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TRAMS

RBS / Bernmobil

The use of stretched Be4/10 81-89 on joint Route 6 to Fischermätteli has not been a success. Issues with the modified units on the Bern town system curves mean that rectification works are required to reduce tyre squeal. Bus substitution between Zytglogge and Fischermätteli after 2100 and until 09.00 on Sunday mornings having failed to satisfy local residents, the suspension was extended to apply all week from 4th April. Buses operate between Bern Hbf and Fischermätteli as Bernmobil do not have enough trams to cover the RBS diagrams, particularly as it is no longer possible to reverse trams from east to west at the Hauptbahnhof.

HERITAGE

BDB

Rack services for this group will be restricted in 2011;

the removal of the Meiringen turntable requires a crane turn at Interlaken to work services over the Brünig pass, while the removal of run round capabilities at Grindelwald will prevent operation beyond Schwendi in future.

BLS

Be4/4 761, stored since late 2007, has been given a major overhaul at Spiez; ETMS equipment has been fitted and asbestos removed prior to a relaunch in April.

RhB

Funds are being sought to assist the overhaul of G4/5 108.

SOB

The Amor Express set has been leased to the Dampf-Loki Club at Herisau, for use with their loco, BT Eb3/5 9. Be3/4 43 and the bar coach are up for sale, the DLC group have expressed an interest. 



I found that the picture for this note was stored with my 'SBB – Reiseverkehr' (passenger traffic) files. That's logical. Members who remember that prize-winning British Transport documentary 'Waterloo' will recall a scene with a reserved compartment for 'The Home Office', and a small group with a police escort, booked to Plymouth on the Atlantic Coast Express, as the long journey to Princeton for the prison on Dartmoor began. The Swiss equivalent is

restored 540 036 with a neutral-looking driving trailer marked 'Securitas', but with surprisingly few openings. It slips through the busy timetable, mostly between Genève, Bern and Zürich, without station announcements and stopping only briefly. This is transport of persons "in custody" and it is a discreet, but essential, part of the everyday scene. If members thought it was 'just another railcar', look more thoughtfully. And, yes, passenger traffic is increasing. 