

Decision No. 23832.

ORIGINAL

BEFORE THE RAILROAD COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

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In the Matter of the Application of
 PACIFIC ELECTRIC RAILWAY COMPANY,
 a corporation, for authority to
 abandon passenger service between
 Arlington and Corona in the County of
 Riverside, California.

Application No. 17372.

C. W. Cornell, for Applicant.

BY THE COMMISSION:

O P I N I O N

Pacific Electric Railway Company, a corporation, has petitioned the Railroad Commission for an order authorizing the discontinuance of all passenger service between Arlington and Corona in the County of Riverside, California.

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

The line over which passenger service is hereby proposed to be discontinued is 7.55 miles in length and operates from the station of Arlington to the station of Corona, no intermediate stations being located on the route.

The financial results from the passenger operations of this line for the period January 1, 1930 to May 31, 1931, both dates inclusive, are as follows:-

Passenger Revenue	\$1991.76
Station and Car Privileges	47.33
Total Operating Revenue	<u>\$2039.09</u>
Operating Expenses (Out of Pocket)	5315.96
Net Transportation Loss	<u>3776.27(*)</u>
Taxes assignable	86.62
Net Passenger Loss	<u>\$3863.49 (*)</u>

(*) Indicates loss.

From the above compilation it will be noted that the line has not made out-of-pocket expenses from the conduct of the passenger service, and that no allowance has been made for the items of "Maintenance of Way and Structures", "Traffic Expense" or any "General and Miscellaneous Expense."

O. A. Smith, Passenger Traffic Manager of the applicant, testified that the territory between Arlington and Corona was very sparsely settled and that the use of the privately owned automobile had materially developed the loss sustained in recent years. This witness does not anticipate the revival of passenger traffic from any source which would enable the passenger operation to be continued and result in operation at other than a deficit.

Although due notice was given regarding the hearing on this application there was no appearance in protest against the granting of the application.

The record shows that it is the belief of the applicant that there is not sufficient patronage on the line between Arlington and Corona to justify continued passenger operation; that there is no prospect of additional traffic justifying the continuance of passenger operation; that checks of travel during the months of March and June, 1931, indicated an average of less than four passengers per trip; and the travel checks indicate that public convenience and necessity does not exist to an extent justifying the continued operation of passenger service on this line.

The few patrons of the line between Arlington and Corona have available the stage service of Motor Transport Company, with two trips daily in each direction. It is not proposed to discontinue the freight service now operated over this line.

After carefully considering all of the evidence in this proceeding, it appears that the continued operation of passenger service on applicant's line between Arlington and Corona is not

justified by the patronage offered by the traveling public in that the amount of revenue received, when compared with the operating costs, does not result in sufficient revenue to meet out-of-pocket operating expenses, thereby placing an undue and unwarranted burden on the applicant and its patrons in the continued maintenance of the unprofitable service herein proposed to be discontinued, therefore the application should be granted.

O R D E R

A public hearing having been held on the above-entitled application, the matter having been duly submitted and the Commission being now fully advised,

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that permission and authority be and it is hereby granted to Pacific Electric Railway Company, a corporation, to discontinue passenger service on its line between Arlington and Corona, as applied for herein, and to cancel, in conformity with the rules of this Commission, all passenger rate tariffs and time schedules between said points, subject to the following conditions:

1. Applicant shall afford the public at least ten (10) days notice of abandonment of passenger service by posting notice of abandonment at both terminal stations of Arlington and Corona, and on all passenger cars operated on said line.
2. If the service has not been abandoned, as authorized herein, within one (1) year from the date of this order, the authorization herein granted shall lapse and become void, unless further time is granted by subsequent order of this Commission.
3. Applicant shall within thirty (30) days thereafter advise the Commission of the abandonment of service herein authorized.
4. The Commission expressly reserves the right to issue such other and further orders in this

proceeding as to it may appear just and proper,
or as the public convenience and necessity may
require.

For all purposes, other than as stated above, the
effective date of this order is hereby fixed as twenty (20)
days from the date hereof.

Dated at San Francisco, California, this 21st day
of July, 1931.

Leon C. ...

M. B. Lewis

Fred G. Stewart
Commissioners.