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accessible. "Ulysses" and "Finnegan's Wake" need a lot of time, understanding and patience.

But even if you give up, it could be some consolation to consider that James Joyce gave food for thought to the intellectuals of this world for ever.

★ ★ ★

SWISS watchmakers have come up with a new precision-made product - a miniature compass that assures Moslems around the world that they are facing Mecca when saying their prayers.

The "Mecca Module" costs around Sfr. 1,500 (£400) for the standard model. Platinum and jewel-studded versions can cost 10 to 100 times more. The module is the same size as a wristwatch and consists of a small diamond floating in a mineral crystal. From more than 300 cities worldwide, an emerald points permanently towards Mecca.

With an estimated one billion Moslems around the world, the new product is considered by the manufacturers to be "a very marketable item."

★ ★ ★

THERE were only three strikes in Switzer-

land last year, reveals a government report, and only one of those lasted longer than a few hours.

All three stoppages involved pay demands. The lone strike that lasted one full day involved only 15 workers.

The worst year for strikes in Switzerland over the last 20 years was in 1976, when there were 19 labour disputes.

★ ★ ★

DO YOU suffer sleepless nights from snoring - other people's snoring, that is? If so, relief is on the way. A doctor has come up with a cure which, he admits, is not so much a sensational breakthrough by modern medical research but rather a remedy passed on to him years ago by his dear old grandmother.

The remedy is revealed in Health File, a publication issued jointly by leading companies in Switzerland's Basle-based medications industry.

The key to the cure is the way we lie in bed. "In order to be able to snore," it is explained, "one must lie on one's back. To prevent such a position in bed, a little glass marble or ball is covered with cloth and then sewn into the pyjama, in a central place in the back between the shoulder blades.

"Thus the habitual snorer, when turning

on to his back, will feel the pressure and quickly roll over to one side or on to the stomach. He will continue to sleep - but stop snoring."

★ ★ ★

IT WAS one of the soccer sensations of the year.

Italy, in their first game since winning the World Cup in Spain, played Switzerland in a friendly match in Rome - and lost 1-0.

It was Switzerland's first victory in Italy, their first goal there in 35 years and Italy's first home defeat in any international for more than a decade.

Swiss newspapers headlined the victory on their front pages while Italy's shocked Press reported that their team's Madrid magic was already beginning to fade.

In the Swiss national league, reigning champions Grasshoppers of Zurich have gone to the top of the table for the first time this season and currently lead Servette of Geneva on goal average.

They took over top spot after an exciting last-minute 2-1 home victory over the previous league leaders, Servette.

SWISS SOCCER

Football league tables up to and including November 5

'A' Division	Pl	W	D	L	Gls	Pts	'B' Division	Pl	W	D	L	Gls	Pts		
Grasshoppers	11	8	1	2	31	13	17	Chaux-de-Fonds	10	9	1	0	30	5	19
Servette	11	8	1	2	21	6	17	Chiasso	10	7	2	1	25	10	16
Zürich	11	7	2	2	24	13	16	Biel	10	7	0	3	21	10	14
Xamax	11	7	2	2	24	16	16	Lugano	10	5	3	2	26	16	13
Young Boys	11	6	3	2	17	15	15	Laufen	10	4	5	1	17	10	13
Vevey	11	6	2	3	24	20	14	Chênois	10	5	3	2	14	12	13
Basle	11	6	1	4	19	13	13	Fribourg	10	4	3	3	18	14	11
Lucerne	11	6	1	4	25	21	13	Nordstern	10	4	2	4	17	16	10
St. Gallen	11	5	2	4	23	13	12	Grenchen	10	2	5	3	8	12	9
Sion	11	4	4	3	20	12	12	Mendrisio	10	3	3	4	15	22	9
Lausanne	11	4	2	5	18	15	10	Baden	10	1	6	3	10	15	8
Wettingen	11	2	4	5	18	22	8	Ibach	10	2	3	5	10	18	7
Bellinzona	11	2	1	8	12	36	5	Monthey	10	1	4	5	11	18	6
Aarau	11	1	1	9	7	21	3	Bern	10	2	2	6	13	21	6
Bulle	11	0	3	8	8	36	3	Rüti	10	1	1	8	11	29	3
Winterthur	11	0	2	9	8	27	2	Locarno	10	0	3	7	5	23	3