

Decision No. 24943.

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 Wright, County of
 Santa Clara, State of California, and (b)
 RAILWAY EXPRESS AGENCY, INC., for authority
 to abandon its agency at said station.

Application No. 18198.

ORIGINAL

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 Wright in Santa Clara 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 31, 1931, and March 31, 1932, as follows:

<u>Items</u>	<u>Year Ending March 31, 1931</u>	<u>Year Ending March 31, 1932</u>
Passenger Tickets Sold,	331	329
Number of L.C.L. Shipments Received,	300	129
Number of L.C.L. Shipments Forwarded,	29	12
Number of Carload Shipments Received,	6	1
Number of Carload Shipments Forwarded,	4	3

A study of the Company's station records shows that during the twelve-month period ending April 30, 1932, the revenue was as follows:

<u>Items</u>	<u>Revenue</u> <u>For Year Ending Apr. 30, 1932</u>
Passenger tickets sold,	\$409.05
L.C.L. Shipments received & forwarded,	<u>94.32</u>
Sub-Total,	\$503.37
Carload shipments received & forwarded,	<u>197.92</u>
Total Revenue,	\$701.29

The total railroad station expense during the same period amounted to \$1,756.77, the principal item being the agent's salary.

The revenue of the Railway Express Agency, Inc., during the twelve-month period from May 1, 1931, to April 30, 1932, for all express shipments forwarded and received at Wright, amounted to \$315.98.

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 the Railroad 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 south of Wright is Felton, located a distance of 11.1 miles; to the north the nearest agency is Los Gatos, a distance of 7 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 has made an investigation in this matter and his report, based on an interview with a majority of the interested

shippers and receivers of freight, indicates 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 in the depot, is to be made available to patrons to communicate with agent at Los Gatos and Felton for the purpose of ordering cars, obtaining information or for 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 Wright, located on the College Park and Santa Cruz Branch of the Southern Pacific Company on its Coast Division in Santa Clara 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 the 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 received 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 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 27th day of June, 1932.

Al Seaver
Leon Whelan
W. A. ...
W. B. ...
Fred G. ...
 Commissioners.