

Morcote : unique in ticket history?

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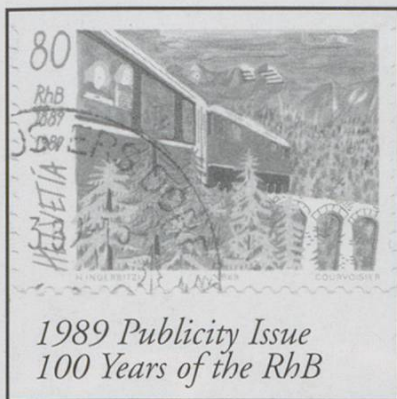
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1989 Publicity Issue
100 Years of the RhB

In addition there have been air-mail series, stamps issued for use by soldiers on active service, and stamps given to charitable institutions and hospitals. Beyond that there are issues by United Nations and other Swiss based organisations. Special issues for use by mobile post offices in the 40s and 50s show postbuses of the era.



1982 100 Years of the
Gotthard Bahn

This is, of course, only the briefest introduction to a wide-ranging and absorbing subject. Swiss Post issue a free magazine called *Focus on Stamps* which is available in English from: Die Post, Briefmarken und Philatelie Kundendienst, Ostermundigenstrasse 91, CH-3030 Bern. When in Bern a visit to the PTT museum near the Historical Museum at Helvetiastrasse is highly recommended. As well as interesting post and telecommunication exhibits including a postbus "layout" and historic telephones to play on, there is a most comprehensive Swiss and world stamp collection.

Michael Farr

MORCOTE UNIQUE IN TICKET HISTORY?

Morcote is one of several attractive tourist villages around Lake Lugano in Switzerland's Ticino region. Visitors flock to see the old buildings, the arcaded souvenir shops and market stalls and the church above the village. It is not served by rail and so to reach Morcote you have to catch either one of the boats operated by Societa Navigazione del Lago di Lugano (SNL) or take a post-bus from Lugano. The SNL and their larger boats now machines capable of issuing format. This model is used transport operators and by tres. On boats without the sy paper tickets to passengers

Three piers are staffed for Gandria, Campione d'Italia rounded by Swiss soil) and

these three offices all retained a (very) limited stock of Edmondsons for the more popular journeys. All issuing points (including those with KVG) have card tickets for group travel, yellow ones for full fare and striped white and yellow for half fare.

Not only is Mr Edmondson's invention available from the small SNL ticket office adjoining the tourist bureau at Morcote but the Post Office also sells his tickets for the single journey to Lugano Paradiso or Lugano Piazza Rezzonica, although most passengers pay their fare to the driver. Surprisingly both of the examples I bought were numbered 00143; I wondered if about 140 other collectors had been there before me! (In Switzerland tickets numbered 00000 are held as specimens and not issued to passengers.)

I suggest that Morcote is the last place in the world where Edmondson cards are available from two different offices and for two different modes of transport—and, surprisingly, neither is for rail journeys. Unless, of course, you know better!



landing stages at Lugano have Autelca KVG ticket tickets in standard Swiss extensively by the smaller tourist information cen-KVG the purser sells flim-joining at unstaffed piers. at least part of the day: (an Italian enclave sur-Morcote. In autumn 2000



ABOVE: MOB. BDe4/4s 3005 & 3006 prepare to haul Train No.E II out of Zweisimmen on 30/04/1980.

RIGHT: The reason for the name, Queen Elizabeth and the Duke of Edinburgh sit in As 111 looking forward to the trip to Montreux. Despite their obvious interest in Swiss Railways so far they have not joined SRS. A prize awaits any one who can recruit them.

BELOW: MOB GDe 4/4 6003 takes over from GFM GDe 4/4 102 at Montbovon. Nowadays the GFM would probably work through. 10/5/1985

All pictures on these two pages by Beat Feller





*ABOVE: MOB ABDe 8/8 4004 heads some GFM stock at Rougemont. 6/9/1986.
BELOW: I think it may have snowed a bit. Beat's favourite weather? Two completely unidentifiable BDe 4/4s at Rougemont.*

