

ORIGINAL

Decision No. 8542

BEFORE THE RAILROAD COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA.

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In the matter of the application
of C. S. COUNTRYMAN for certificate
of public convenience and necessity
to operate passenger and baggage
service between Sterling and Chester
via Prattville.

} Application No. 5726.
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Harry A. Encell for Lawrence Stage
Company.

O'Connor & Schwartz by Grover O'Connor
for Houch & Smith, protestants.

BY THE COMMISSION:

O P I N I O N

A public hearing upon the above application
was held by Examiner Westover at Sterling City.

It appears from the testimony that pro-
testant, Lawrence Stage Company, operates a passenger stage
line between Greenville and Westwood over a route following
the easterly shore of Lake Almanor, reaching the road between
Chester and Westwood at a point a few miles east of Chester
with a service also between Greenville and Prattville on the
westerly side of Lake Almanor.

Protestants Houch & Smith operate a
passenger stage line between Chico and Susanville via Chester
and Westwood, their route passing within about a half mile
of Prattville. There is also a railroad connecting Belden
on the Western Pacific line with Prattville. The passenger

traffic of these three lines consists principally of laboring men traveling between the lumber mills at Susanville and Westwood and the labor centers at San Francisco, Sacramento and Chico; and also between the latter centers and Prattville, which is the location of the construction camp engaged in development work on Lake Almanor for Great Western Power Company.

The line described in the application between Sterling and Chester via Prattville, Longvale and Chaparral would parallel the Houck & Smith line, some four miles distant, and would serve only three or four families not immediately on the Houck & Smith line. The territory in question is very mountainous and not passable for autos for a considerable portion of each winter season.

The applicant did not appear at the hearing nor cause any testimony to be submitted. It appears from the testimony of protestants that there is no need for further service in the territory described and that if such need arises protestants are abundantly able to provide increased service.

O R D E R

A public hearing having been held upon the above application, the matter having ^{been} submitted, and the Commission being fully advised,

THE RAILROAD COMMISSION HEREBY FINDS that there are at present ample transportation facilities to care for travel in the territory described in the application and it therefore declares that public convenience and necessity

do not require the service which applicant proposes in his application to render, and the application is therefore denied.

Dated at San Francisco, California, this
15th day of November, 1920.

H. A. Loveland

H. B. Bondage

James Master
Commissioners.