



ESTABLISHED MAY 15<sup>TH</sup> 1883

# THE SPOKESMAN-REVIEW

DAILY, SUNDAY,

*Spokane, Wash.*

March 25, 1940

Miss Laura Gilpin

317 Cheyenne Road

Colorado Springs, Colorado

Dear Miss Gilpin:

Enclosed is a copy of the wire which I sent you, night letter, the evening of Saturday, March 23.

At the request of Mr. Black, the chemist, I submitted to him the sample of Rives white heavy paper enclosed in your letter of March 21, so that he could make the test, and he reported five per cent sulphite present. Subsequently I telephoned him to inquire what he thought would be the effect of the five per cent sulphite, and he said there was no way of being definite about it. He told me that, probably because of there being such a small per cent of sulphite present and because of its being scattered all through the paper, if the sulphite did not stand up, the rest of the paper, being 95 per cent rag, would stand up. Therefore, as I stated in my wire, it seems to me that, if you can not get 100 per cent rag in this paper, you might as well go ahead and use it in spite of the five per cent sulphite.

I enclose also a copy of Mr. Black's letter of March 22, in which he answers your question about the effect of the chemicals you use on the paper. You will note that in the next to the last paragraph he says that

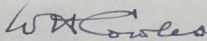
Miss Laura Gilpin

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March 25, 1940

special precaution should be taken to see that all the hydrochloric acid used in the clearing bath is washed out of the paper.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "W. H. Cowles". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "W" and a long, sweeping underline.

WHC:G  
Enclosures



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Send the following message, subject to the terms on back hereof, which are hereby agreed to

C O P Y

SPOKANE, WASHINGTON  
MARCH 23, 1940

MISS LAURA GILPIN

317 CHEYENNE ROAD

COLORADO SPRINGS, COLORADO

CHEMIST SAYS SAMPLE OF RIVES WHITE HEAVY PAPER ENCLOSED IN YOUR LETTER MARCH TWENTY FIRST CONTAINS FIVE PERCENT SULPHITE. PERHAPS STEVENS-NELSON PAPER COMPANY CAN SUPPLY THIS PAPER ALL RAG. IT IS A BEAUTIFUL PAPER. IF ONE HUNDRED PERCENT RAG NOT PROCURABLE, I SHOULD USE THIS PAPER. ALSO CHEMIST SAYS NO HARM TO PAPER FROM CHEMICALS MENTIONED IN YOUR LETTER MARCH EIGHTEENTH.

W. H. COWLES



C O P Y

INLAND EMPIRE PAPER COMPANY

Millwood, Washington

March 22, 1940

Mr. W. H. Cowles

Spokane, Washington

Dear Mr. Cowles:

Miss Gilpin's letter about the materials used in making her photographs is very interesting.

It would seem that these materials are as nearly free from substances which might be detrimental to the paper as would be possible to use in photographic work. The removal of the sizing and color is no doubt due to the use of the oxalates and hydrochloric acid. It is very likely that this will happen with most any colored sheet unless special precautions are taken to use materials resistant to the oxidizing effect of oxalic acid. It does not mean that there has been any damage to the fibres of the sheet.

Special precaution should be taken, however, to see that all the hydrochloric acid used in the clearing bath is very carefully washed out of the paper. While a short contact with this acid should not damage the fibres but rather purify them, it is conceivable that any traces left after the photographs are completed might cause considerable deterioration over the years.

With this process the final photograph will consist of platinum and unsized paper free from practically all materials used in their manufacture. This should be most permanent.

Very truly yours,

(Signed) Myron W. Black