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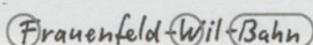
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With the arrival of GTW 2/6 railcars 631 to 634, unmodernised BDe4/4 602 and 605, and Bt 701-703 and 706, all of 1953 build, are to be sold to the Chemins de Fer du Provence in France where they will be rebuilt for use in a push-pull formation with ex CJ Gm4/4 508. Modernised BDe4/4 608 and Bt 705 remain in regular use on the Saingnégier – Glovelier section of the CJ.

Forchbahn (FB)

11 articulated Be4/6 units have been ordered from Stadler; these will replace the remaining 1959-1966 units Be4/4 11-16 and Bt 101-108.



The first refurbished train set, Be4/4 15 and Bt 115, has entered service carrying a dazzle-style red and white livery.



The Chur - Arosa line remains closed between Chur and St Peter-Molinis while stabilisation work and construction of an avalanche gallery continues in the Steinboden tunnel area. The line was not expected to reopen for passengers until November, although a daily goods train over the line started in September.

TRAMS

Basler Verkehrsbetriebe (BVB)

The last Swiss standard bogie trams have been withdrawn from service.

Riffelalp Tram (RiT)

When weather conditions are not favourable, services on this line run on an "on request" basis. To allow hotel guests to spend the evening in Zermatt, a notice in the Riffelalp Hotel advertises late GGB trains to Riffelalp.

Transport Regional Neuchâtelois (TRN)

With the opening of the "Fun'Ambule" from Neuchâtel Gare to the University, Trolleybus route 6 from Neuchâtel Gare to Place Pury has been withdrawn and the wires on the turning circle cut short. Passengers for Boudry now have to catch a Route 7 trolleybus from the "wrong" (and unsheltered) side of the station to Place Pury; in

September, a petition demanding the restoration of Route 6 was on display in the shops at Neuchâtel station.

Städtische Verkehrsbetriebe Bern (SVB)

Bern has become the last system to use Swiss standard bogie cars, these being used on Line 5 throughout the week, including Sunday afternoons!

Verkehrsbetriebe der Stadt Zürich (VBZ)

The first stretched "Tram 2000" unit with a low floor centre section has entered service on Line 6.

PRESERVATION



A three-coach DFB train powered by HG3/4 1, brought steam to the AlpTransit branch from the FO at Bugnei to Sedrun on 23rd June.

STOP PRESS!

Steve Horobin reports today (16/11/01) that due to driver shortages SBB has dropped train 10327 Lausanne to Montreux from its schedule.

It is claimed that this is the first time this has been done for nearly a century!

As Steve so aptly puts it "Is this the end of the world as we know it?"

The information came from www.swissinfo.org

NOTEPAD is edited by Nick Freezer and on this occasion includes contributions from Steve Horobin, Brian Hemming, Duncan McKay, George Hoekstra, Alan Pike, Swissinfo, BLS (who supplied the photo of Frau Remund), SBB and probably others. Please accept our apologies if your name is not mentioned and let me know. I will try and note it for next time.

Brian Hemming

SWISS FEDERAL RAILWAYS STOCK CHANGES

JULY 2001

New: RABDe 500 022

AUGUST 2001

Withdrawn: Tmⁿ - 745, 808

Rebuilt & renumbered:

XTm 91556 to XTms40 85 95 85 556-5

XTm 91586 to XTms40 85 95 85 586-2

Stock changes will revert to normal size next time!