

Decision No. 25320 .

BEFORE THE RAILROAD COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

In the Matter of the Application of
 (a) SOUTHERN PACIFIC COMPANY for an
 order authorizing it to establish a
 part-time agency at the stations of
 Clements and Lockeford, in the County
 of San Joaquin, State of California,
 and (b) Railway Express Agency, Inc.,
 to establish a part-time agency at
 Clements Station.

Application No. 18450.

ORIGINAL

BY THE COMMISSION:

ORDER

Southern Pacific Company, a corporation, joined by the Railway Express Agency, Inc., a corporation, on October 5, 1932, petitioned the Railroad Commission for authority to establish a part-time agency in lieu of the present full time agencies at both Clements and Lockeford, located on Southern Pacific Company's Lodi Branch on its Western Division, in the County of San Joaquin, California.

Accompanying the application is a comparative statement showing the amount of business transacted by the Southern Pacific Company at said stations, respectively, during the two-year period ending July 31, 1932, to-wit:

<u>Items</u>	<u>Clements</u>		<u>Lockeford</u>	
	<u>Year ending July 31st</u>			
	<u>1931</u>	<u>1932</u>	<u>1931</u>	<u>1932</u>
Passenger tickets sold,	27	6	52	39
Less-than-carload shipments received,	720	539	909	710
Less-than-carload shipments forwarded,	351	300	161	59
Carload Shipments received,	61	618(a)	269	157(c)
Carload shipments forwarded,	184(b)	135	381	265(d)

Notes: (a) 526 cars highway construction material.
 (b) 104 cars stock.
 (c) 126 cars highway construction material.
 (d) 255 cars deciduous fruits.

Lockeford and Clements are both located between the agency

station of Lodi on the west and Valley Spring on the east, a distance of 26.9 miles, Lockeford being 7.4 miles east of Lodi and Clements 15.5 miles west of Valley Spring.

Applicant, Southern Pacific Company, alleges that under the present conditions revenue derived at said stations does not warrant the continued maintenance of full-time agents at each of the said stations, and that the business can be adequately handled by the maintenance of an agency at Clements during the approximate hours of 9:00 A.M. to 12:30 P.M. and at Lockeford from 1:45 P.M. to 5:45 P.M. During the time the agent is absent from each of these stations during business hours, the Company plans to store less-than-carload shipments in warehouse under lock and provide a telephone to be located outside of the depot for patrons to communicate with the adjacent agent for the purpose of ordering cars and obtaining other railroad information. The key for the warehouse and telephone will be obtainable from a custodian at or near said stations.

With respect to that portion of this application dealing with Railway Express Agency, Inc. service, we are in receipt of a letter requesting that their action in this proceeding be dismissed without prejudice in so far as it relates to the Railway Express Agency, Inc.

California Farm Bureau Federation has signified, in writing, 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 the matter and his report shows that interested shippers and receivers of freight at Clements and Lockeford have indicated that they will not oppose the granting of this application.

It appears that a public hearing is not necessary herein and that the application should be granted with respect to Southern Pacific Company's request and dismissed so far as it relates to Railway Express Agency, Inc., therefore,

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that the Southern Pacific Company is hereby authorized to establish part-time agencies at Clements and Lockeford, San Joaquin County, California. The approximate hours the agencies are to be open each week day shall be as follows:

Clements,.....9:00 A.M. to 12:30 P.M.
Lockeford,.....1:45 P.M. to 5:45 P.M.

The authorization herein granted is subject to the following conditions:

- (1) During the absence of agent less-than-carload freight shipments shall be stored in Railroad Company's warehouse under lock and a telephone shall be made available to patrons. The key to both the warehouse and the telephone shall be obtainable from a custodian at or near said stations, and notice advising shippers where key can be secured shall be maintained at said warehouse and telephone.
- (2) Applicant shall notify the public of the establishment of the proposed part-time agencies by posting a notice in advance for at least ten (10) days in a conspicuous place at said stations.
- (3) Applicant shall within thirty (30) days thereafter notify the Commission, in writing, of the change herein authorized and its compliance with the conditions hereof.
- (4) 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.

IT IS HEREBY FURTHER ORDERED that this application in so far as it relates to the service of the Railway Express

Agency, Inc. is hereby dismissed without prejudice.

The effective date of this order shall be the date hereof.

Dated at San Francisco, California, this 31st day of October, 1932.

Al Henry
Leon Whittell
M. J. Carr
M. B. Harris
Fred G. Stewart
Commissioners.