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The main road over the 7,000-foot Klausen Pass, in Central Switzerland, has been closed because the village of Spiringen is being gradually carried towards it in a monster landslip.

The village is slipping down the mountainside at the rate of about a quarter of an inch a year.

It is now possible to make the trip up the Rhine from the North Sea to Switzerland by the modern Swiss motorship *Basilea* (Italian name for Bale, its home port). The ship can carry 55 passengers, principally in double cabins.

A Swiss film called *Rythmique* has been produced in Zurich to demonstrate the pedagogic application of the Jaques Dalcroze system of teaching. It is already being shown in the cinemas of the German speaking part of Switzerland. A French version is in preparation and the film will doubtless be made available soon in other languages.

The longest cable railway in Switzerland, covering the $2\frac{1}{4}$ miles between the Bernina Hauser (6,720ft.), in the Engadine, and the Diavolezza (9,766ft.), was opened recently. Its two cabins can transport 250 passengers an hour over the Morteratsch glacier.

Switzerland will soon do away with her last steam engines.

The few miles in thinly populated sections of the country still served by steam will be electrified within the next months.

The Federal Military Department has issued a directive authorising tourists to bring arms into Switzerland for their personal defence. Each tourist is allowed one revolver or automatic pistol and 15 rounds of ammunition.

Whether the visitor will be able to carry the weapon on his person depends on the police regulations in each canton.

A standard test for mountain-climbing ropes has been agreed on by an expert commission representing seven nations set up by the International Union of Mountaineering Associations. It consists in attaching a weight of 187lb to the end of a rope and letting it fall freely from a height of 19ft 8in. A rope that stands up to two pulls is deemed trustworthy.

During experiments made at the Swiss Federal Institute for material testing, one French nylon rope stood up to 16 pulls. Climbers favour nylon ropes because they are light and dry quickly, but they fray easily.

Foreign workers in Switzerland now number 326,000. This is 13% of the population.

OUR NEXT ISSUE.

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