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MONTREUX 75 YEARS AGO

Following his article on the 150th anniversary of Thomas Cook's first Swiss tour Michael Farr now moves forward by 75 years.



de Fer électriques de la Gruyère and Veveysans (then an independent operation); the funicular from Vevey to Mont Pèlerin, and boats on the rest of Lake Geneva. One day Miss Heaverman invested a further CHF2 to buy a 'Déclassement' so she could upgrade to first class on the boats. In 1938 one pound was worth CHF18, and the £1 itself would be

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urrently, visitors to the Montreux-Vevey region staying in hotels are issued as part of the package with a Riviera Card. This offers free travel on local bus services and also, with the introduction of the Mobilis arrangement, on "main line" MOB trains as far as Les Avants. Reduced fares are offered on other local railways and the ships plying Lac Léman, as well as concessions on admission to local attractions.

Going back 75 years to just over a year before the outbreak of World War II, a Miss Catherine Heaverman spent a holiday in the Montreux area and invested CHF22 on an Abonnement de vacances de la région de Montreux. The folding pink card allowed her to travel free between Montreux and Les Avants, on the former Clarens-Blonay tramcars, the funiculars to Sonloup, Mont Fleuri (now alas out of use) and between Territet and Glion from where she could travel all the way by rack railway to Rochers-de-Naye. The ticket even covered the 'Tour de Haut-Lac' by CGN boat on the circular route Montreux-Ouchy (Lausanne)-Evian-Bouveret and back to Montreux. Half-price fares were offered on the remainder of the MOB line to Zweisimmen and Lenk; on the trains of Chemins

worth some £55 at todays prices. Unfortunately visitors can no longer travel around Switzerland for such prices, although the Riviera Card offers excellent value to hotel guests.

Editor's Note. Michael was introduced to Miss Heaverman's holiday arrangements after he had given a talk to a Hampshire WI in the 1980s and the lady subsequently passed on the tickets to him via an intermediary.







