

## BUSH FIRES

### CANBERRA SWEEP

Bush fires have swept the Cotter and Uriarra districts. Large areas of grass have been destroyed, but no stock has been lost.

Five hundred men are now fighting on a seven-mile front. The commission has two lorries, with tanks, and 250 men, at work, and the Fire Brigade, with its full strength, has an engine at Uriarra, fighting to save the homestead.

The fire swept over to Mr. McDonald's, near Stromlo, and fears are entertained for the safety of the observatory and plantations.

Telephone lines have been burnt in various parts of the district, while the North Cotter catchment area has been devastated.

Several narrow escapes occurred in the Uriarra section, and lorries and cars, with fighters, had to rush back for safety. There are 150 men on the east side of the Murrumbidgee.

The rumors of heavy losses are exaggerated.

The fires were got under at the end of the week.

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