

The life of C.Y. O'Connor

Cut out the boxes and reorganise them in chronological order.



State Library of Western Australia

1 At 21, C.Y. O'Connor sets sail for New Zealand to join the Government Survey team.

2 C.Y. O'Connor designs and builds the harbour at Fremantle.

3 Sir John Forrest turns on the tap at Mount Charlotte Reservoir and water begins to come through the pipeline.

4 C.Y. O'Connor creates plan for a pipeline to take water from Perth to the Goldfields at a cost of £2.6 million - an amount equivalent to the annual budget for the entire colony.

5 C.Y. O'Connor goes to Dublin University to study engineering.

6 Survey of the route for the new pipeline is completed. Site for dam is selected at Mundaring Weir and construction commences.

7 Charles Yelverton O'Connor is born to a wealthy family in County Meath Ireland.

8 C.Y. O'Connor accepts a job offer from WA Premier Sir John Forrest to become Engineer in Chief of all public works.

9 The campaign against the pipeline and C.Y. O'Connor begins. The Western Australian newspaper editor, Sir Winthrop Hackett was a supporter but The Sunday Times' editor F.C Vosper was a critic, calling it '...a huge joke' and 'a fanciful project by a conceited engineer'.

10 C.Y. O'Connor commits suicide as a result of stress, criticism and overwork.

11 The gold rush in New Zealand is over. C.Y. O'Connor is turned down for the job as Chief engineer.

12 Sir John Coode's plan for Fremantle harbour is in competition with C. Y. O'Connor's. Eventually C. Y. O'Connor's cheaper plan is successful.

13 The pipeline is successful and still provides water to the towns today. It is a lasting legacy to his name.

14 Lack of water in the Goldfields, combined with unsanitary conditions, Typhoid and Cholera leads to the death of many men.

15 Gold is discovered in Coolgardie and Kalgoorlie shortly after. The population of Western Australia experiences a rapid increase as people come from all over the world to find gold.