

Decision No. 24941.

BEFORE THE RAILROAD COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA.

In the Matter of the Application of (a) SOUTHERN PACIFIC COMPANY for authority to close its agency at Tehama Station, County of Tehama, State of California, and (b) RAILWAY EXPRESS AGENCY, INC., for authority to abandon its agency at said station.

ORIGINAL

Application No. 18177.

BY THE COMMISSION:

ORDER

This is a joint application filed by the Southern Pacific Company and the Railway Express Agency, Inc., seeking authority to close their joint agency station at Tehama, in Tehama County, California. Accompanying this application is a comparative statement showing the amount of business transacted by the Southern Pacific Company at said station during the two periods ending March 31st, 1931 and March 31st, 1932, as follows:

<u>Items</u>	<u>Year ending March 31, 1931</u>	<u>Year ending March 31, 1932</u>
Passenger tickets sold,	115	107
Number of L.C.L. shipments received,	466	343
Number of L.C.L. shipments forwarded,	49	46
Number of carload shipments received,	35	116*
Number of carload shipments forwarded,	226	117**

\*52 carloads Highway Construction Material,  
64 Feeder Cattle.

\*\*116 carloads Market Cattle.

A study of the company's station records shows that the revenue for the twelve-month period ending April 30th, 1932

was as follows:

<u>Items</u>	<u>Revenue for year ending April 30th, 1932.</u>	
Passenger tickets sold	\$551.	
L.C.L. shipments received and forwarded,	<u>652.</u>	\$1,203.
Carload shipments received and forwarded,		<u>8,895.</u>
TOTAL REVENUE		\$10,098.

Agent's salary during the same period amounted to \$1,646.

From the above accounts it appears that the principal need for an agent is to take care of the less-than-carload shipments, as the ticket business can be handled by conductors on the trains and carload business can be handled by the nearby agencies.

The revenue of the Railway Express Agency, Inc., during the twelve-month period from April 1, 1931, to March 31, 1932, for all express shipments forwarded and received at Tehama amounted to \$222.48.

In the past Southern Pacific Company's agent has acted as express agent at this point on a commission basis. Railway Express Agency, Inc., alleges that, in view of the small amount of remuneration, no outside party is available to handle the agency in case Southern Pacific Company should withdraw its agent. In the application, Southern Pacific Company alleges that the abandonment of said agency will not involve the abandonment of any facilities and that the station will be continued as a non-agency station.

The nearest agency to the north of Tehama is Gerber, located a distance of two miles; to the south the nearest agency on the east side line is Los Molinos, located a distance of two miles and on the west side line is Corning, located a distance

of eight miles.

The California Farm Bureau Federation signified that it does not object to the granting of this application.

A member of the Transportation Division of the Commission's Engineering Department made an investigation in this matter and his report, based on an interview with city officials and interested shippers and receivers of freight, indicated that there is no serious objection from the standpoint of railroad service to the granting of this application.

Southern Pacific Company has indicated that, if the application is granted, it plans to take care of less-than-carload shipments by storing them in the warehouse under lock and key and the company's telephone, located outside the depot, is to be made available to patrons to communicate with the agent at Gerber for the purpose of ordering cars, obtaining information or for any other railroad business. It appears that a public hearing is not necessary herein and that the application should be granted, therefore,

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that the Southern Pacific Company and Railway Express Agency, Inc., respectively, are hereby authorized to close their joint agency at Tehama, located on the main line of the Southern Pacific Company on its Sacramento Division, in Tehama County, California, and to change their respective records and tariffs accordingly, subject to the following conditions:

- (1) Said agency is to be continued as a non-agency station.
- (2) Southern Pacific Company shall store less-than-carload shipments under lock and key in company's warehouse and the company telephone located at this station shall be made available to patrons. The key to both the warehouse and telephone shall be obtained from a custodian, located near said station, notice of which shall be maintained both at the warehouse and telephone advising shippers where key can be secured.
- (3) Railway Express Agency, Inc., shall continue to handle express shipments moving into or out of said point, provided they are tendered to or re-

ceived by express messenger at car door of trains stopping at said point.

- (4) Applicants shall give the public at least ten (10) days' notice prior to the abandonment of said agency by posting notice in a conspicuous place at said station.
- (5) Applicants shall, within thirty (30) days thereafter, notify this Commission, in writing, of the abandonment herein authorized and of their compliance with the conditions hereof.
- (6) The authorization herein granted shall lapse and become void if not exercised within one (1) year from the date hereof unless further time is granted by subsequent order.

The authority herein granted shall become effective on the date hereof.

Dated at San Francisco, California, this 27<sup>th</sup> day of June, 1932.

C. Leavelle  
Leon Whitall  
W. A. ...  
M. B. Harris  
Fred G. Stewart  
 Commissioners.