MS-0106 Pacific Great Eastern Railway Originals 1911-1929 1.9 m

The history of the Pacific Great Eastern Railway [PGE] dates to the 25th of April, 1907, when the Howe Sound, Pemberton Valley and Northern Railway was incorporated to run from Newport, at the mouth of the Squamish River, to Anderson lake. Almost three years later, on the 10th of March, 1910, the 1907 Act which created the railway was amended changing the name of the railway to the Howe Sound and Northern Railway and authorizing an extension to Lillooet.

The Howe Sound and Northern continued operations until it was taken over by the contracting firm of Foley, Welch and Stewart in 1912. Incorporated on the 27th of February, 1912, the Pacific Great Eastern Railway, named for its financial backers, the Great Eastern Railway of England, came into existence.

Grading of the roadbed between North Vancouver and Whytecliff began in July, 1913. The following year, certificate #260 authorized the railway to carry traffic over "that portion of (the) railway recently completed between Londsale Avenue...and Whytecliff...." That same year, the Provincial Legislature authorized the PGE to extend into the Peace River area. In 1958, that extension became a reality.

World War I brought financial problems which, when added to the economic burdens imposed by the deep Cottonwood chasm and the rugged cliffs of the southern extension between Squamish and Whytecliff, contributed to the withdrawal of Foley, Welch and Stewart in 1918. That same year, the railway was taken over by the provincial government; work was resumed and in 1921, the main line from Squamish to Quesnel was completed.

On the 28th of November 1928, by order of the Minister, operation on the North Shore line was discontinued. Often considered a political and economic liability, Premier Hart in 1945 unsuccessfully offered the system to the major transcontinental lines. With the completion of the line to Prince George in 1952, the fortunes of the railway assumed brighter proportions. In 1954, construction of the long-planned southern extension was begun; two years later the line was officially completed with the driving of a symbolic last spike at Britannia Beach.

The accession includes correspondence, reports, etc. concerning construction, equipment and operations of the railway 1911-1929. Also included are papers regarding water licences on the main line. Many sections of the files are missing, thus the records are incomplete and not fully representative of the railway for the period spanned by the papers.

Maps transferred to map division, accession numbers 10935/B, 10936/B, 10937/B, 10938/B,10939/B and 15343/E, 15344/E, 15345/E, 15346/B, 15347/B, 15348/B, 15350/B, 15351/B, 15352/B, 15353/B, 15354/B, 15355/B, 15356/E, 15357/B, 15358/B, 15359/B, 15360/B, 15361/B, 15362/A, 15363/C, 15364/C. These maps may also have been catalogued as CM/Z4.

Related records in MS-0041, MS-0138, MS-0853, GR-0876; VR198107-79, VR198107-92 and VR198302-1; map accession numbers 12901-12902.

Box	File	PGE File #	Contents	Date
1	A		List of plans removed from unit and transferred to map division (PABC)	
			Howe Sound and Northern Railway	
1	1		Howe Sound and Northern Railway	1911
1	2		Howe Sound and Northern Railway	1912
1	3		Howe Sound and Northern Railway	1914
1	4		Howe Sound and Northern Railway	1916
1	5		Howe Sound and Northern Railway	1923
1	6		Howe Sound and Northern Railway: articles	Nov 1912
	-	Do	of agreement	
1	7	P3	Proposals to take over PGE system from	
4	0	64	government	1015
1	8	S4	Agreement between P. Welch and PGE	1915
1	9	S4	Equipment Co. Equipment of PGE Equipment Co. in use by	1916
I	3	04	PGE construction department	1310
1	10	S4	Attorney-General vs. PGE Railway et al.	Nov 1917
1	11	S4	Settlement with P. Welch	1918
1	12	S4	Settlement with P. Welch	1919
1	13	S4	Settlement with P. Welch	1920
1	14	S4	Settlement with P. Welch	1922
			North Shore line [NS line]	
2	1		NS line: operating expenses	1920
2	2		NS line: operation and maintenance	1922
			expenses	
2	3		North Shore district: comparative statement of	1921, 1922,
			operating expenses	1923
2	4	02	NS line: operations	1922
2	5	02	NS line: operations	1923
2	6	02	NS line: operations	1924
2	7		NS line: operations	1925
2 2 2	8	02	NS line: operations	1926
	9	02	NS line: operations	1927
2 2 2 2	10	02	NS line: operations	1928
2	11	O2	NS line: operations	1929
∠ 2	12	N2	NS line: bridges and structures	1921
2	13 14	N2	NS line: bridges and structures	1922
2	14	N2	NS line: bridges and structures	1923

2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2	15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31 32	N2 N4 N4 N4 N4 N4 N4 N4 N5 N5 N5 N5 N5 N5 N5 N5 N5	NS line: bridges and structures NS line: Capilano River protection work NS line: maintenance NS line: maintenance NS line: maintenance NS line: maintenance NS line: maintenance Preliminary report on electrification of NS line by W.V. Hunt NS line: electrification NS line: electrification Electrification: cost comparisons	1924 1926 1919 1920 1921 1924 1925 1926 1927 1919 1920 1921 1922 1926 24 Mar 1923 1921 1923
2 2	33 34	N7 N7	NS line: Chesterfield Ave., Diamond Crossing NS line: Chesterfield Ave., Diamond Crossing	1921 1922
2 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3	34 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18	N7 N8 N8 N8 N8 N8 N8 N8 A3 A3 A3 A3 A3 A3 T8 T8 T8 T8 T8 T8	NS line: Chesterfield Ave., Diamond Crossing NS line: crossings NS line: sidings NS line: Lonsdale, Fell agreement NS line: Lonsdale, Fell agreement North Shore division: special trustees account North Shore division: special trustees account North Shore division: special trustees account West Vancouver municipal ferries re sale to PGE Whytecliff water works and subdivisions	1922 1916 1918 1919 1920 1921 1922 1923 1917 1913-1918 1919-1920 1921 1924 1925, 1927 1918 1919 1920
3	19	W1 W1	Whytecliff water works and subdivisions Whytecliff water works and subdivisions Squamish	1918
4 4 4	1 2 3	H3 S1A S1A	Employees housing: Squamish Squamish shops, machinery, etc. Squamish shops, machinery, etc.	1920 1918-1919 1920

4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4 4	4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18	S1 S1 S1 S1 S1 S1 G1pt2 G1pt2 G1pt2 G1pt2 G1pt2 S13 E11	Squamish terminals blueprints: Cotton Co. Squamish terminals Squamish terminals Squamish terminals Squamish terminals Squamish terminals Squamish terminals Squamish terminals Squamish terminals Squamish: booming grounds and dykes Squamish: booming grounds and the Squamish: booming grounds	1913-1914 1917 1918 1919 1920 1921-1922 1923-1929 1923 1924 1925 1927 1929 1925, 1926
5	1		Engineering department northern extension:	
5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5 5	2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10	B5 B5 B5 C1 C1 C1 C1	general Bridges: Soda Creek to Ft. George Bridges: Soda Creek to Ft. George Construction north of Clinton Construction north of Clinton Construction north of Clinton Construction north of Clinton Construction north of Clinton: miscellaneous correspondence	1916, 1919 1920 1921 1922 1923-1930 1920 1921 1922
5	11	C1A	Betterments and replacements, maintenance of way etc.	1926
5	12	C1A	Betterments and replacements, maintenance of way etc.	1927
5 5 5 5 5	13 14 15 16 17	C8 C9 C9 C9 C9	Cottonwood bridge Construction car reports Construction car reports Construction car reports Construction car reports	1918, 1919 1920 1921 1924
6 6 6	1 2 3 4		Survey: Ashcroft to Clinton line Survey: Ashcroft to Clinton line Survey: Ashcroft to Clinton line Survey: Ashcroft to Clinton line,	1918 1919 1920

6 6 6	5 6 7	C11 C11	miscellaneous correspondence Hat Creek coal (proposed line from Clinton) Hat Creek coal (proposed line from Clinton Miscellaneous re proposed line Ashcroft to Clinton	1924, 1925 1926, 1927
6	8	D2	Deep Creek bridge	May 1920 - Aug 1920
6	9	D2	Deep Creek bridge	Sep 1920 - Dec 1920 -
6 6	10 11	D2 D3	Deep Creek bridge Deep Creek bridge: Hunt & Co., inspection reports	1921 1919
6	12	D3	Deep Creek bridge: Hunt & Co., inspection reports	1920
6	13	E6	Northern Construction Co.: contractors' estimates	1921
6	14	E6	Northern Construction Co.: contractors' estimates	1922
6	15	E6	Northern Construction Co.: contractors' estimates	1923
6	16	E7	Field engineers' reports	Feb 1921 - Apr 1921
7	1	E7	Field engineers' reports	May1921 - Dec 1921
7 7 7 7 7 7 7	2 3 4 5 6 7 8	E7 G2 G2 G2 G2 G2 G2	Field engineers' reports Sidings, rails, demurrage: Fort George Sidings, rails, demurrage: Fort George Sidings, rails, demurrage: Fort George Sidings, rails, demurrage: Fort George Sidings, rails, demurrage: Fort George Locations, right of way, correspondence re PGE connection with GTP [Grand Trunk Pacific] at Prince George	1922 1918, 1919 1920 1921 1922 1923, 1924 1914-1915
7	9	L2	Logging operations	1926-1927
7	10	L2	Right of way: locations	1914
7	11	L2	Right of way: locations	1915
7	12	L2	Right of way: locations	1916
7	13	L2	Right of way: locations	1917
7	14	M3	Maintenance and track repair, etc. includes tunnels	1919
7	15	M3	Maintenance and track repair, etc. includes tunnels	1920
7	16	M3	Maintenance and track repair, etc. includes tunnels	1921-1922
7	17	М3	Maintenance and track repair, etc., estimates re betterment of right of way, structures, equipment	

7	18	M3	Maintenance and track repair: estimate	1924
7	19	M3	Maintenance and track repair:	1925
			correspondence of estimates	
7	20	M3	Maintenance and track repair:	1926
			correspondence of estimates	
7	21	M4	Main line: flood damage	1921
7	22	M4	Main line: flood damage	1922, 1927
7	22	N3	Construction contract: Northern Construction	•
I	23	IND	Co. and PGE	28 Sep 1918
7	0.4	NO		1010
7	24	N3	Northern Construction Co.	1918
8	1	N3	Northern Construction Co.	1919
8	2	N3	Northern Construction Co.	1920
	2 3	N3 N3	Northern Construction Co.	1921
8				
8	4	N3	Northern Construction Co.	1922
8	5	N3	Northern Construction Co.	1923
8	6	N3	Northern Construction Co.	1930
8	7		Cottonwood Canyon: engineers' report on	1926
			grade problems	
8	8		Geological report on railway routes in the	1930
			Cottonwood River area	
8	9	Q1	Quesnel: weekly reports	1921
8	10	Q1	Quesnel: correspondence	1921
8	11	Q1	Quesnel: correspondence	1922
8	12	Q1	Quesnel: correspondence, location surveys	1929
8	13	Q1	Quesnel: correspondence, location surveys	1930
8	14	Q2	Quesnel River bridge	1920
8	15	Q2	Quesnel River bridge	1921
8	16	Q2	Quesnel River bridge	1922
8	17	Q2	Quesnel River bridge	1929
8	18	R2	Inspection reports and correspondence	1917
8	19	R2 R2		
			Inspection reports and correspondence	1918
8	20	R2	Inspection reports and correspondence	1920, 1926
8	21	R4	Right of way through Indian reserves	1913
8	22	R4	Right of way through Indian reserves	1914, 1916
8	23	Т6	Correspondence re 42 mile section north of	1918
•	0 4		Clinton	4040
8	24		Tenders, 42 mile line north of Clinton	1918
8	25	T7	Special trustees account	1918
8	26	T7	Special trustees account	1919
8	27	T7	Special trustees account	1920
0	4	Τ-7		1001
9	1	T7	Special trustees account	1921
9	2	T7	Special trustees account	1922
9	3	T7	Special trustees account	1923
9	4	T7	Special trustees account re locomotive #4	1923
9	5	Т9	Special trustees account: salaries and sundry	Jun 1919 -
			accounts	Nov 1919

9	6	W2	Williams Lake	1918
9	7	W2	Williams Lake	1919
9	8	W2	Williams Lake	1920
9	9	W2	Williams Lake	1921
9	10	W2	Williams Lake	1922
9	11	W2	Williams Lake	1923
9	12	W2	Williams Lake	1925
9	13	W2	Williams Lake	1926
9	14	W2	Williams Lake	1927
9	15	W2	Williams Lake	1928
9	16		General committee report to the Minister of	1925
			Railways re the PGE problem (includes	
			reports on railway maintenance and	
			extensions, mining, timber, etc., 2 copies)	
9	17		Miscellaneous: surveys Cariboo district	
9	18		Miscellaneous: traffic estimates	

Index to papers re water licenses

Box	File	Name of water	Station	Cond. Lic.	Final Lic.	PGE File #
10 10	1 2	1 Mile Creek 11 Mile Creek	Pemberton	5478 944	5627	7321 8898/26805
10 10	3 4	59 Mile Creek 83 Mile Creek	Chasm	807 808	3350	25970 25969
10 10	5 6	93 Mile Creek Alix Creek	Lone Butte Alexandria	6231 5813	5100	
10	7	Anderson Lake (also see file 29)	D'Arcy	1399	5100	30480
10		Birkenhead River (see file 30)				
10	8	Carson's Spring, Lot 77, Cariboo				25495
10	9	Clinton Creek		9956		23483
10	10	Crease Spring	Quesnel	5926	5101	
10	11	Creek, lot 964, Lillooet district		1466, 1467		
10		Cheakamus River (see file 31)				
10	12	D'Arcy Creek	D'Arcy	1469	3406	26001
10	13	Unnamed creek flowing into Fraser River	E. Lillooet	1429	3403	28356
10		Green River (see file 32)				
10	14	Hop Ranch Creek	Brackendale	6196	7890	
10	15	Kelly Lake	Lough	1386	3498	23794

10 10 10 10 10	16 17 18 19 20	Lac La Hache Little Mamquam Little Stawamus River Minton Lake Mission Creek Pemberton Creek	Raymond Lac La Hache Squamish Williams Lake Williams Lake	6401 872 178 1433 1430, 1432	7372	19399
10 10	21 22	(see 1 Mile Creek file no. 1) Pitzi Brook Scotia Creek	Mons	10765 509, 9328	3412	11189
10 10	23 24	Seton Creek Silicon Creek (tanks)	Hatchery Retaskit	867	3488	22829, 023704
10 10	25 26	Soda Creek Spokin Lake	Soda Creek	6207 2127	5575	020704
10 10 10	27 28	Stawamus River Stream, lot 18, Lillooet district	Stawamus River	4390	7373	20497
10		Shalath (see file 34)				
10	29	Unnamed creek, trib Anderson Lake		1468		25407
10	30	Unnamed creek, trib Birkenhead river	Spetch Creek	1568	5840	25340
10	31	Unnamed creek, trib Cheakamus river		866		19398
10	32	Unnamed creek, trib Green river		936		16570
10	33	Unnamed creek, New Westminster district		806		10851
10	34	Well, vicinity Shalath Indian Reservation	Shalath	1365		
10	35	Williams Lake Creek	Williams Lake	6403		039294
Box	File	Contents			Date	
10	36	Correspondence with conditional licenses 5			I	

10	37	Correspondence re water	licenses; general
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10 38 Correspondence re water tanks and stations

Water rights applications by parties other than Pacific Great Eastern Railway

Box	File	Name of creek, etc.	Name of party submitting application
10	39	59 Mile Creek	Ben Nelson, Francois Davis
10	40	Comer's Creek	JC Edwards
10	41	Horreshoe Lake	Department of Marine and Fisheries
10	42	Seton Creek	Craig Lodge
10	43	Unnamed spring: lot 8815, Cariboo	L.A. Moxon

Water rates and rentals

Box	File	Contents	Date	
10	44	Rates re Squa and collected	amish, Williams lake to be charged by PGE	
10	45		rges for water license rentals	
10	46		on water licenses	1923
10	47	PGE rentals c	on water licenses	1924
10	48	PGE rentals c	on water licenses	1925
10	49	PGE rentals c	on water licenses	1927
10	50	PGE rentals c	on water licenses	1928
10	51	PGE rentals c	on water licenses	1929
		Miscellaneous	8	
10	52		s correspondence re water licenses rs referring to more than one ense)	1920-1922
10	53		ire to obtain a water license	
10	54		ithin PGE railway aid blocks	
10	55	Draft of article water pipeline	es of agreement re construction of by PGE	
Box	File	PGE File #	Contents	Date
			Structures, etc.	
11	1	18, 39	Construction re signals, interlocking equipment, etc	
11	2	O3	Fuel oil and tanks	1919
11	3	O3	Fuel oil and tanks	1920
	-			

11 11 11 11	4 5 6 7	O3 O3 O3 S3	Fuel oil and tanks Fuel oil and tanks Fuel oil and tanks Tunnels, 1196-1920 (also see vol. 7 #14 - 16)	1921 1922 1923
11 11 11 11 11	8 9 10 11 12	S3 S3 S3 S3 S3 S3	Correspondence: structures Correspondence: structures Correspondence: structures Correspondence: structures Correspondence: structures	1917-1918 1919 1920 1921 1922, 1924, 1925
11 11	13 14	S5 S5	Branch line, upper Squamish River Stations etc. (includes list of sidings, Squamish to Clinton)	1917, 1918
11 11 11 11 11 11 11 11 11 11	15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26	S5 S5 S5 S5 S5 S5 T3 T3 T3 T3 T3 T3	Stations, etc Stations, etc Stations, etc Stations, etc Stations, etc Stations, etc Stations, etc Telephone and telegraph poles Telephone and telegraph poles	1919 1920 1921 1922 1923 1926 1927 1918 1919 1920 1921, 1922 1923, 1925, 1927, 1928
12 12 12	1 2 3		Railway debentures guaranteed by the BC Government PGE land grants PGE lands: survey of resources	1930
12 12 12 12 12 12 12 12 12 12 12	4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13	F3 F3 F3 F3 F3 F3 F3 M2 M2 M2 M2	Irrigation systems: PGE line Irrigation systems: PGE line Mining properties Mining properties Mining properties	1918 1919 1920 1921 1922 1923 1929 1918 1919 1921, 1924,
12 12 12 12 12 12	14 15 16 17 18	R7 R7 R7 R7 R7 R7	River protection River protection River protection River protection River protection	1925 1918 1919 1920 1921 1924, 1925

12 12 12	19 20 21	R7 T1 T1	River protection Trust deeds, mortgages, debentures Trust deeds, mortgages, debentures	1928 1912, 1914 1916, 1917, 1923
13 13 13 13	1 2 3 4	B3 B3 B3 E9	Boiler inspections Boiler inspections Boiler inspections Equipment: shovels, hoists, cranes, plows, etc.	1917 1918 1919, 1925 1920
13	5	E9	Equipment: shovels, hoists, cranes, plows, etc.	1921-1923
13 13 13 13 13 13 13 13 13 13	6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16	E10 E10 E10 E10 J2 J2 J2 J2 J2 J2 J2 J2 J2 J2 J2	Equipment rental to construction dept. Equipment rental to construction dept. Equipment rental to construction dept. Equipment rental to construction dept. Equipment rental to construction dept. Eng. dept.: instruments, equipment Eng. dept.: instruments, equipment	1918 1919 1920 1921 1927, 1931 1916 1917 1918 1919 1920 1921, 1922,
13 13 13 13 13 13 13 13 13 13	17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27	J2 R1 R1 R1 R1 R8 R8 R8 R8 T5 T5	Eng. dept.: instruments, equipment Rails, bolts, spikes, etc Rails, bolts, spikes, etc Rails, bolts, spikes, etc Rails, bolts, spikes, etc Rails, bolts, spikes, etc Frogs, switches, tie plates, etc. Frogs, switches, tie plates, etc. Frogs, switches, tie plates, etc. Ties Ties	1923 1924, 1927 1919 1920 1921 1922 1924-1928 1920 1921 1922 1918-1920 1923-1928
14	1		Bills of sale: steamboats "Operator" and	
14	2		"Conveyor"(also copy of ships' data) Correspondence re steamboats "Operator" and "Conveyor"	1919
14	3		Correspondence re steamboats "Operator" and "Conveyor"	1920
14	4		Correspondence re steamboats "Operator" and "Conveyor"	1921
14	5		Correspondence re steamboats "Operator" and "Conveyor"	1922

14	6		Correspondence re steamboats	1923, 1924
14	7		"Operator" and "Conveyor" Correspondence steamboats 'Operator	1925-1928
14	8		and Conveyor' Motor launch "Cottonwood" (ex "H.E.	
14	9		Carleton") Miscellaneous correspondence re steamships and navigation	1919-1928
14	10	C12	Road to Black Tusk	
14	11	N1	Correspondence: B.C. Telephone Co.	1912-1917
14	12	W6	Warehouse stores at Fort George, Quesnel Stone Ck.	1926, 1927
14	13		Burrard Inlet Tunnel and Bridge Company	1912, 1913
14	14		Chief Engineer: miscellaneous correspondence	1931
14	15		Directors meeting: minutes and correspondence	27 Oct 1923
14	16		House of Commons: select standing committee on railways, canals, and telegraph lines regarding proposed routes for a western outlet to the Pacific from Peace River district	1927
14	17		Miscellaneous notes and calculations regarding revenue and expenditures, proposals re PGE's extensions, Peace River block, etc	[ca.1932, 1933]
14	18		Tourism: "Mountaineers" trip to Garibaldi	1923
			Personnel	
15	1		Belbeck, A.A. expense account	1921
15	2		Brunton, R. expense account	1922
15	3		Dalgas, A.E. paycheque	1921
15	4		Livingstone, G.T. payroll and expense account	1921-1922
15	5		Proctor, A.F. expense account	1918-1923
15	6		Wark, R.J. expense account	1921-1923
15	7		Miscellaneous correspondence re expense accounts	1922-1926
15	8	C7	Construction expense accounts	1918
15	9	C7	Construction expense accounts	1919
15	10	C7	Construction expense accounts	1920
15	11	C7	Construction expense accounts	1921
15	12	C7	Construction expense accounts	1922
15	13	E5	Personnel	1917
15	14	E5	Personnel	1918

15	15	E5	Personnel	1919
15	16	E5	Personnel: miscellaneous	4004
15	17		Payroll, Victoria office	1921
15	18		Payroll, Victoria office	1922
15	19		Payroll, Victoria office	1923
15	20		Payroll, Victoria office	1924
15	21		Payroll, Victoria office	1925
			Technical Drawings	
000164-0001			Item 15362A : Pacific Great Eastern Railway. Plan of the proposed well at Pavilion Station : 735750 K.L.S. Lillooet Division	1915
002340-1083			Item 24924D : Pacific Great Eastern Railway. Condensed Profile from Squamish Dock to Fort George.	1920