

Decision No. 25316.

BEFORE THE RAILROAD COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA.

In the Matter of the Application of
(a) NORTHWESTERN PACIFIC RAILROAD
COMPANY for an order authorizing it
to close its agency at Island Mountain,
County of Trinity, State of California,
and (b) RAILWAY EXPRESS AGENCY, INC.,
for an order authorizing the abandonment
of its agency at said station.

ORIGINAL

Application No. 18355.

BY THE COMMISSION:

O R D E R

Northwestern Pacific Railroad Company, a corporation, joined by the Railway Express Agency, Inc., a corporation, on August 19, 1932, applied for authority to close their joint agency at Island Mountain station in Trinity County, California.

A study of the Railroad Company's station records shows that \$135.85 passenger business was transacted at said station during the year ending April 30, 1932, and \$489.28 less-than-carload and \$789.00 carload was transacted during the same period. The station expense for the same period amounted to \$1,780.00, which is \$365.84 in excess of the gross receipts.

The Railway Express Agency, Inc., reports that the revenue during the 12-month period ending June 30th for all express shipments forwarded and received at Island Mountain amounted to \$418.81. In the past Northwestern Pacific Railroad Company's agent acted as express agent at this point on a commission basis. Railway Express Agency, Inc., alleges that no outside party is available to handle the agency in case Northwestern Pacific Company should be permitted

to withdraw its agency in view of the small amount of remuneration.

It is stated in the application that the nearest agency to the north of Island Mountain is Alderpoint, located a distance of 14.6 miles, and Dos Rios, to the south 28 miles; that the abandonment of said agency will not involve the abandonment of any facilities; that the station will be continued as a non-agency station; and that, in their opinion, the continued maintenance of said agency is not necessary for the business of the applicants or for the public. The Railroad Company has indicated that if the application is granted, it plans to handle less-than-carload shipments by storing them in warehouse under lock and key and that the company telephone, located outside of the depot, is to be made available to its patrons to communicate with the adjacent agents for the purpose of ordering cars and obtaining other railroad information.

The California Farm Bureau Federation has signified, in writing, that it does not object to the abandonment of said agency.

It appears that a public hearing is not necessary herein and that the application should be granted, therefore

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that the Northwestern Pacific Railroad Company and the Railway Express Agency, Inc., respectively, are hereby authorized to close their joint agency at Island Mountain, located on the Northwestern Pacific Railroad Company's main line, in Trinity County, and to change their station records and tariffs accordingly, subject to the following conditions:

- (1) Said agency shall be continued as a non-agency station.
- (2) The abandonment of said station shall not result in an increase in fares for Northwestern Pacific Railroad Company's passengers boarding trains at this point.

- (3) Applicants shall notify the public of the abandonment of said agency by posting notices in a conspicuous place in said station at least ten days prior to the abandonment.
- (4) Less-than-carload shipments shall be stored under lock and key in the Railroad Company's warehouse and the Company's telephone, located at the station, shall be made available to patrons. The key to both the warehouse and telephone shall be obtainable from a custodian at or near said station, and notice advising shippers where key can be secured shall be maintained at the warehouse and telephone.
- (5) Railway Express Agency, Inc., shall continue to handle express shipments moving into or out of Island Mountain, provided they are tendered to or received from express messenger at car door of trains stopping at said point.
- (6) Applicants shall within thirty days thereafter notify the Commission, in writing, of the abandonment herein authorized and of their compliance with the conditions hereof.
- (7) 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 31st
day of October, 1932.

O. C. Severy
Leon Auldrey
W. J. Carr
W. B. Harris
Fred G. Stewart
Commissioners.