



Former Kinchela Boy joins Staff of Chief Secretary's Department



An aboriginal boy, who received his entire formal education at the Aborigine Welfare Board's school for boys at Kinchela, has joined the staff of the Chief Secretary's Department as a messenger.

He is John Bugmy, who was born at Wilcannia.

Our picture above shows John delivering a departmental file to the Under Secretary, Mr. A. G. Kingsmill, who is also Chairman of the Welfare Board.

In the other picture (left), John is flanked by two other members of the staff. They are Zigmunds Stefans (left) and John Bennett.

John Bugmy was fascinated by the story of how Zigmunds came to Australia.

Only two years of age when his country, Latvia, was overrun by the Russians on their sweep through to Berlin during World War II, he and his family escaped in a circus wagon driven by a clown named Pedro Taranta.

They fled to Germany where they were rescued by the Allies. They came to Sydney in 1949.

John Bennett, from Paddington, Sydney, has been with the Department six years.