

ORIGINAL

Decision No. 50838

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

In the Matter of the Application of)	
SOUTHERN PACIFIC COMPANY and of)	
RAILWAY EXPRESS AGENCY, Incorporated,)	
for authority to discontinue agency)	Application No. 35831
at Yountville, County of Napa, State)	
of California, and to maintain said)	
station as a nonagency.)	

- R. S. Myers, for applicant.
- Stanley F. Dunmire for the Division of Veterans' Home at Yountville, interested parties.
- C. G. Vogt and H. D. Smith for The Order of Railroad Telegraphers, protestant.
- John E. Lloyd Jr., for the Community of Yountville, protestant.
- Andrew G. Fabiani for the Board of Supervisors of Napa County, protestant.

O P I N I O N

Railway Express Agency, Incorporated, requested that the application be dismissed as to it. As applied to Southern Pacific Company the application requests an order authorizing it to discontinue the agency at Yountville and to maintain said station as a nonagency station. As justification for granting the requested relief it was alleged that under present conditions the business at said station does not, in the judgment of the railroad company, warrant its continued maintenance. The notice of the proposed closing was duly filed with the Commission in compliance with General Order 36-B.

Public hearing was held in Yountville, California, on November 18, 1954, before Commissioner Ray E. Untoreiner and Examiner John Rowe, at which time oral and documentary evidence was adduced and the matter was duly submitted.

The railroad applicant produced evidence of the revenue

and expense of the station only for the two years ending August 31, 1953 and 1954. This evidence indicated a slight decrease in freight traffic and revenue for the latter year as compared with the former. On the other hand, there appears to be a slight increase in passenger revenue for the second of the two years. Neither change is sufficient to be considered as significant and the net loss for the period ending August 31, 1954, was less than for 1953. No evidence as to how these years compare with any previous periods was submitted.

A careful study of the record in this matter compels the conclusion that applicant has not furnished sufficient evidence to justify the granting of the railroad's request. There was no testimony as to the actual time the agent at this station devoted to the work which must in any event be performed at some other station even if that at Yountville were to be closed. Nor was there any testimony as to the volume of work performed by this agent for such corporations as Pacific Greyhound Lines and Pacific Motor Trucking Company.

A more serious deficiency in the necessary proof is revealed with regard to the revenue derived from the Yountville agent's handling of the traffic moving to and from the nearby nonagency station at Oakville. One of applicant's witnesses testified that the agent at Yountville handled the work for the Oakville station. However, he stated that no revenue from freight originating at or moving to Oakville, was included in applicant's exhibits. Without such evidence, it appears that the assertion of lack of financial justification for maintaining the Yountville station agency has not been substantiated. The application will therefore be denied.

Public hearing having been held in the above-entitled proceeding, and the matter having been duly submitted,

IT IS ORDERED:

(1) That Application No. 35831 as applied to applicant Railway Express Agency, Incorporated, be and it hereby is, dismissed.

(2) That Application No. 35831 as applied to Southern Pacific Company be, and it hereby is, denied.

The effective date of this order shall be twenty days after the date hereof.

Dated at San Francisco, California, this 7th day of December, 1954.

John E. Mitchell
PRESIDENT

James F. Casner

Wm. H. Patten

Wm. J. Higgins

R. G. Luterance
COMMISSIONERS