

## BEFORE THE RAILROAD COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA.

In the Matter of the Application  
of the QUINCY WESTERN RAILWAY to  
increase passenger fares.

} Application No. 41.  
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OPINION.

Eshleman and Thelen, Commissioners.

This is an application of QUINCY WESTERN RAILWAY to increase its one way and round trip passenger fares between all points. Applicant asks authority to increase its one way fare between Quincy and Marston from forty-five to fifty cents and its round trip fare from fifty to seventy cents. As the business of the road is practically confined to the carrying of freight and passengers between the termini at Quincy and Marston, formerly known as Hartwell, we shall confine ourselves in our opinion to those points.

An investigation of the records of the applicant develops the fact that between 75 and 80 per cent of the passenger business handled is on single trip tickets. The total number of single trip tickets sold for the year from June 1, 1911 to June 1, 1912 between Quincy and Marston was approximately 7650, while the round trip tickets amounted in number to approximately 2250. It appears that the increased revenue which the applicant will obtain if permitted to charge its increased fares between all points will amount to about \$800.00 per year.

It is apparent from an investigation of the records of the applicant that the railroad is not even making operating expenses. It is also clear that unless additional business is developed by an extension into the timber country adjacent to Quincy, the railroad will have great difficulty even with the increase in passenger rates now asked, to meet its operating expenses. It should be noted in

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this connection that an increase in passenger fares does not necessarily mean an increased revenue, and that in this case a trial of the proposed rates will alone show the effect on applicant's revenue.

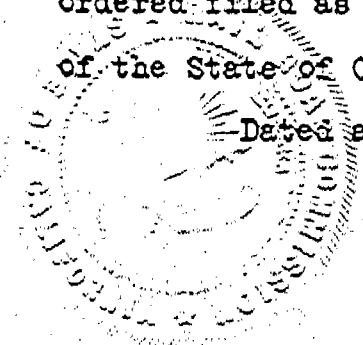
Although notice of the hearing was published in both the Quincy newspapers and although the Commission journeyed to Quincy so as to give possible protestants an opportunity to be heard, no one appeared to oppose the application. We take it from this failure to object, that the citizens of Quincy are content to permit the proposed increase in fares to be made, at least until they can see what the effect thereof will be on applicant's revenue. The Commission has had some doubt about authorizing the increase, particularly in view of the fact that the patrons of only a portion of the contemplated enterprise are being asked to pay on the foundation cost for the entire enterprise. However, we have decided, in view of the undoubted deficit in operating expenses, and of the acquiescence of the citizens of Quincy, to try out the proposed new fares and to grant the application, and submit herewith the following order.

ORDER.

On the facts as found in the above Opinion it is hereby ordered that the application be and the same is hereby granted, and applicant is directed to publish, distribute and file with the Commission, within ten days from the service of this order, a tariff of passenger rates in accordance with this order.

The foregoing opinion and order are hereby approved and ordered filed as the opinion and order of the Railroad Commission of the State of California.

Dated at San Francisco, California, this 26th day of June, 1912.

  
J. M. Eshleman  
H. D. Overland  
Miss Thelen  
Commissioners.