

► **New home in Gunnedah** On Monday, 22nd June, the Gunnedah Rotary Club handed over a house to the Directorate of Aboriginal Welfare. The Club had been working on this project for months and had built the house with voluntary labour donated by many skilled tradesmen in the district. The only cost to the Department of Child and Social Welfare was for materials. Next day, Mr and Mrs R. Talbot, who are long-term residents of Gunnedah, moved into the house. Congratulations to Mr and Mrs Talbot.

► **A Lionel Rose of the future?** Pictured opposite is twelve years old Harry Johnston (known as Harry Ellis) who is a state ward living with Mrs Ellis of Lurnea. Three years ago, Harry began boxing with the Fairfield Police Boys' Club and the Canley Heights R.S.L. Youth Club. Trained by Mr G. Goulding, Harry began competitive boxing two years ago. He has since won 20 cups and trophies and 8 pennants.

Harry fights in the under four stone division and has been runner-up in the State titles once. He was champion in Police Boys' Week 1969 and is the current under four stone Schoolboy Champion. In August 1969, Harry and four other boys went up to Queensland with the Police Boys' Club for a boxing tournament. A similar trip, with the R.S.L. Youth Club, to New Zealand for the Australasian Championships at Waiparau between 18th August and 7th September. (Perhaps by the time this issue is distributed there will be some results available?)

In December 1969, just before Lionel Rose's fight with Sotelo, Harry was invited to have afternoon tea with Lionel at his motel. Harry has several photographs of this occasion and that would just about make him the proudest young boxer in New South Wales.

► "I'm going to be the world champion—again—or die trying," said Lionel Rose after his convincing win over Fred Wicks at the Eastern Suburbs Leagues Club on the 14th July. Wicks never looked like worrying Rose, who won each round of the 10 round fight. Rose did not suffer from the breathing trouble which had plagued him in two of his last three fights. Nor, for this lightweight bout, did he have to undergo the drastic weight reducing training which had troubled him as a bantamweight. According to Herald sporting writer Phil Wilkins, Rose would have retired had he lost this fight. Now he is to go into training for a more difficult fight against South African, Richard Borias on 4th August. (We



Harry Ellis

should have the results by the time this issue comes out.)

A lot of people, in both Melbourne and Sydney have been saying that Lionel Rose is finished. "Only me and Jack (Rennie) know what I've got," said Lionel recently, in a rejection of this idea. Well-known boxing expert Ray Mitchell seems to agree. Months ago, he told me that if Lionel would stop playing around with country and western music, go into serious training and be really determined to work at it, he would once again be a world champion.