C.P./S. 8,10/11 5½mm. Cat No. 615

Head Office : Pier Head, Liverpool. Also at London, Bristol, Glasgow & Southampton.

To replace chartered tonnage the Canadian Pacific Railway put three passenger liners on the Vancouver to the Far East service in 1891. This move is considered to be the beginning of the ocean going fleet that was to become famous for its white hulled 'Empresses'

In 1903 Sir Thomas G. Shaughnessy, the President of the Canadian Pacific Railway, decided it was time to enter the Atlantic trade. To achieve this end he purchased the goodwill and a ready made fleet of fourteen ships, the Beaver Line, from Elder Dempster for £1,417,500. However, even after this outlay Shaughnessy failed to get the Canadian Mail contract, which went to the Allen Line.

Gradually the C.P.R., and the owners of the Allen Line began to see the wisdom of working together. Eventually the two interests became one on 1st October 1915.

The end of the transatlantic passenger link era came when the 'EMPRESS OF CANADA' arrived back at Gladstone Dock Liverpool on 23rd November 1971. Tlais was the last voyage as far as passenger services wore cc-ncerned. However, other C P Ships, as the fleet had been redesignated in 1968, such as container vessels, bulk-carriers and tankers, can still be seen.

Perfins Known

K.G.V.	1924	1d, 6d.
	1934-36 Photogravure.	1½d, 2d.
K.E.Vlll.	1936	½d, 1d.
K.G.V1.	1937-47 Dark colours.	½d, ld, 2½d, 1/-
	1941-42 Light colours,	1d, 2½d, 3d.
	1950-51 colour change.	ld, 2½d.
	1940 Centenary.	2¼d, 3d.
Q.E.11.	Wildings (simplified)	2d, 2½d, 3d, 6d, 1/

Identification was provided by Mr K. Rymer Young who has K.G.V, ld. and 6d, on piece from Waterloo Place, London, S.W.l.

The Head Office listed above comes from a cover dated 19th July 1954.