

Decision No. 7986.

ORIGINAL

BEFORE THE RAILROAD COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

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In the Matter of the Application of )  
Woodworth Campbell, Agent, in the )  
name and on behalf of N. Fay & Sons, )  
Geo. A. Brown, . Wheeler Trans- )  
portation Company, Vehmeyer Trans- ) APPLICATION NO. 5841  
portation Company, Rio Vista Lighter- )  
age Company, Herringer & Scott, )  
Sheckler & Hoffman Transportation )  
Company, and Island Transportation )  
Company for authority to increase )  
rates. )

LOVELAND, Commissioner -

O P I N I O N

Woodworth Campbell, Agent, the applicant in this proceeding having petitioned the Railroad Commission on behalf of N. Fay & Sons, Geo. A. Brown, Wheeler Transportation Company, Vehmeyer Transportation Company, Rio Vista Lighterage Company, Herringer & Scott, Sheckler & Hoffman Transportation Company and Island Transportation Company, common carriers, acting under authority of powers of attorney on file with the Commission from each of said carriers, applied under Sections 15, 21 and 63 of the Public Utilities Act for an order granting him permission to publish, file, establish and make effective, for and on behalf of said carriers, upon one day's notice, the rates, rules and regulations for the transportation of freight and relief from the Long and Short Haul provision of the Constitution of the State of California, between Stockton, Sacramento, San Francisco, Pittsburg, Bay Point, Oleum, Petaluma, and intermediate points, and landings on the San Joaquin, Mokelumne, Old, Middle and Sacramento Rivers and tributaries, shown in statement attached to application in

this proceeding, marked Bay & River Boat Local Freight Tariff No.2, C.R.C. No.4, of Woodworth Campbell, Agent.

The proposed rates, rules and regulations are increases or result in increases over the rates, rules and regulations now published and maintained for the transportation of traffic between the same points, by the said carriers, which are shown in the following tariffs on file with the Commission:

C.R.C. Nos.3 and 11 of N. Fay & Sons  
C.R.C. No.5 of Wheeler Transportation Co.  
C.R.C. No.5 of Vehmeyor Transportation Co.  
C.R.C. No.1 of Rio Vista Lighterage Co.  
C.R.C. No.5 of Herringer & Scott, and  
C.R.C. No.3 of Island Transportation Co.

The applicants in this proceeding are carriers engaged in the business of transferring freight by gasoline launches, barges and steam boats on the Sacramento and San Joaquin Rivers and tributaries thereof.

The testimony introduced by the applicant, through an expert accountant, showed that practically all of the carriers were operating at a deficit or at most only <sup>avoiding a deficit.</sup> ~~making a profit~~. It was also shown that all operating costs such as wages, commissary supplies, oil, gasoline, rope, ship chandlery etc., had greatly increased.

No tariffs have been filed with the Railroad Commission by applicants Geo. A. Brown, Sheckler & Hoffman Transportation Company and River Sand & Gravel Company. Therefore, this order will not include these three applicants.

It is proposed to establish an increased schedule of class rates, revise the classification, cancel certain commodity rates and increase others. The present and proposed class rates are set forth below:

	<u>CLASSES</u>				
	1	2	3	4	5
	<u>Rates in Cents per 100 Pounds</u>				
Present	27 $\frac{1}{2}$	25	21 $\frac{1}{2}$	19	12 $\frac{1}{2}$
Proposed	34 $\frac{1}{2}$	31 $\frac{1}{2}$	27	24	15 $\frac{1}{2}$
Increase -	$\frac{7}{7}$	$\frac{6\frac{1}{2}}{6\frac{1}{2}}$	$\frac{5\frac{1}{2}}{5\frac{1}{2}}$	$\frac{5}{5}$	$\frac{3}{3}$

the increases in these rates ranging from 24% to 26%.

Exhibits were introduced by an expert accountant testifying for the applicant, showing the property investment, volume of traffic, revenue and expenses of each of the interested parties. It will not be necessary to reproduce the exhibits, it being shown that after making allowances for all operating expenses including taxes and depreciation that none of the applicants show a reasonable net income.

Owing to the manner in which these applicants' books were kept, it was practically impossible to definitely determine in each case the amount of revenue and expenses, some of them keeping practically no record. Each of the applicants in this proceeding will be required to keep methodical and comprehensive records of revenues and expenses and will on March 15, 1921, furnish the Commission with a full report of revenues, expenses, valuation of property, depreciation account etc., covering operations under the increased rates authorized herein, for the first six months, September 1920 to February 1921, inclusive. The Commission will determine from this report whether or not further action is required in this matter.

It is therefore the conclusion of the Commission that this application should be granted.

#### ORDER

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that this application be and the same is hereby granted permitting the applicants, parties to this proceeding, to increase their rates in accordance with the exhibit attached to and made a part of the application, subject to the

conditions imposed in the opinion preceding this order.

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 23<sup>d</sup> day of August, 1920.

*Erin O. Edgerton*  
*H. D. ...*  
*W. A. ...*  
*H. B. ...*

COMMISSIONERS.