

## 16-DAY-OLD BUSHFIRE MYSTERY ENDS IN TRAGEDY

**CANBERRA.** — The 16-day-old mystery of the disappearance of a farm hand in bushfires which swept around Canberra on January 25 was solved yesterday when a charred body was found within a few miles of the city boundary.

The missing man was **Randolph Keith Pettit** (33), a farmhand, employed by **G. J. Kilmarlin**, of Canberra.

His body was found yesterday by a private search party which included his father, **Keith Pettit**, of Garange (N.S.W.) The body was ly-

ing only 40 yards from a large dam.

Pettit on January 25 rode into a paddock in face of a fire and brought several hundred sheep to the safety of the road. He then went to another point and was not seen again.

His horse was found unharmed tied to a fence, but his dog was found burnt to death about 20 yards away in a paddock.

Pettit's body was found two miles away.

Local farmers believe Pettit must have run almost two miles ahead of the fire.

**MELBOURNE.** — Victoria's 11th bushfire fatality, **Reynold Reginald Wishart**, died yesterday at the Woodend Hospital.

Wishart had been in the hospital in a critical condition since last Tuesday, when he was severely burned while helping to move stock to safety on the property of **Mr. O. J. Syme**, at Macedon.