

Decision No. 24872.

BEFORE THE RAILROAD COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA.

In the Matter of the Application of ASSOCIATED TELEPHONE COMPANY, LTD., for an order authorizing it to file and make effective a rate for handset equipment in its Covina Exchange.

Application No. 17591.

Ernest Irwin, for Applicant.

BY THE COMMISSION:

ORIGINAL

O P I N I O N

In this application, Associated Telephone Company, Ltd., asks authority to file and make effective a rate for hand set telephone service in its Covina Exchange, which shall be the rate for desk set telephone service plus twenty-five (25)cents per month.

A public hearing in this proceeding was held by Examiner Satterwhite in Los Angeles on September 18, 1931, and the matter submitted for decision.

Ernest Irwin, as a witness for applicant, stated that this service was desired by the public in the Covina Exchange and that the rate therefor, which is higher than rates for service with wall or desk telephone set, is justified on account of the higher first cost of the apparatus and the increased maintenance expense. He further stated that the charge for service with hand set equipment should be higher than that with wall or desk set equipment in order to protect the company against the retirement of such latter equipment prior to the expiration of its useful life, a condition which would exist should there be no

higher rate.

Approximately 154 hand sets are in service in the Covina Exchange. It appears advisable that subscribers be given the opportunity for a period of at least sixty (60) days after the effective date of the order in which a change in type of instrument from hand set to wall or desk set may be secured without the application of the regular charges provided in the schedule for such changes.

The correctness of the rate differential as applied for, which is as low as any now effective in California, has been recognized in previous formal proceedings of the Railroad Commission and will be approved.

O R D E R

Associated Telephone Company, Ltd., having made application to the Railroad Commission for authority to make effective a rate for hand set telephone service in its Covina Exchange, a hearing therein having been held, the matter having been submitted and now being ready for decision,

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that Associated Telephone Company, Ltd., shall

- (1) Charge and collect, in its Covina Exchange, for each hand set station the desk set station rate plus twenty-five (25) cents per month, effective on and after November 1<sup>st</sup>, 1931, provided said rate be submitted to the Railroad Commission for filing on or before October 20<sup>th</sup>, 1931.
- (2) Notify each present subscriber to telephone service with hand set in its Covina Exchange of said increase in rate for said service.
- (3) Make, if requested by a present subscriber to telephone service with hand set in its Covina Exchange, one change in type of telephone from hand set to wall or desk set without charge, provided such request is made within sixty (60) days after the effective date of this order.

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 28<sup>th</sup> day of September, 1931.

W. B. Lewis  
Leon O'Neil

W. B. Lewis  
Fred G. Stewart  
Commissioners.