

ORIGINAL

Decision No. 21706.

BEFORE THE RAILROAD COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

In the Matter of the Application of UPPER LAKE FARMER'S TELEPHONE ASSOCIATION, consolidated, and NORTHERN CALIFORNIA TELEPHONE COMPANY, a corporation, for an order authorizing Upper Lake Farmer's Telephone Association to sell to Northern California Telephone Company all of its telephone property in and adjacent to the town of Upper Lake, Lake County, California, and Northern California Telephone Company to purchase and acquire the same, and to publish, file and make effective rates for exchange, interexchange and telegraph service.

Application No. 15922.

H. G. Crawford, for Upper Lake Farmer's Telephone Association.

J. G. Marshall, for Northern California Telephone Company.

BY THE COMMISSION:

O P I N I O N

In this application, request of the Railroad Commission is made for an order (1) authorizing Upper Lake Farmer's Telephone Association (sometimes hereinafter referred to as the Association), to sell its telephone property in Upper Lake and vicinity to Northern California Telephone Company (referred to hereinafter at times as the Telephone Company), for \$849.00 plus the cost of additions which may be made between June 14th, 1929, and the date of the purchase of the property; (2) authorizing Upper Lake Farmer's Telephone Association to abandon telephone service; and, (3)

authorizing Northern California Telephone Company to furnish telephone service in the Upper Lake Exchange at rates set forth in Exhibit "F" filed with the application in this proceeding.

A hearing was held in the proceeding before Examiner Williams at Upper Lake on October 15, 1929, when the matter was submitted for decision.

Upper Lake Farmer's Telephone Association, unincorporated, was formed some years ago to furnish telephone service to its members. At the present time, it has some 123 telephone subscribers, each of whom owns and maintains the line and equipment used in his service, except that the switchboard and entrance cable in use are the property of the Association. Telephone service to outside points is secured over toll lines of Northern California Telephone Company which connect to the Association switchboard at Upper Lake.

Roy H. Polk and E. C. Rice, president and treasurer, respectively, of the Association, testified that the members of the Association desired to dispose of their telephone property for the reason that they could no longer finance the operations of the Association.

H. C. Carrier, for Northern California Telephone Company, gave testimony relative to his inventory and appraisal of the property to be transferred amounting to \$849.00 structural value and \$1,651.00 undepreciated reproduction cost. The lines and equipment are in a very depreciated condition and, in order that adequate telephone service may be provided, an estimated expenditure of \$6,834.00 will be required. It is proposed to purchase from subscribers whose telephone services are within the suggested base

rate area all lines and equipment, now subscriber-owned, and to replace such of these as are grounded lines with metallic circuits. Instead of the present limited hours of service, continuous twenty-four hour service will be furnished.

W. J. Dodge, General Tariff Engineer for Northern California Telephone Company, gave testimony relative to the proposed exchange and base rate areas. At this time, the rate for switching service in Upper Lake Exchange is \$2.25 per quarter, regardless of the number of telephones connected to a line or the distance from the central office.

The rates proposed by the Telephone Company for service in this exchange area, and as set forth in Exhibit "F" attached to the application, are the same as are effective for similar service in some of the Company's other exchanges. Statements were made by Association subscribers that they are fully advised of the considerable increase in monthly rates for telephone service which would prevail if the application herein is granted and are agreeable to the change on account of the promised increase in hours and quality of service.

No changes in interexchange telephone or telegraph rates are proposed by the Telephone Company.

After considering all the evidence presented at the hearing and noting that no objection was made to the granting of the application, we find that the interests of the public at Upper Lake and vicinity will be properly conserved by the transfer of the telephone property of the Association to the Telephone Company, the abandonment of telephone service by the Association, and the estab-

lishment of exchange telephone service in this territory at the rates proposed by the Telephone Company.

O R D E R

Upper Lake Farmer's Telephone Association having asked the Railroad Commission for authority to sell its telephone property located in Upper Lake and vicinity to Northern California Telephone Company and to discontinue telephone service and Northern California Telephone Company having asked for authority to purchase said property for \$849.00, and to furnish telephone service in Upper Lake Exchange at certain rates, a public hearing having been held, the matter having been submitted and now being ready for decision,

The Railroad Commission hereby finds as a fact that the granting of this application will be in the interests of the public and, basing its order on the foregoing finding of fact and such other findings of fact as are contained in the opinion which precedes this order, therefore,

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED as follows:

(1) Upper Lake Farmer's Telephone Association is granted authority to sell and transfer, on or before February 1, 1930, all of its telephone properties, particularly described in Exhibit "A" of the application herein, to Northern California Telephone Company for the sum of \$849.00 plus the cost of additions which may be made between June 14th, 1929 and the date of the transfer of the properties.

(2) As of the date of the transfer of said properties and the beginning of their operation by Northern California Telephone Company, the Upper Lake Farmer's Telephone Association

shall discontinue public utility telephone service and withdraw rates therefor.

(3) Northern California Telephone Company shall, within thirty (30) days after the execution of the deed or instrument of conveyance, under which it acquires and holds title to said properties, file with this Commission a certified copy of such deed or instrument of conveyance.

(4) The authority to transfer the aforesaid properties is granted upon the condition that the consideration paid for such properties shall not be urged before the Railroad Commission of the State of California as a measure of the value of said properties for any purpose other than the transfer herein authorized.

(5) Northern California Telephone Company shall, on and after the date it acquires the aforesaid properties, operate the same and make effective the rates for local exchange telephone service in Upper Lake Exchange as set forth in Exhibit "A" attached hereto, and such other exchange telephone rates and rules and regulations as may be approved by the Railroad Commission.

(6) Northern California Telephone Company shall file, not later than ten (10) days before it acquires the aforesaid properties, the rates referred to in (5) above, maps of the exchange and base rate areas of Upper Lake Exchange as shown in Exhibit "G" attached to the application herein, and rules and regulations governing the telephone service in said exchange area.

For all other purposes the effective date of this

Order shall be twenty (20) days from and after the date
hereof.

Dated at San Francisco, California, this 24th day
of October, 1929.

Paul D. Latta

A. Scamper

Leon Whitehall

H. J. Cain
Commissioners.

EXHIBIT "A"

R A T E S

EXCHANGE SERVICE SCHEDULE NO.INDIVIDUAL LINE AND PARTY LINE SERVICEUPPER LAKESERVICE:

Applicable to Business Individual Line and Two-Party Line flat rate service and Residence Individual Line and Party Line flat rate service within the Base Rate Area of the Upper Lake Exchange.

<u>RATE:</u>	<u>Rate Per Month</u>	
	<u>Wall Set</u>	<u>Desk Set</u>
(1) Business Flat Rate Service:		
Each individual line station . .	\$2.75	\$ 3.00
Each two-party line station . .	2.25	2.50
Each extension station	1.00	1.00
(2) Residence Flat Rate Service:		
Each individual line station . .	2.25	2.50
Each two-party line station . .	2.00	2.25
Each four-party line station . .	1.75	2.00
Each extension station without bell50	.75
Each extension station with bell	.65	1.00

CONDITIONS:

(1) The individual and party line services will be provided outside the Base Rate Area and within the Exchange Area at the above rates and mileage rates.

(2) Extension stations at the above rates are installed on the premises in which the primary station is located.

EXCHANGE SERVICE SCHEDULE NO. _____SUBURBAN SERVICE:UPPER LAKESERVICE:

Applicable to Suburban Ten-Party Line flat rate service furnished in the Suburban Area of the Upper Lake Exchange.

<u>RATE:</u>	<u>Rate Per Month</u>	
	<u>Wall Set</u>	<u>Desk Set</u>
(1) Business Flat Rate Service:		
Each Ten-party Line Station:		
Air line distance from Primary		
Rate Area:		
One Mile or less	\$1.75	2.00
One to two miles	2.00	2.25
Two to three miles	2.25	2.50
Three to four miles	2.50	2.75
Four to five miles	2.75	3.00
Over five miles	3.00	3.25
Each Extension Station, without bell	1.00	1.00
(2) Residence Flat Rate Service:		
Each Ten-party Line Station:		
Air Line distance from Primary		
Rate Area:		
One mile or less	1.75	2.00
One to two miles	2.00	2.25
Two to three miles	2.25	2.50
Three to four miles	2.50	2.75
Four to five miles	2.75	3.00
Over five miles	3.00	3.25
Each Extension Station, without bell	.50	.75

CONDITIONS:

(1) Suburban service will be rendered outside the Base Rate Area and within the Exchange Area. In no case will the total number of primary stations connected to one circuit exceed ten (10) stations.

(2) Extension stations at the above rates are installed on the same premises on which the primary station is located.

EXCHANGE SERVICE SCHEDULE NO.FARMER LINE SERVICE:UPPER LAKERATE:

Applicable to Farmer Line flat rate service within the Suburban Area of the Upper Lake Exchange.

Exchange:

	<u>Rate Per Year</u>	
	<u>Residence</u>	<u>Business</u>
Upper Lake Each Station	\$6.00	\$12.00

CONDITIONS:

1. Farmer Line service is furnished outside the Base Rate Area and normally within the Exchange Area. A farmer line station shall not be located within the Base Rate Area. A farmer line shall not extend across an Exchange Area boundary except upon a foreign exchange basis as hereinafter provided.

2. The Company will provide, own and maintain all lines and facilities used to furnish farmer line service to the boundary of the Base Rate Area except where the city limits are beyond the boundary, in which case the lines and facilities extend to the boundary of the city limits.

3. The subscriber will provide, own and maintain all lines and facilities beyond the boundary of the Base Rate Area or city limits.

4. Farmer line service will be rendered to less than five subscribers; provided the total minimum exchange revenue of each circuit is not less than that of five residence stations.

5. The following discount is applicable to the exchange service charges in all exchanges.

The subscriber will be allowed a discount of ten per cent (10%) on the charge for exchange service, if bill is paid at the Company's office during the first month of the year. New subscribers will be billed from the date of connection to the end of the year, and annually in advance thereafter. Initial bills rendered new subscribers will be subject to a ten per cent (10%) discount on the charge for exchange service, provided the bill is paid at the Company's office within thirty days after date of bill.

6. Foreign Exchange Farmer Line Service will be furnished from one exchange to a farmer line station located in the Suburban Area of a contiguous exchange under the following rates and conditions:

(a) The rate per station will be one and one-half times the farmer line rate applying in the exchange from which the service is furnished, but not less than \$6.00 per station per year.

FARMER LINE SERVICE:(Contd.)UPPER LAKE

(b) The Company has the right to cease to render telephone service to a subscriber or subscribers served by means of a privately owned line by disconnection of such privately owned line, if a fault on that privately owned line is causing interruption to service furnished to other subscribers not served by such privately owned line; and may refuse to reconnect such line until the fault shall have been repaired and the line placed in an operating condition.

(c) The above service will be furnished provided the line owned by the subscriber or subscribers is properly constructed and in an operating condition.

(d) Foreign Exchange Service will be furnished subject to the same conditions as to the use of the service by others than the subscriber and his representatives which are applicable in connection with other classes of subscriber's telephone service. Foreign Exchange Service will not be provided for public or semi-public use.

(e) The scope of local service for, and the toll rates to and from, stations connected for Foreign Exchange Service will be in accordance with the tariff provisions of the foreign exchange for the particular class of service.

(f) A farmer line may not be connected to more than one exchange. In the event that the farmer line is so connected, and upon failure, after notice to the subscribers of record on that line, to comply with the above provision, the Company then shall have the right to disconnect that line from any or all the exchanges to which it is connected.

EXCHANGE SERVICE SCHEDULE NO. _____HAND TELEPHONE SET:UPPER LAKESERVICE:

Applicable to Hand Set stations furnished in connection with any grade of service in the Upper Lake Exchange Area.

RATE:

Each Hand Set Station, Desk Set Station rate plus \$0.25 per month.

EXCHANGE SERVICE SCHEDULE NO. _____

OTHER SERVICES:

UPPER LAKE

Other rates and charges as may be approved.