

ORIGINAL

Decision No. 7778

BEFORE THE RAILROAD COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

--000--

In the matter of the application)
of Cristian Blakemore, a ware-)
houseman, to increase rates for)
storing and handling grain at)
Miller and Vale Stations, Solano)
County.)

APPLICATION NO. 5601

Cristian Blakemore, in propria persona.

BY THE COMMISSION -

OPINION

Applicant operates two warehouses in Solano County, both located on the line of San Francisco-Sacramento Railroad Company - one at Miller Station and the other at Vale. The former, owned by the railroad company, is under lease to applicant at an annual rental of \$600.00; the Vale property is owned by applicant and represents an outlay of \$1125.00 when purchased in 1917. To this has been added a wagon scale costing \$500.00 and a loading machine worth \$600.00, making a total investment of \$2025 at the Vale warehouse. Grain is the principal commodity stored of which an average of 3800 tons per year has been handled during the last three seasons, the total capacity of both warehouses being 4500 tons. A small tonnage of hay is also handled each year, yard storage being available if needed.

Rates desired by applicant and rates at present in effect are as follows:

	<u>Present</u> <u>Rate</u>	<u>Proposed</u> <u>Rate</u>	<u>Increase</u>
Yard storage, per season, per ton	\$.75	\$ 1.00	\$.25
Weighing and loading to cars "	.42	.50	.08
Reweighing - - per "	.20	.25	.05

The request is based upon alleged increased operating costs with reference to labor, equipment, materials and board which, according to the application, have advanced to levels from 50 to 100% higher than prices obtaining in 1918. Applicant paid \$3.00 per day and board for warehouse labor during the 1919 season and expects to pay not less than \$4.00 per day and board for the current season. The additional revenue which would result from the proposed rates is problematic, being almost wholly contingent upon the amount of yard storage offered, no increase having been asked for storage in applicant's warehouses. If the volume of tonnage stored should prove to be small, as appears likely, warehouse storage alone may be in demand, in which case no increase in revenue would result.

A hearing on the application was held at Davis on June 15, 1920, at which confirmatory testimony was offered in support thereof, including a showing that notice of the hearing had been mailed to 90% of applicant's patrons and that no protest against the proposed rates had been received. It also appeared that a number of applicant's patrons had affirmatively approved the proposed rates. No one appeared at the hearing to oppose the application.

The Commission believes that the rates requested by applicant have been justified and should be authorized.

ORDER

Cristian Blakemore, a warehouseman, having applied to this Commission for authority to increase warehouse rates, a hearing having been held thereon, the matter having been submitted and the Commission being apprised as to all the facts and circumstances involved,

IT IS HEREBY FOUND AS A FACT that the rates proposed in the application are fair and reasonable and that rates shown in applicant's schedule now on file, insofar as they conflict

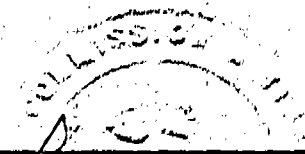
with rates herein established, are unjust and non-compensatory.

Based on this order upon the foregoing finding of fact and other facts set out in the preceding opinion -

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED by the Railroad Commission of the State of California that Cristian Blakemore, a warehouseman, be and he is hereby authorized to publish, file and place in effect one day thereafter the following rates for warehouse service at Miller Station and Vale Station on the line of the San Francisco-Sacramento Railroad Company in Solano County:

For yard storage, per season,-	\$1.00 per ton
" weighing and loading to car direct	.50 " "
" reweighing	.25 " "

Dated at San Francisco, California, this 24th day of June, 1920.


W. D. Loveland
Frank H. H. H.
During Martin
COMMISSIONERS.