

ORIGINAL

Decision No. 25257.

BEFORE THE RAILROAD COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA.

In the matter of application of SOUTHERN PACIFIC COMPANY for an order authorizing it to close the agency at Paradise Station, County of Butte, State of California.

Application No. 18399.

BY THE COMMISSION:

O R D E R

Southern Pacific Company, a corporation, on September 6, 1932, petitioned the Railroad Commission for authority to close its seasonal agency at Paradise, Butte County, California, which is now maintained during a three months' period from August 1st to October 31st, inclusive, each year.

Accompanying the application is a comparative statement showing the amount of business transacted at said station during the three months' period ending October 31, 1930 and 1931, as follows:

<u>Items</u>	<u>August 1st to October 31st</u>	
	<u>1930</u>	<u>1931</u>
Passenger tickets sold,	19	30
Number of less-than-carload shipments received,	118	140
Number of less-than-carload shipments forwarded,	12	21
Number of carload shipments received,	19	9
Number of carload shipments forwarded,	20	5

The nearest agencies to Paradise are Stirling City, located a distance of 17.2 miles to the east, and Chico to the west, 14.0 miles. Applicant, however, now has an application

before the Commission to close its Stirling City Agency.

A member of the Transportation Division of the Commission's Engineering Department has made an investigation of this matter and his report shows that interested shippers and receivers of freight have been interviewed and have indicated that they will not oppose the granting of this application, providing the service is continued through the operation of a non-agency station, which is the plan of procedure proposed herein, as the abandonment of said agency will not involve the abandonment of any facilities.

California Farm Bureau Federation has signified, in writing, that it does not object 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 that the company telephone located outside the depot is to be made available to patrons to communicate with the agent at Chico for the purpose of ordering cars 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 Southern Pacific Company is hereby authorized to abandon its seasonal agency, now maintained during the period August 1st to October 31st, inclusive, each year, at its station of Paradise, located on the Stirling City branch of its Sacramento Division, in Butte County, California, and to change its station records and tariffs accordingly, sub-

ject to the following conditions:

- (1) Said agency is to be continued as a non-agency station.
- (2) The seasonal abandonment of this agency shall not result in an increase in fares for Southern Pacific Company passengers boarding trains at this point.
- (3) Southern Pacific Company shall store less-than-carload shipments under lock and key in the company warehouse and the railroad telephone, located at this station, shall be made available to its patrons. The key to both the warehouse and telephone shall be obtainable from a custodian located at or near said station, notice of which shall be maintained at both warehouse and telephone, advising shippers where key can be secured.
- (4) Applicant shall give the public at least ten (10) days' notice prior to the abandonment of said agency by posting notices in a conspicuous place at said station.
- (5) Applicant shall, within thirty (30) days thereafter, notify the Commission in writing of the abandonment herein authorized and of its 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 10th day of October, 1932.

W. J. Cun
W. B. Harris
Fred G. Stewart
Commissioners.