAMILTON SWISS CLUB

During the October evening we were fortunate to show, thanks to the courtesy of our Consulate, a film of a recent March Pass of the Swiss Army (Erstes Armee corp).

This impressive review of our up-to-date armed strength made us proud of our traditional armed neutrality and brought back to most of us many memories of our own army service.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

AUCKLAND SWISS CLUB

This year's Christmas celebrations will take place on Sunday, 10th December, at the Professional Club Hall, commencing at 4 p.m.

Bring the children along and join in the Christmas dinner party . . . and, of course, Santaclaus will be there also.

Members 10/-

Non-members 15/-

Children free

HAMILTON SWISS CLUB

Our Christmas Evening will be held on the second Sunday, 10th December, in the Riverlea. Special entertainment . . . Christmas Tree and Santaclaus for the children.

Would ladies please bring a plate.

Door charge as usual.

Children free

PLEASE REMEMBER TO PAY YOUR
SUBSCRIPTION

The new Membership list will be issued shortly