

Decision No. 7601.

ORIGINAL

BEFORE THE RAILROAD COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA.

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In the Matter of the Application of  
A. B. BLAND for certificate of public  
convenience and necessity to operate  
passenger service between Holtville  
and Calexico.

Application No. 5549.

J. W. Glassford for Applicant.  
H. W. Kidd for United Stages,  
Protestant.  
H. Q. Booth for Southern Pacific  
Company, Protestant.

BY THE COMMISSION:

O R D E R

A. B. Bland has petitioned the Railroad Commission for an order declaring that public convenience and necessity require the operation by him of an automobile stage line as a common carrier of passengers between Holtville and Calexico.

A public hearing on this application was conducted by Examiner Handford at El Centro on May 11, 1920; at which time the matter was duly submitted for decision.

Applicant proposes to charge rates in accordance with a schedule marked exhibit "A" and attached to the application in this proceeding; to operate on a schedule of one round trip daily, except Sundays, over a route between the city of Holtville thence along the Holton Power Canal Road to the main canal of Imperial Water Company No. 5, thence south along such road to Bond's Corner located slightly north of the international boundary line between Mexico and the United States and near the southwestern corner of fractional

section 16, thence westerly and closely adjacent to the international boundary line to the terminus in Calexico. Applicant proposes to use as equipment two-seven passenger Cadillac automobiles. Witnesses for applicant testified as to the desire of residents in the territory between Holtville and Calexico for the establishment of a service such as is proposed by applicant herein and that along the route and adjacent thereto a population of approximately five hundred persons would be served by the proposed stage line. The establishment of the line would accommodate laborers, dredgemen, and cotton pickers/ ranch employees who now have no regular method of transportation enabling them to reach either Calexico or Holtville. There was no evidence presented at the hearing indicating any desire on the part of residents of Holtville or Calexico for a through service between such towns; the testimony being confined entirely to the need for service from the terminals to intervening territory not now served by any regular transportation.

The granting of this application is opposed by the United Stages, such company operating between El Centro and Calexico connecting at El Centro with an existing line of applicant operated from Holtville to El Centro. The Southern Pacific also operates train service between El Centro and Calexico connecting at El Centro with the stage line of applicant operated between Holtville and El Centro which is at the present time the only regular method of transportation between such points; the Holton Inter-Urban Railway Company formerly serving El Centro and Holtville having been authorized by the Railroad Commission to discontinue passenger operation.

Decision No. 6770 on Application No. 4592; United Stages, Inc.; to operate passenger auto stage service between

Holtville and Calexico and intermediate points denied such applicant the right to operate on the basis that there was no showing made which would justify the granting of the application and no showing that the then existing transportation facilities were inadequate or that the rate charged by the combination of routes then existing was unsatisfactory.

Applicant in the present proceeding appeared as a protestant basing such protest on the alleged fact that the combined service of his line and that <sup>of</sup> the United Stages was adequate and satisfactory for the travelling public; that the road over which applicant proposed to operate was in such condition that regular and profitable operation was impossible and that sufficient business did not exist to warrant the establishment of a stage line over the route as sought by United Stages, Inc. In this proceeding applicant has requested authority to operate over another route between El Centro and Holtville than that formerly proposed by the United Stages, Inc.; but in this proceeding there has been no showing that there is any justification for the authorization of a through route between El Centro and Holtville, the entire showing of public convenience and necessity being confined to the intermediate business or that to be served from Holtville and El Centro to points intermediate along such route. In view of the testimony in this proceeding and of that of record with the Railroad Commission in Application No. 4592, no authorization can be given for through service between El Centro and Holtville. Public necessity and convenience has been shown as regards the population residing at points intermediate on the route between Holtville and El Centro although it is questionable if a stage line can be successfully operated if the through

business between Holtville and El Centro is to be eliminated.

THE RAILROAD COMMISSION HEREBY DECLARES that public convenience and necessity require the operation by A. B. Bland of an automobile stage service as a common carrier of passengers between Holtville, Calexico and points intermediate on such route; provided, however, that this declaration confers no authority for the transportation of through passengers between Holtville and Calexico, the authority hereby conveyed being for the transportation of passengers originating at or destined to points intermediate between the terminals of Holtville and Calexico; the Railroad Commission finding as a fact that the through service between the cities of Holtville and Calexico is satisfactorily cared for by existing transportation lines operating between Holtville and Calexico via El Centro and; provided further, that the rights and privileges hereby authorized may not be transferred or assigned unless the written consent of the Railroad Commission to such transfer or assignment has first been secured.

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that no vehicle maybe operated under this certificate unless such vehicle is owned by the applicant herein or is leased by such applicant on a contract or agreement on a basis satisfactory to the Railroad Commission.

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that applicant herein shall within ten days from the date of service of this order file a written acceptance of this certificate specifying in such acceptance the date upon which operation over the route herein above mentioned will commence, such date to be not less than thirty days from the date of service of this order and; unless

such acceptance is filed and operation is begun in accordance with its terms, this declaration to stand void without further order of this Commission.

Dated at San Francisco, California, this 18<sup>th</sup> day of May, 1920.

Edwin O. Edgerton  
H. D. Loveland  
Dwight M. ...  
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Commissioners.