Decision No. 8942



BEFORE THE RAILROAD COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

In the Matter of the Application of J. D. GODFREY for certificate of public convenience and necessity to operate freight, express and baggage service between Santa Ana, California, and Arch Beach, Orange County, California.

Application No. 6531.

Blodgett & Blodgett, by L. W. Blodgett, for Applicant.

Clyde Bishop for Crown Stages.

E. G. Lucey for Atchison, Topeka & Santa Fe Railway Company.

L. B. Valla for Southern Pacific Company.

BY THE COMMISSION:

<u>OPINION</u>

J. D. Godfrey applies for authority to operate freight express and baggage service between Santa Ana and Arch Beach, serving Tustin, Irvine and Laguna Beach as intermediate points, all located in Orange County.

A public hearing upon the application was held by Examiner Westover at Santa Ana.

Applicant's counsel stated at the hearing that there was no desire to serve locally between Santa Ana, Tustin and Irvine, the particular need of service being between these three points and the beach towns of Laguna and Arch Beach. Thereupon, the representatives of the railroads withdrew any opposition to granting the application. The application is based upon the ground that there is no transportation to Arch Beach and that the only service to Laguna Beach is incidental to passenger stage service now given by Crown Stages, operating between Santa Ana and Laguna Beach. This consists of a large stage operated three round trips per day and four round trips per day during the summer season, with a capacity for 1000 pounds of freight, express or baggage, besides accommodation for passengers. Crown Stages also has a small truck to accommodate freight which cannot be handled on the stage. This truck is used only at rare intervals. Crown Stages can apparently handle all freight offered. Its filed tariffs do not limit the weight or size of packages which will be transported.

There was considerable testimony complaining of unwarranted delay in handling trunks, and some delay in handling merchandise freight. It also appears that few of the shippers at Laguna Beach know of the existence of this freight service.

It appears that the faults complained of can be readily corrected by more careful attention to operating details and that, as Arch Beach is but one and one-fourth miles distant from Laguna Beach, the latter could be most economically and logically served by Crown Stages. Mr. A. B. Watson, owner of Crown Stages, readily arranged at the hearing to at once apply for authority to extend his operation to Arch Beach, and also promised to promptly improve the service to Laguna Beach. If this is not done within a reasonable time, applicant may then file a new application, setting forth conditions as they then exist, and the Commission will then give the matter further attention.

ORDER

A public hearing having been held upon the above entitled application, the matter being submitted and ready for decision,

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The Railroad Commission hereby declares that public convenience and necessity do not require J. D. Godfrey to operate an automobile freight, express and baggage service between Santa Ana and Arch Beach, serving Tustin, Irvine and Laguna Beach as intermediate points.

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that the above entitled application be and it is hereby denied.

Dated at San Francisco, California, this <u>60</u> day of May, 1921.

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Commissioners.