

Decision No. 7717

BEFORE THE RAILROAD COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

ORIGINAL

In the matter of the application)
of Ida F. Bass for an order author-)
izing and permitting her to sell)
by agreement of sale, certain tele-)
phone lines in Shasta County, Cali-)
fornia, to George W. Johnstone.)

Application No. 5411.

Chenoweth and Leininger
by Orr M. Chenoweth for applicant.

By the Commission:

O P I N I O N

In this application Ida F. Bass asks the authorization of this Commission to sell a telephone business and system, locally known as the Bass lines, serving certain subscribers in Shasta County to George W. Johnstone, her son-in-law.

The application sets forth that Ida F. Bass is a widow of the age of sixty-three years; that it is impossible for the applicant, Ida F. Bass, to personally attend to the management and operation of the business and system; that the income from the said telephone lines does not justify the expenditure necessary to secure a competent man to manage and operate the system; that the applicant proposes to sell said telephone system to George W. Johnstone, her son-in-law, who has had charge of said telephone system for several months last past and who is competent to manage and maintain said telephone system and improve the service thereon; that in the management of said telephone system said George W. Johnstone will be assisted by his wife who has had many years experience in assisting in the opera-

tion of said telephone lines.

A public hearing was held at Redding, California, May 24th, 1920, before Examiner Satterwhite.

The Commission has not made an examination or obtained a valuation of this telephone system. The property which it is proposed herein to convey is described in the proposed agreement marked "Exhibit A" and made a part of the application as follows:

"That certain telephone business formerly conducted under the name of "Herbert Bass", who is now deceased, and "Redding, Ingot and Wengler Telephone Company, a corporation", in Shasta County, California, the lines of which business connect with Redding, Churn Creek, Buckeye, Bella Vista, Palo Cedro, Stillwater, Millville, Fern, Ingot, Henderson, Round Mountain, Montgomery Creek, Wengler, Burney, Carbon and Fall River Mills, together with all poles, wires, telephone boxes and equipment of every kind and nature used in connection with said telephone line."

The consideration named for the proposed sale and transfer is eight thousand dollars (\$8,000.00), to be paid as follows: One thousand, two hundred dollars (\$1,200.00) on or before the 1st day of March, 1920; one thousand, two hundred dollars (\$1,200.00) on or before the 1st day of March, 1921; six hundred dollars (\$600.00) on or before the 1st day of March, 1922; two thousand dollars (\$2,000.00), on or before the 1st day of January, 1923; three thousand dollars (\$3000.00) on or before the 1st day of January, 1925; together with interest on all deferred payments from January 1st, 1920, at the rate of five percent (5%) per annum, to be paid annually on the 1st day of January of each and every year commencing with January 1st, 1921.

Authority to execute the agreement of purchase and sale, "Exhibit A", is also desired.

Since it appears that as far as the public service is concerned the proposed purchaser should be better able to serve the public than the present owner, we believe that the petition to transfer this property should be granted.

O R D E R

Ida F. Bass having applied to the Railroad Commission for authority to sell to George W. Johnstone the telephone exchange and system of the former, located in Shasta County, California, and connecting the communities of Redding, Churn Creek, Buckeye, Bella Vista, Palo Cedro, Stillwater, Millville, Fern, Ingot, Henderson, Round Mountain, Montgomery Creek, Wengler, Burney, Carbon and Fall River Mills, including all of its permits, privileges or franchises and to execute an agreement of purchase and sale as set forth in the preceding opinion, and a public hearing having been held thereon and it appearing to the Commission that the public interest will be subserved thereby,

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that the application herein be and it is hereby granted provided that the amount named as the consideration for said transfer shall not be taken before this Commission or other authority as representing the value

of said property for rate fixing or other purposes; and

Provided further, that the authority herein granted will not become effective until George W. Johnstone has paid the fee prescribed in the Public Utilities Act; and

Provided further, that the authority herein granted will apply only to such property as may be transferred on or before August 31, 1920.

Dated at San Francisco, California, this 16th
day of June, 1920.

Notary Public, State of California
JUL 25 1920
JUL 8 1920
BY J. H. Matkum
Notary Public

Edwin O. Edgerton
W. B. Loveland
Dwight Martin

Commissioners.