

Decision No. 6231

ORIGINAL

BEFORE THE RAILROAD COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA.

In the Matter of the Application )  
of COGGESEALL LAUNCH COMPANY for )  
an order authorizing an increase )  
of rates. )

Application No. 4378.

BY THE COMMISSION.

O P I N I O N.

This is an application by Coggeshall Launch Company, a corporation engaged in carrying freight and passengers upon Humboldt Bay, for authority to raise its monthly commutation rate between Eureka and Samoa, Humboldt County, from \$1.75 to \$2.00 per month.

A public hearing was held in Eureka on March 20, 1919, before Examiner Bancroft.

From the evidence it appears that applicant owns and operates one steamer, five gasoline launches, one oil and wrecking barge, nine lighters and one gasoline schooner.

All of this Company's commutation business is carried upon the S.S. "Antelope", a stern wheel steamer, which cost applicant \$22,500.

The following statement submitted by applicant of the business of S. S. "Antelope" during the year 1918 shows an excess of expenditures over receipts amounting to \$2,820.94:

Total passenger receipts S.S. Antelope		\$15,165.75
Total freight receipts	" "	<u>1,551.16</u>
Total receipts	" "	\$16,716.91

EXPENDITURES S. S. ANTELOPE

Office and Dock	\$ 300.00	
Fuel Oil	1,700.00	
Pay Roll Crew Antelope	6,847.00	
Office Expenses Wages	720.00	
Printing	600.00	
Repairs	4,735.02	
Fire Insurance	250.00	
Employers' Liability	192.60	
Supplies	1,593.23	
Management Antelope	600.00	
Losses 33% Judgment <u>Early v. S.S. Antelope</u>	<u>2,000.00</u>	
	\$19,537.85	
Expenditures in excess of receipts		<u>2,820.94</u>
	\$19,537.85	\$19,537.85

In considering this statement, however, we find the item of \$4,735.02 for repairs should be reduced two-thirds, owing to the fact that the item includes overhauling and other unusual repairs, which the testimony shows are necessary about every three years. During the year 1918 applicant paid a judgment in the case of Early vs. S.S. Antelope, which resulted from an accident in the operation of the steamer, in the sum of \$6,000. In the above statement \$2,000 of this amount is shown as operating expenses for 1918. Without passing upon the question as to whether the facts of this particular case would authorize this item being included in operating expenses, we are of the opinion that the application should be granted; for if we deduct two-thirds of the item for repairs and the entire amount charged on account of the accident, and allow applicant 5% annual depreciation, its annual net profit upon the cost of this vessel would, with the increased rate, be 5.4%.

O R D E R.

COGGESEALL LAUNCE COMPANY having applied to the Railroad Commission for authority to increase its monthly commutation rate between Eureka and Samoa, Humboldt County, from \$1.75 to \$2.00, a public hearing in the above entitled proceeding having been held and the Commission being fully apprised in the premises,

THE RAILROAD COMMISSION HEREBY FINDS AS A FACT that the existing commutation rate of applicant between Eureka and

Samoa, Humboldt County, California, is insufficient and non-compensatory and that the rate herein authorized is a just and reasonable rate.

Basing its order on the foregoing finding of fact and on the other findings of fact contained in the opinion which precedes this order,

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that Coggeshall Launch Company be and it is hereby authorized to establish and charge a monthly commutation rate of two dollars (\$2.00) in lieu of the present rate of one dollar and seventy-five cents (\$1.75) between Eureka and Samoa, Humboldt County, California, provided, that Coggeshall Launch Company shall, within thirty (30) days from the effective date of this order, file with the Railroad Commission said new commutation rate hereby authorized.

Dated at San Francisco, California, this 28<sup>th</sup> day of March, 1919.

Edwin D. Edgett  
H. H. Howard  
Francis A. Leitch  
H. B. Brantley

Commissioners.