ORIGINAL

Decision No. <u>44209</u>

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

In the Matter of the Application of ROSCOE D. RICE and CLARENCE W. MURRY, copartners doing business as RICE & MURRY TRANSPORTATION SYSTEM to: (1) withdraw motor bus service between Planada, California, and Le Grand, California, over County Road No. 160, (Santa Fe Drive).

Application No. 31086

## OPINION

The Commission is herein requested to authorize Roscoe D. Rice and Clarence W. Murry, doing business as Rice & Murry Transportation System to discontinue operation of their passenger stage service between Planada and Le Grand which was authorized as an extension of their service from Merced to Planada by Decision No. 42986, dated June 14, 1949.

Applicants allege that the population of Le Grand has decreased from 1,500 to 800, and that most of the remaining people own their own cars and do not require a transportation service. For the four months prior to filing the application, the number of passengers carried steadily decreased-from 146 in November, 1949, to 62 in February, 1950. For the period November 1, 1949, to January 31, 1950, applicants show for the Planads Le Grand segment, receipts of \$165.03 and expenses of \$580.61, for a loss of \$415.58. From all other system operations they earned \$1,068.59, which when reduced by the Planada-Le Grand loss loaves a net profit of \$653.01. The foregoing figures were supplied without any deduction for depreciation.

The Board of Supervisors of Merced County and the City Council of Merced have each advised this Commission in writing that it has no objection to the granting of this application.

We are of the opinion that continuation of applicants' certificated service between Planada and Le Grand is not warranted under present conditions. The application will therefore be granted. A public hearing is not necessary.

## ORDER

Application having been made and the Commission being of the opinion that the authority requested should be granted,

## IT IS ORDERED:

- (1) That Roscoe D. Rice and Clarence W. Murry be and they are hereby authorized to discontinue their passenger stage service between Planada and Le Grand.
- (2) That all tariffs and time tables now in effect under applicants' names between Planada and Le Grand be and they are hereby cancelled as of the effective date of this order.
- (3) That applicants shall, not loss than ten days prior to discontinuance of the service hereinabove referred to, post notices thereof in public places in Planada and Le Grand and in all their vehicles serving those two communities.

The effective date of this order shall be twenty (20) days after the offective date hereof.

> Dated et <u>New Vrancesco</u>, California, this <u>23<sup>hd</sup></u> , 1950.

day of