

Decision No. 25497.

BEFORE THE RAILROAD COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA.

In the Matter of the Application of
NORTHWESTERN PACIFIC RAILROAD COMPANY
for an order authorizing it to close
the agency at Vineburg, County of
Sonoma, State of California, during
the period September 1st to June 30th,
inclusive, of each year.

ORIGINAL

Application No. 18566.

BY THE COMMISSION:

O R D E R

Northwestern Pacific Railroad Company, a corporation, on December 7, 1932, filed an application for authority to close its agency at Vineburg, in Sonoma County, California, during the ten-month period beginning September 1st of each year and ending the following 30th day of June.

Accompanying the application is a comparative statement showing the amount of business transacted by Northwestern Pacific Railroad Company at said station during the ten-month periods ending June 30, 1931 and 1932. A summary of this statement follows:

<u>Item</u>	<u>Ten-month Period</u> <u>Ending June 30th</u>	
	<u>1931</u>	<u>1932</u>
Passenger Tickets Sold	242	285
Number of L.C.L. Shipments Received	463	298
Number of L.C.L. Shipments Forwarded ...	409	242
Number of Carload Shipments Received ...	76	17
Number of Carload Shipments Forwarded ..	46	37

Vineburg Station serves a district devoted largely to the growing of deciduous fruits and vineyards.

The nearest existing agencies to Vineburg are Shellville, 1.8 miles south, and Sonoma, 2.6 miles north.

It is alleged that the seasonal abandonment of said agency will not involve the abandonment of any facilities; that the agency will be continued as a non-agency station and that, in applicant's opinion, the continued maintenance of the station is not necessary for the business of the applicant or for the public.

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

A representative of the Transportation Division of the Commission's Engineering Department has made an investigation and his report shows that interested shippers and receivers of freight at Vineburg Station have indicated they will not oppose the granting of this application. The company has stated 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 that the company's telephone will be made available to patrons to communicate with agents at adjacent stations for the purpose of ordering cars 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 Northwestern Pacific Railroad Company is hereby authorized to close its agency at Vineburg, located on its Sonoma Valley Branch in the County of Sonoma, State of California, from approximately September 1st of each year to approximately June 30th of the following year, and to change its station records and tariffs accordingly, sub-

ject to the following conditions:

- (1) Said Station of Vineburg shall be operated as a non-agency station during the time the agency is not maintained.
- (2) Applicant shall, each year, notify the public ten (10) days in advance of the closing of said station by posting a notice in a conspicuous location in said station and also shall advise this Commission, in writing.
- (3) Northwestern Pacific Railroad Company shall store less-than-carload shipments under lock in the company's warehouse and the railroad company's telephone, located at this station, shall be made available to patrons. The key to both the telephone and to the warehouse shall be obtainable from a custodian located at or near said station and a notice to this effect shall be maintained at both the telephone and the warehouse advising shippers where key may be secured.
- (4) Applicant shall, within thirty (30) days thereafter, notify this Commission, in writing, of the abandonment herein authorized and of its compliance with the conditions hereof.
- (5) 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 authorization herein granted shall become effective on the date hereof.

Dated at San Francisco, California, this 27th day of December, 1932.

C. C. Seaver
Leon A. [unclear]
M. A. [unclear]
W. B. [unclear]
Fred G. [unclear]
Commissioners.