

Decision No. 6797

ORIGINAL

BEFORE THE RAILROAD COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA.

In the Matter of the Application )  
of Pacific Steamship Company for ) Application No. 4963.  
an order authorizing increases in )  
passenger fares and baggage rates. )

McCutchen, Willard, Mannon & Greene, by Farnum Griffiths,  
for Applicant,  
John S. Willis, for San Francisco Chamber of Commerce.

LOVELAND, COMMISSIONER:

O P I N I O N

This is an application by Pacific Steamship Company under Section 63 of the Public Utilities Act, for an order of the Railroad Commission granting authority to increase passenger fares and excess baggage rates between San Francisco and Wilmington, Long Beach, Los Angeles and San Diego; between San Francisco and Eureka and between San Diego and Long Beach, Los Angeles and Wilmington. The passenger fares are to be increased between San Francisco and the Southern California points in amounts from \$1.00 to \$4.00 and between San Diego and Long Beach--Los Angeles in amounts from 50 cents to \$1.00; between San Diego and Wilmington by 50 cents and between San Francisco and Eureka in amounts from \$1.00 to \$1.50, depending upon the class of accomodations.

The increase in excess baggage rates are nominal, ranging from 2 cents to 59 cents per 100 pounds. The total increase in revenue is estimated at 15%.

The fares and excess baggage rates now in effect are

published in Pacific Steamship Company's Local and Joint Passenger Tariff No. 5, C.R.C.No.38, and became effective January 8, 1919. These passenger fares include berth and meals and are graded according to the stateroom occupied by traveler. The proposed rates are materially lower than the fares of rail line competitors when consideration is given to the fact that the Steamship Company includes in its passenger fare sleeping accommodations and meals. A witness for applicant stated that in compiling the proposed rates they were made as close to those of their rail competitors as could be maintained and still secure business.

At the hearing held on October 9th, 1919. it was stipulated that the testimony presented in connection with the increases in freight rates would apply with equal force to the application involving increases in passenger and excess baggage rates. Operating costs have steadily increased since the present rates were established in January, 1919 and as this proceeding presents the same need for additional passenger revenue as was shown in Pacific Steamship Company's application for an increase in freight rates, it will not here be necessary to again discuss the details of the advances in operating costs.

The relief herein sought is brought about by the rapid advances in operating expenses without a corresponding increase in gross revenue, and the necessities of the situation are the same in this application as those set forth in the Opinion and Order in Application No. 4986.

I am of the opinion, upon the testimony and exhibits presented at the joint hearing, that the present passenger rates are non-compensatory and that applicant has fully and completely demonstrated the need for greater passenger revenue.

The application should be granted and I present the following form of order:

O R D E R

Pacific Steamship Company having applied to this Commission for authority to increase one-way fares and baggage rates between California ports, a hearing having been held, the matter having been submitted and being now ready for decision.

IT IS HEREBY FOUND AS A FACT that applicant's present one-way passenger fares and baggage rates, insofar as they conflict with the fares and rates set forth hereinafter, are unjust, unreasonable and noncompensatory, and that the said fares and rates hereinafter prescribed are just and reasonable.

Basing its action upon said finding of fact and upon other facts and statements contained in the opinion preceding this order,

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED, that Pacific Steamship Company be and the same is hereby authorized to publish and file within twenty (20) days from date hereof passenger fares and excess baggage rates as prayed for in Exhibit A of the application and in accordance with the following schedule:

TABLE OF ONE-WAY FARES

Between	A1	A2	B1	B2	C1	C2	D	Children's Fares of 2 and under 5 years of age.
	:(Accommodations as described in Exhibit A)							
San Francisco: and Wilmington)	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
Long Beach)	\$24.00	21.00	18.00	16.00	15.00	15.00	11.00	2.50
Los Angeles)	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
San Francisco: and San Diego	31.00	28.00	22.00	20.00	19.00	19.00	14.00	3.00
San Diego and Long Beach )	:	:	:	:	:	:	:	:
Los Angeles)	7.00	7.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	4.00	3.00	.50
Wilmington )	:	:	3.50	3.50	3.50	3.50	:	:
San Francisco: and Eureka	:	:	:	:	9.00	9.00	6.00	1.50

TABLE OF EXCESS BAGGAGE RATES - PER 100 POUNDS.

Between	San Diego	Wilmington	Los Angeles- Long Beach	San Francisco	Eureka
San Diego	\$ .72	\$ .72	\$3.09	\$5.09	
Wilmington	\$ .72	.25	2.37	4.37	
Los Angeles- Long Beach	.72	.25	2.37	4.37	
San Francisco	3.09	2.37	2.37	2.00	
Eureka	5.09	4.37	4.37	2.00	

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 27<sup>th</sup> day of October 1919.

Edwin O. Edgerton  
H. D. Loveland  
Francis R. Perkins  
H. B. Anderson  
Irving Martin  
 Commissioners.