

S.M.H. TUES 7-4-59
RAILWAY REPAIRS
THROUGH NIGHT

FAULTY TYRE DERAILS TRAIN

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tore up the permanent way on both lines for more than 100 yards.
Last night 150 railwaymen worked by oil flares and floodlights strung through trees to clear the line.
A rail-mounted mobile crane lifted the least damaged of the runaway trucks back on to the line, and preparations were made last night to blast a roadway to bring in a road mobile crane at dawn today.
A "wobbly" tyre on a truck carrying 42 tons of steel caused the derailment.
Mr McCusker said the tyre was sufficiently loose to cause the wheel to track wrongly when the train reached a "cross over" at the northern end of the single-track Como bridge.
Repair work was being hampered by the inaccessible nature of the track at the derailment scene.
The surrounding ground rose steeply on one side of the track and fell away sharply on the other.
Services on the same line were interrupted for 20 hours on April 16, 1956, when a train, also carrying steel, was derailed in a cutting on the southern approach to the George's River bridge.



...assisted by two volunteers holding kerosene flares

HUGE EMERGENCY BUS SERVICING AFTER DERAILLING

A huge emergency bus service carried more than 25,000 home-bound travellers to their destinations from Hurstville station between 3 and 7 p.m. yesterday.

The service was organised almost without delay. A squad of 20 police as far as Hurstville, where they joined buses to Sutherland street approaching land to pick up steam trains from there to the coast.
During the afternoon peak hours more than 100 Government and private buses were brought into operation. They carried passengers from Hurstville station to Sutherland, Miranda, Woolooware, and Cronulla.
Passengers travelling as far south as Oatley were able to take trains as usual. The Commissioner for Railways, Mr N. McCusker, expects all services on the line to be restored by 9 or 10 a.m. today.
Mr McCusker said special timetables were worked out to minimise the effect of the derailment on the rest of the electrified system.
Two trains isolated on the southern side of George's River operated between Sutherland and Cronulla. Milk trains from the South Coast were diverted via Moss Vale.

Leave Early Advice

The emergency bus services will swing into action again to shift this morning's city-bound crowds.
But transport officials last night urged people living south of the George's River to leave home earlier if they wanted to arrive at work on time.
Transport Department officials expect to move 7,000 people by the emergency service between 7.23 and 8.23 a.m. today.
Government buses from as far afield as Brookvale depot and private buses from as far distant as Liverpool joined in yesterday's lift.
More than 70 drivers and acting-drivers responded to appeals by the Transport Department to work extra shifts in the emergency.

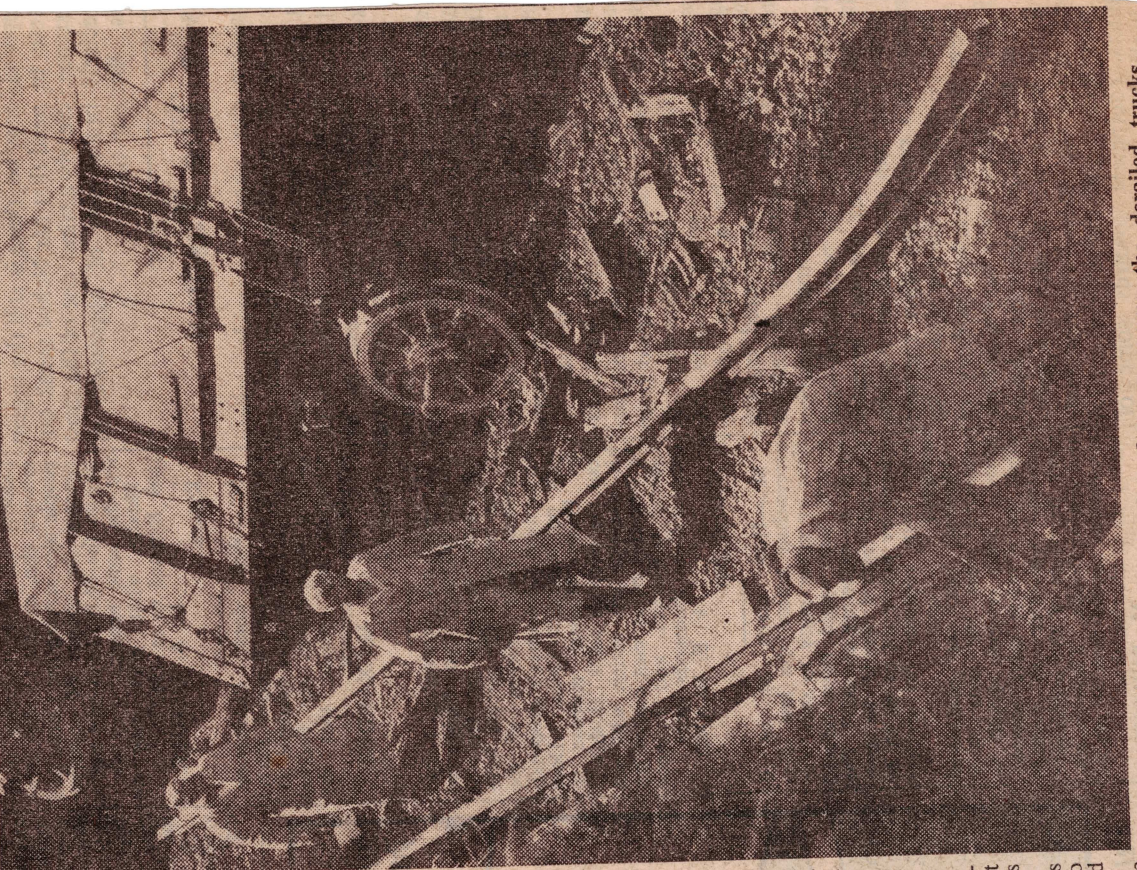
Loud Speaker Directions

Conductors were not required, as the buses ran at the expense of the Railways Department.
The cost to the Railways Department is expected to be £2,000 for last night and this morning.
The well-organised shuttle service at Hurstville moved

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Torn Up

Twelve trucks were involved in the derailment, which occurred at 9.55 a.m. 500 yards south of Oatley station.
They were tangled into a pile of twisted wreckage and normally running to the South Coast had been halted.



Three railway officials inspect damage among the derailed trucks.