Although conservatively managed, the CB&Q was an innovative company. It was the first railroad to use a printing telegraph, the first to use radio, and the first to employ centralized traffic control. The most famous and visible innovation was the Zephyr line of diesel engines that marked the gradual phasing out of the steam engines. The Burlington was also the first passenger line to take
full advantage of the passing scenery with the Burlington Vista Dome which debuted in 1945. Looking out the window of the train was a popular pastime while traveling. John Stilgoe compared it to watching a movie or television.

—Eric D. Olmanson

See more of the brochure and read about the Vista Domes here.

Websites linked in this text:

- https://www.environmentandsociety.org/node/7853
- https://www.environmentandsociety.org/exhibitions/railroad/burlington-vista-domes

Websites linked in image captions:

- http://www.newberry.org/general/contactus.html