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Mailbag

SBB in Troyes?

Could I through the columns of the Swiss Express, ask if any member of the Society, can explain the presence of an SBB Dining Car Type IV complete with pantograph on a NON-electric line in France.

The above photograph was taken at Troyes yard SNCF the coach was there from the 3rd September until the 8th September.

D. Wilson,
Hemel Hempsted, Herts.

Shortest Train Journey?

Having been unable to travel to Switzerland this year I have had to content myself with journeys in the Kursbuch. In table 870 I noticed a train 7662 which takes four minutes from start to finish (St. Gallen to St. Gallen Haggen). Is this the shortest train journey in the country?

Christopher Elliott,
Caversham, Reading.

BLS 465's reliability?

On Tuesday 10th October 1995, travelling on the 18.01 train from Brig to Basel. The train left Brig on time pulled by BLS 465-003-2 after some 15 minutes into its journey it came to a complete halt, and eventually it was announced that the loco had failed and a replacement loco was awaited, eventually BLS Re4/4 194 came

Above: The restaurant car referred to in the first letter, at Troyes.

to the rescue and the train arrived in Kandersteg at 19.12pm but should in fact have arrived at 18.37pm.

Problems appear to be being experienced with 465's?

Peter Dransfield
Mirfield.

Video Review

Brienz Rothorn Bahn - MITV Ltd.

This is the best video of the BRB I have seen. It is more of a film for the rail cognoscenti although the scenic content should interest all especially the remarkable air shots near the end.

Technical and historical information is good and the scenes on shed are absorbing. The angles from which the hard working locos are filmed, using high-tech miniature cameras, make the video a 'must' and one finds out the use of the bent pipe attached to the top of the funnels.

Cow bells and staccato exhausts mingle in the high pastures as the trains near the summit.

Perhaps, like other films of this line, it is a little too long but the excellence of the filming balances this out.

AJP