

Hannan Street, Kalgoorlie, Western Australia



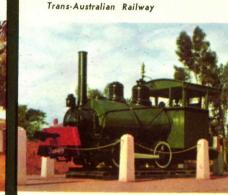
Wildflowers, Nullarbor Plain.



Thomas Playford Power Station,
Port Augusta



Gold Mines at Kalgoorlie, Western Australia

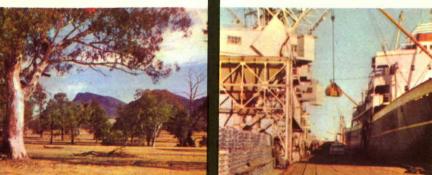


The historic "Sandfly" locomotive.

Port Augusta Station

Country view near Hesso.

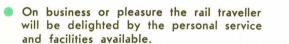
Fettlers Home, Bookaloo, Trans-Australian Railway



Flinders Range , South Australia Loading lead ingots, Port

COMFORT AND RELAXATION

TRANS - CONTINENTAL RAIL TRAVEL IN THE MODERN WAY



- Complete privacy in your own airconditioned, self contained roomette or twinette by night or day.
- The Observation Car is ideal for sightseeing with its spacious windows and restful chairs.
- The Lounge Car with its comfortable and modern setting is a rendezvous for enjoyment and entertainment.
- An excellent variety of meals and refreshments are served in the Dining Car. A liquor service is also available in the Lounge Car before meals.
- Friendly and helpful railway personnel are always on hand to make your journey a pleasant and memorable event.

ACROSS THE CONTINENT



TWO VIEWS OF THE LOUNGE CAR, TRANS-AUSTRALIAN RAILWAY EXPRESS TRAIN



THE TRANS-AUSTRALIAN RAILWAY

CHRONOLOGICAL TABLE

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- 1892 Sir John Forrest (afterwards Lord Forrest) set his mind on connecting East and West by railway. Sir John Forrest had overlanded from Western Australia in 1870.
- 1901 Sir John Forrest held out prospects of the railway being constructed and induced Western Australia to enter the Australian Federation.

Reference to the proposed construction of the railway was included in the Governor-General's speech on the inauguration of the Commonwealth.

Mr. C. Y. O'Connor, Engineer-in-Chief for Western-Australia, submitted estimate of cost of constructing a railway from Kalgoorlie to Port Augusta.

- 1903 The Minister for Home Affairs (the Hon. Sir William J. Lyne) called together the Engineers-in-Chief of New South Wales, Victoria, Queensland, South Australia, and Western Australia to consider the question of the proposed transcontinental railway from Kalgoorlie to Port Augusta. They recommended a railway of 4' 8½" gauge.
- 1907 The Commonwealth Parliament passed an Act authorising survey of the route.
- 1911 Dec. 12, Kalgoorlie to Port Augusta Railway Act passed by Commonwealth
- 1912 Sept. 14, first sod turned at Port Augusta by His Excellency the Governor-General, Lord Denman.
- 1913 Feb. 12, first sod turned at Kalgoorlie by the Prime Minister the Rt. Hon. Andrew Fisher.
- 1917 Sept. 22, assent given to Commonwealth Railways Act.

Year

- 1917 Oct. 17, rails linked at 1.45 p.m., South Australian time, at 621 miles 58 chains 50.5 links from Port Augusta.
- 1917 Oct. 22, first passenger train left Port Augusta for Kalgoorlie.
- 1927 July 4, successful treatment of water at 631 miles by barium carbonate process, thus overcoming serious problem of locomotive water supplies.
- 1936 Air-conditioned dining and lounge cars brought into service.
- 1937 July 26, Port Augusta-Port Pirie Railway opened for public traffic.
- 1940 Ballasting of the track completed.
- 1951 Diesel Budd Rail Cars introduced into service to provide fast passenger service between Port Pirie-Port Augusta and Woomera.

Between September 1951, and May 1952, ten (10) Clyde G.M. type main line diesel electric locomotives were delivered at Port Augusta for service on the Commonwealth Railway system.

- 1952 Two (2) complete modern air-conditioned passenger trains were placed in regular service in November.
- 1953 Radio telephone communication equipment installed.
 - First set of welded rail track laid between the 822 and 841 mile in July. Rail laid in lengths of 270 feet. New all steel, weather proof bogie freight vans were placed in service. A distance of 1,108 miles was traversed in 25½ hours by attaching the new type freight vans to the Transcontinental Passenger Express trains.
- 1959 Diesel Hydraulic Shunting Locomotives were placed in service.



COMMONWEALTH RAILWAYS

