

Decision No. 21083

BEFORE THE RAILROAD COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

In the Matter of the Application of the
H. & A. AUTO LINE and the BANDINI BUS
LINE, both owned and operated by F.J.Rice,
to increase passenger fares from their
present rate of five cents to six cents. } Application No.15377

Phil Jacobson, for Applicant.

BY THE COMMISSION -

O P I N I O N

F. J. Rice, owner and operator of H. & A. Auto Line and Bandini Bus Line, has petitioned the Railroad Commission for an order authorizing an increase in fares on said lines from the present rate of five cents to six cents.

A public hearing on this application was conducted by Examiner Handford at Los Angeles, the matter was duly submitted and is now ready for decision.

Applicant alleges that the revenue derived from the operation of his automobile stage lines is not sufficient to yield a reasonable return on his investment and to enable proper and adequate service to be rendered.

The following data, from exhibits filed herein, shows the results of operation during the year ending December 31, 1928:

BANDINI BUS LINE

Book Value of Equipment		\$ 500.00
<u>Revenue</u>		
Passenger Fares	1897.46	
Subsidy	2400.00	
Advertising privilege	<u>96.00</u>	
		4393.46
Operating Expenses		<u>4344.89</u>
	Net Revenue	\$ 48.57
Passengers carried --	37950	
Passenger car mileage -	46620	

H. & A. Auto Line

Investment in Plant and Equipment \$ 13750.25

Revenue

Passenger revenue	20661.88	
Other transportation revenue	1048.00	
Advertising privileges	<u>589.54</u>	
		22499.52

Operating expenses	22012.92	
Non-Operating expenses	<u>328.44</u>	<u>22341.36</u>

Net revenue \$ 158.16

Passengers carried -- 417247

Passenger car mileage 119130

COMBINED BANDINI BUS LINE and H. & A. AUTO LINE

Investment in Plant and Equipment - \$ 14250.25

Revenue

Passenger revenue	\$ 22759.34	
Subsidy	2400.00	
Other transportation revenue	1048.00	
Advertising privileges	<u>685.64</u>	
		\$ 26892.98

Operating expenses	\$ 26357.81	
Non-operating expenses	<u>328.44</u>	

26686.25

Net revenue -- \$ 206.73

Passengers carried -- 455197

Passenger car mileage 165750

The Bandini Bus Line operates from the terminal of the Los Angeles Railway street car line on Whittier Boulevard to the town of Bandini.

The H. & A. Auto Line operates from the end of the Los Angeles Railway street car line on Whittier Boulevard through territory lying east of the City of Los Angeles to a terminal at the end of the Los Angeles Railway street car line at First and Rowan Streets, Los Angeles.

The record shows that since the applicant has acquired sole ownership of the above lines, under authority of transfers duly authorized by this Commission, he has materially improved the type of equipment and the character of service. Such improvements have required increases in the expense of operation, and to care for such operating expenses and to provide a reasonable compensation for the services of the owner, who devotes his entire time to the management of the lines, and to render available a reasonable return on the investment, the proposed increase is sought. Applicant proposes further improvement of service and an increase in the wages of his drivers if the additional revenue is granted by the approval of this application.

Although notice of the hearing on this application was given by publication in a newspaper of general circulation in the territory served by applicant's lines, and by posting in all stages of the applicant for a period of seven days, no protest was received by the Commission or presented at the hearing.

After full consideration of the record herein, we are of the opinion and hereby find as a fact that justification has been shown for an increase in applicant's rates from five cents to six cents for a one-way fare, such increase being necessary to defray operating costs, taxes and depreciation, and will not result in an excessive or unreasonable return on the investment in physical property as used by applicant in the operation of his stage lines.

O R D E R

A public hearing having been held on the above entitled application, the matter having been duly submitted, the Commission being now fully advised and basing its order on the finding of fact as appearing in the opinion which precedes this order,

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that F. J. Rice, owner of auto stage lines operated under the fictitious names of E. & A. Auto Line and Bandini Bus Line, be and he hereby is authorized to establish on not less than five (5) days notice to the Commission and to the public rates of fare on his E. & A. Auto Line and Bandini Bus Line on the basis of one way fares at six (6) cents per passenger.

Dated at San Francisco, California, this 11th day of May, 1929.

Thos. J. L. Smith
W. J. Leary
Ernest J. Smith
Leon J. Whalley
M. J. Curran
COMMISSIONERS.