



Mr Burke (centre) talks to the State coordinator, Mr K. Winder, and his secretary, Miss Jenny Phillips, about the election.

## *For Aborigines, by Aborigines*

An election of Aborigines by Aborigines for Aborigines.

This is how the coming election to the National Aboriginal Consultative Committee is seen by its organiser and chief returning officer, Mr Neville Burke.

Mr Burke—the only non-Aboriginal in the NACC—is in Perth to put the final touches to the balloting system, which will oper-

ate throughout WA on November 24.

The voting on that date will be to elect one Aboriginal in each of the 41 Aboriginal electorates in Australia.

The successful candidates will form the committee which will advise the Federal Government on all aspects of Aboriginal life.

Mr Burke said that 40 polling stations

would be set up in eight WA electorates.

In addition, 11 teams of Aborigines would take roving ballot boxes to areas of the State where a permanent polling station was not economically feasible.

These included prisons and railway gangs in the North-West of WA.

Mr Burke said that there had been problems getting enough ballot boxes because of

the national referendum on prices and incomes on December 8.

The chief electoral officer in Papua New Guinea, Mr S. Kaumi, had sent 400 ballot boxes from Port Moresby as a goodwill gesture.

Mr Burke said that about 8,000 Aborigines of the 10,000 to 15,000 eligible to vote in W.A. were expected to vote in the election.

The form of the election had been decided by Aborigines and included some unusual voting procedures.

"We are using photographs on the ballot papers and a short biography of each candidate will be available so that people have an idea of his background," he said.