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Decision No. 22648

BEFORE THE RAILROAD COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

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In the Matter of the Application of
THE UNION ICE COMPANY, a corporation,
for an order granting a certificate
of public convenience and necessity
to engage in the cold storage warehouse
business at Los Angeles Harbor
for the freezing and cold storing of
fish and sea food products.

ORIGINAL

Application No. 16639.

L. A. Bailey for Applicant.

BY THE COMMISSION:

O P I N I O N

The Union Ice Company applies to the Commission for a certificate of public convenience and necessity to engage in the cold storage business at Wilmington, Los Angeles Harbor, for the freezing and cold storage of fish and sea food products.

A public hearing was held by Examiner Gannon at Los Angeles and the matter was submitted. The application was not protested.

Applicant has been engaged in the public cold storage warehouse business for a number of years and operates plants at various points in California. It now maintains fish freezing and cold storage facilities at 663 South Fries Avenue, Wilmington, which are privately leased, and it proposes to remodel this plant and at the same time increase its capacity so as to afford approximately 40,000 cubic feet of storage space. The building will be modern, of reinforced concrete, and especially adapted

to what is known as "sharp freezing" of fish and fish products. Applicant also proposes to install a local pick-up cartage service, to accommodate small lots of fresh fish which might not otherwise be cared for by regular drayage facilities.

The proposed plant is located on the north end of Mormon Island in Los Angeles Harbor close to the docks and the fish canneries and only about one hundred yards from shipside. The location is central and convenient to the fisheries with spur track facilities.

D. H. Fry, Vice-President of applicant company, testified that there was no public warehouse offering similar cold storage service within the harbor of Los Angeles, and none nearer than Long Beach, some four or five miles distant. He had discussed the project with the various fisheries, and harbor authorities, and found a definite demand for the service. This witness described in detail the process of freezing and warehousing fish under the most modern methods, and the manner of caring for the heavy surplus at peak seasons until such time as it is marketed.

Other witnesses were R. H. Beaton, Secretary of the San Pedro Chamber of Commerce, G. C. Van Camp of the Van Camp Organization, wholesalers of fresh fish; O. Weissich, Vice-President of American Fisheries, Inc., wholesalers of fresh fish; Vincent Zankich, Manager Zankich Bros. Fish Company, wholesalers of fresh and frozen fish, and Clare M. Small, also of the Van Camp Organization. All of these witnesses favored the granting of the application and their testimony substantiates the contention of applicant that the fishing industry in

Los Angeles Harbor was rapidly assuming very large proportions, and that more modern facilities would have to be created to properly and adequately take care of the product.

We are of the opinion, and so find, that the testimony herein affords ample proof of public convenience and necessity for the proposed service, and that the application should be granted.

ORDER

A public hearing having been held in the above entitled proceeding and the matter having been submitted,

THE RAILROAD COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA hereby declares that public convenience and necessity require the granting of the above application, and

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that a certificate of public convenience and necessity be granted to The Union Ice Company subject to the following conditions:

1. Applicant shall file within twenty (20) days from the date hereof, a tariff published in accordance with the rules of this Commission setting forth the rates, rules and regulations which applicant proposes for the freezing and cold storing of fish and sea food products.
2. The rights and privileges herein authorized may not be discontinued, sold, leased, transferred nor assigned without the written consent of the Railroad Commission to said discontinuance, sale, lease, transfer or assignment.

For all other purposes the effective date of this order shall be twenty (20) days from the date hereof.

Dated at San Francisco, California, this 9th day of

July, 1930.

Ernest W. Brown
Leon Wheeler
Frank B. Smith

Commissioners.