

(Continued from previous page)

But I have burnt and I have grubbed; I have planted it with pines, and seen all the pines die; I have dug bushes out by the roots, turned them upside down, to rot and smother the seedlings, and seen fringes of seedlings emerging every year since. Where the roots are only in soil or clay I think I still have a chance; but where they are buried under boulders I can't even slash the top growth away without wrecking my tools and my temper.

I believe that hormone sprays are being used with some success by farmers and public bodies rich enough to do the spraying effectively; though I have not heard even in those cases of anything like rapid and complete extermination. The story is rather that growth has been checked, and areas of infestation reduced, at a lower cost than by manual or mechanical labour. That is something; a hint; perhaps a hope. But it is not such a hopeful hope as the Catchment Board will have started in some minds by announcing that "we are entering a stage where chemical means will deal with the destruction of gorse." The hope most of us have in hormones is 90 per cent. wishful. We have lost all other hopes.

(To be continued)



PICTURED above is the Australian radio actor Lloyd Birrell, who plays the part of the disfigured air-ace and designer Brian Bronson in *Sabotage*, an adventure serial starting from 1XH at 7.0 p.m. on Tuesday, May 26. Bronson is working on plans for a new jet plane when threats are made against him. Sir John Underwood, head of MI5, sends Dick Farson, a professional saboteur of World War II, to investigate. He finds himself faced with several questions. Who searched his bags so thoroughly? What did the lovely Leila Ruston seek in an empty room late at night? Who murdered Tom Scanlon? The answers lead Farson on a long and adventurous trail, which listeners can follow from 1XH on Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays each week. *Sabotage* is already playing from 12B and begins on July 20 from 42B.

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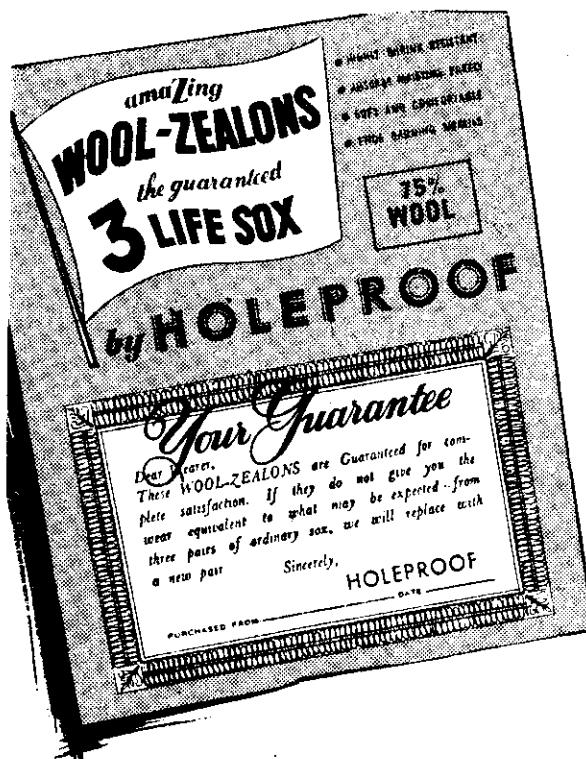
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