

Smoke Signals

►The New South Wales Government has taken steps to protect Aboriginal relics and archaeological sites. It is now an offence to disturb, destroy or knowingly deface any Aboriginal rock carvings, sacred sites and so forth. It is also an offence to dig for Aboriginal weapons, tools and stone chips, etc., without a permit. Anyone finding Aboriginal archaeological sites or relics is now required to tell the Director of the National Parks and Wildlife Service within 3 months, unless there are reasons to believe that he already knows about them. Similar laws have already been passed in Queensland and South Australia, and Western Australia is following suit.

►Here's an item of news for old boys of Kinchela. Ex-Kinchelan, Willie Leslie, who was Amateur Bantamweight champion in 1969, has turned professional. He made his professional debut at Kempsey on 25th April. "It is ironical," commented the *Macleay Argus*, "that Leslie should turn professional before his old friend and better known counterpart, Joey Donovan." Rumours had flashed around for months before and after the Mexico Olympic Games that Donovan was ready to switch to professional ranks. Now Willie Leslie has beaten him to it. Asked to comment on Leslie's professional future, well-known boxing referee Ray Mitchell said recently: "He is not a bad puncher. He has won all his professional fights so far."

►Apparently Joe Donovan continues not to be interested in turning professional. Donovan, who was Light Flyweight champion in 1968 and Flyweight champion in 1969, and who represented Australia at the 1968 Olympic Games in Mexico City, joined the navy last year. He joined up for 6 years as a physical education instructor on *HMAS Cerberus*; a job which would allow him to keep up his boxing. Apparently he is still pretty firm about remaining an amateur. The *Macleay Argus* quoted Donovan as saying last year: "I'm only in boxing for the sport—not the money." His mother, Mrs Joe Donovan, said last February that young Joe was shaping up for his first promotion—in the navy, not the boxing world.



Willie Leslie at South Sydney Leagues Club on 4th June. On this night he won his fight with a K.O. in the first round

Joe Donovan

