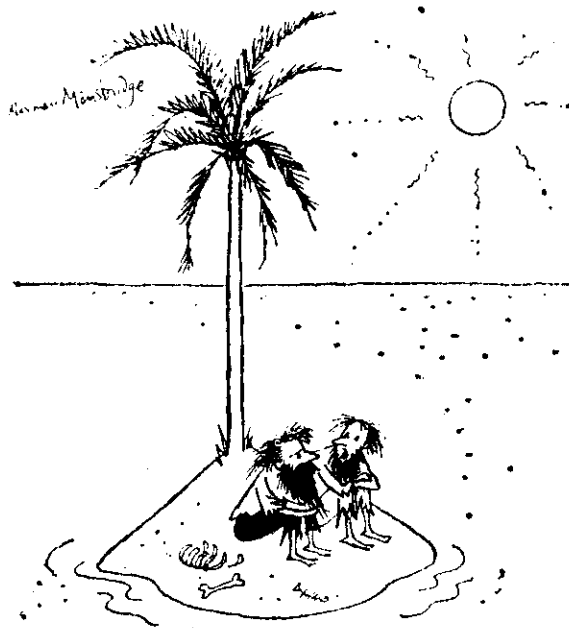




(C) Punch

"Are you for or against sponsored television?"

whether they have simply retreated from the plane where guilt is more manifest. At any rate, I pursued the Wilkes of the play beyond his pleasant bounds there, to a footnote which tells us that he fought for the liberty of the press and at last gained permission for newspapers to report Parliamentary debates. Good as well as evil, then, is contagious.

The Missing Eye

WORDS, or words and sound effects, are often complete in themselves. An accompanying visual account then diminishes the enjoyment through spreading the attention too far. There are times, nevertheless, when one desires the "second sight" which television confers, as when Reg Williams over 3YC took us with him to the Alderman Islands to look at the Tuatara. The absence of visual experience in this programme, and also the lack of sufficient sensitivity in the equipment, somewhat blurred the imaginative focus. Pleasant therefore as it would have been to have seen the Tuatara, as well as to have heard its primeval gulp, or to have seen the many young reptiles on the densely-populated islands, we could not. To answer Mr. Williams's question we could not hear the cicadas, although we could hear the mutton birds screaming in before the oncoming storm. Thus we roped our way to Reg Williams, and e to us, in a manner that detracted

from the programme, and for the first time I can put it on record that I hankered for TV.

—Westcliff

Unfortunate Marriage

A RADIO play cannot communicate its agony in silence. There is no sound suggestive of the stiff upper lip, but few radio plays dare to end, as did the BBC's *Mrs. Watts*, in a crescendo of heart-broken sobbing. *Mrs. Watts*, which I heard from 2YC last Friday, is the story of the sixteen-year-old Ellen Terry's marriage to the painter G. F. Watts, a beautiful little play superbly acted, the title role played with spirit, charm and ter-

rrible pathos by Dorothy Gordon. But there was more to it than emotional purgation—the calmer passages were enriched with sparkling glimpses of entertainments at which we have never assisted, like the dinner party given by Mr. and Mrs. Watts for Mr. Browning, Mr. Tennyson and Mr. Rossetti.

Thriller Unabashed

A GOOD week for thrillers—I particularly enjoyed *Keep Murder Quiet* (2YA, January 15), which kept up a fast pace in endeavouring to digest a whole novel. This was a thriller that gloried in its genre; things were done with a lavish hand, from the hearty nonchalance of the child-heroine gleefully reporting a suspect's flit ("There's a corpse in the sitting-room and she's left the house in a mess") to the really portentous sequences, where what Carol Reed would do with vistas of sewers is done for the listener with sustaining chords and Dragnettish music. *Mr. Harrington Died Tomorrow* (2YA's Sunday serial) is a more self-conscious piece of entertainment, but shows a nice sense of aural texture. And I like the device of the built-in raconteur.

—M.B.

THE TRANSFORMATION

I UNDERSTAND something about Kafka's beetle who was like a man of comic or story held in stance by gaudy balloon of speech sprouting dumbly from his amazed mouth, by swollen music floating in the air over his head silently as something burning, a ball of flower, gorse or broom perhaps growing beyond his hand's reach that is if gorse ever grew rooted in sky.

Thus held fast a life-time anchored always with featherweight balloon and mock of silent promise he chose the transformation, untrod where he stood, created his own music became a beetle a dropped crochet blotting his page a black shrivelled seed-pod spat from his mouth of broom burning and gorse to sunless earth pocket. He became the dream the dungbeetle sucking feeding upon the excrement of word.

—J.F.



for sheer glamour
for longer wear
for the smartest women
... the loveliest legs
in the world!

Londs
New Illusion

SY-METRA FULL FASHIONED
60 gauge, 15 denier NYLON HOSIERY

* IMPORTANT

Buy your correct foot size in
your own leg length, which is
'SHORT' 'AVERAGE' or 'LONG'

12½

SS.4A

DON'T RISK INFECTION

KEEP **ZAL** HANDY

AVAILABLE
EVERYWHERE
502.
BOTTLE 3/-
1 GAL.
TIN 36/6

THE EXTRA STRONG
EXTRA SAFE
EXTRA VALUE ANTISEPTIC



Distributed by Salmond & Spraggon Ltd., Wellington.

1.5