

1998–2000

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF QUEENSLAND

VOTES AND PROCEEDINGS

NO. 102

FIRST SESSION OF THE FORTY–NINTH PARLIAMENT

WEDNESDAY, 23 AUGUST 2000

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1 MEETING OF THE HOUSE

The House met at 9.30am pursuant to adjournment. The Speaker (Honourable R K Hollis) read prayers.

2 REGISTER OF MEMBERS' INTERESTS – 12TH REPORT

Mr Speaker tabled the following paper—

12th Report on the Register of Members' Interests – August 2000

3 STATEMENT BY SPEAKER – ANNEXE TOWER LIFTS FAILURE ON 22 AUGUST 2000

Mr Speaker made the following statement—

'I wish to provide some information to Honourable Members in relation to yesterday's incident involving the Annexe Tower lifts, which resulted in some Members missing a division.

Having now been in receipt of a report from Property Services and our service maintenance contractors, I can report to the House that the problem was due to an overload of passengers for the lift car. While the car was carrying 18 passengers and its Rated Capacity is 23 – that rating is based upon 68 kilograms per person (as described by Australian Standards).

I have instructed Property Services to investigate changing the notified lift capacity from the officially Rated Capacity of 23.

I pass on the apologies of Property Services, and include my own apologies, to Members who were inconvenienced and distressed by yesterday's incident.

May I assure all Members that despite being some of the busiest in Brisbane, the lifts are maintained to the highest standard and are fitted with all the necessary safety features to meet the very demanding Australian Lift Code.'

4 PETITIONS

The following petitions, lodged with The Clerk by the Members indicated, were received—

Mrs Attwood, from 15 petitioners, requesting the House to release those currently in jail for non-payment of fines to serve community-based sentences as a first option as opposed to a fine option order which has a higher chance of failure resulting in imprisonment and that the money saved by these means be devoted to resourcing community-based options for fine defaulters including restorative justice options. This should include adequately resourcing the State Penalties Enforcement Register (SPER) so as to be fully effective.

Mr Hobbs, from 103 petitioners, requesting the House to immediately reinstate services at the QGAP sites in Aramac, Blackbutt, Camooweal, Lowood, Goombungee, Maleny, Middlesmount, Surat, Tara and Crows Nest.

Mr Knuth, from 73 petitioners, requesting the House to (a) refuse the applications of Koppen Investments Pty Ltd and Gregorio Pelligrini for adult entertainment permits and (b) repeal in its entirety the amendments to the Liquor Act 1992 contained in Part 9 of the Prostitution Act 1999.

Mr Wellington, from 885 petitioners, requesting the House to call an immediate stop to any further steps to reduce the trawling effort over and above the eighty percent already implemented.

5 MINISTERIAL PAPERS

The following papers were tabled—

Treasurer (Mr Hamill)—

Local Government Tax Equivalents Manual – June 2000

Treasurer's Tax Equivalents Manual – June 2000

6 MINISTERIAL STATEMENTS

- (a) Premier (Mr Beattie), by leave, made a ministerial statement relating to jobs and the 7,500th apprentice/trainee. *Hansard p.2591*
- (b) Premier (Mr Beattie), by leave, made a ministerial statement relating to petrol prices and the GST and an investigation by the Criminal Justice Commission into electoral fraud. *Hansard p.2593*

Papers: Mr Beattie, during his statement, tabled the following papers—
 Letter, dated 22 August 2000, from Brendan Butler, SC, Chairperson,
 Criminal Justice Commission to Mr Beattie
 Press Release, dated 22 August 2000, by Criminal Justice Commission

- (c) Deputy Premier and Minister for State Development and Minister for Trade (Mr Elder), by leave, made a ministerial statement relating to a Government funded \$800,000 feasibility study by Golden Circle to identify fruit processing opportunities in north Queensland. *Hansard p.2594*
- (d) Minister for Mines and Energy and Minister Assisting the Deputy Premier on Regional Development (Mr McGrady), by leave, made a ministerial statement relating to the recent Joint Coal Safety Forum with New South Wales. *Hansard p.2595*
- (e) Minister for Environment and Heritage and Minister for Natural Resources (Mr Welford), by leave, made a ministerial statement relating to camping facilities in Carnarvon Gorge National Park. *Hansard p.2596*
- (f) Minister for Primary Industries and Rural Communities (Mr Palaszczuk), by leave, made a ministerial statement relating to the Sugar Assist program and job losses in the Mackay district. *Hansard p.2596*
- (g) Minister for Tourism and Racing (Mrs Rose), by leave, made a ministerial statement relating to the effect of high petrol prices on the tourism industry. *Hansard p.2597*

7 MOTION WITHOUT NOTICE – ESTIMATES COMMITTEE E REPORT NO. 1 – SUSPENSION OF SESSIONAL ORDERS

Leader of the House (Mr Mackenroth), by leave, moved – That so much of the Sessional Orders in relation to Estimates Committees be suspended to allow consideration in Committee of the Whole House today of Report No. 1 of Estimates Committee E.
 Question put and agreed to.

8 PERSONAL EXPLANATION *Hansard p.2598*

A personal explanation was made by Mr Santoro.

9 PAPER

The following paper was tabled—

Leader of the Opposition (Mr Borbidge)—

Public Report of Expenses for the Office of Opposition for period ended 30 June 2000

10 PAPER

The following paper was tabled—

Mr Prenzler—

Public report of Expenses for Office of City Country Alliance and One Nation combined for period ended 30 June 2000

11 NOTICE OF MOTION *Hansard p.2598***12 PRIVATE MEMBERS' STATEMENTS** *Hansard p.2599*

Private Members' statements were made.

13 QUESTIONS WITHOUT NOTICE *Hansard p.2603*

Questions without notice were asked.

Paper: Premier (Mr Beattie) tabled the following paper—
Letter, dated 3 August 2000, from Commonwealth Minister for Finance and Administration (John Fahey) to the Treasurer (Mr Hamill) regarding the National Rail Corporation

Questions continued.

Paper: Minister for Employment, Training and Industrial Relations (Mr Braddy) tabled the following paper—
Joint Strategic Plan for the Agricultural Colleges of Queensland 2000–2005

Questions continued.

Questions concluded.

14 MATTER OF PRIVILEGE

Leader of the Opposition (Mr Borbidge) rose on a matter of privilege suddenly arising and made the following statement—

'I rise on a matter of privilege suddenly arising. Earlier in question time the Premier suggested that I had misrepresented certain comments made by the Mayor of Townsville that were at odds with comments made to this House yesterday by his Parliamentary Secretary, the Member for Townsville, and the Premier refused to support either the mayor or the member. I wish to draw the attention of the House to what the Mayor of Townsville said.

My matter of privilege is that the Member for Townsville may have misled the House yesterday in giving this House certain assurances that are not consistent with the public comments made by the Labor Mayor of Townsville. Mr Speaker, to assist you in making this determination, I refer you to the Townsville Bulletin on Tuesday, 15 August, which states—

"The electoral forgery of Karen Ehrmann and Shane Foster played a big part in Mike Reynolds gaining preselection for the seat of Townsville, says his opponent in the contest, Townsville Mayor Tony Mooney.

...
Cr Mooney said Ehrmann and Foster had operated a concerted campaign to ensure he did not win the plebiscite against Mr Reynolds in 1996.

...
Asked if the activities of Ehrmann and Foster were crucial to the plebiscite vote, Cr Mooney said they 'had a big impact on the outcome.' "

I submit that the comments made by the Labor Mayor for Townsville are not consistent with the assurances given to this House by the Labor Member for Townsville in regard to his alleged involvement in electoral fraud and corrupt activities.

Speaker's ruling: Mr Speaker ruled that there was no point of privilege.

15 APPROPRIATION (PARLIAMENT) BILL AND APPROPRIATION BILL *Hansard p.2615*

Order of the day read for the consideration of the Bills in Committee of the Whole House.

In Committee

Appropriation Bill—

The Chairman proposed – That the Report of Estimates Committee A be adopted.
Debate ensued.

Question put and agreed to.

The Chairman proposed – That the Report of Estimates Committee B be adopted.
Debate ensued. *Hansard p.2626*

Papers: Minister for Emergency Services (Mr Robertson), during his speech, tabled the following papers—

Front page *SES News* July 2000

Front page *SES News* June 1998

Debate continued.

Question put and agreed to.

The Chairman proposed – That the Report of Estimates Committee C be adopted.

Debate ensued. *Hansard p.2638*

Question put and agreed to.

The Chairman proposed – That the Report of Estimates Committee D be adopted.

Debate ensued. *Hansard p.2650*

Question put and agreed to.

The Chairman advised that the Appropriation Bill will be further considered tomorrow.

Appropriation (Parliament) Bill—

The Chairman proposed – That Report No. 1 of Estimates Committee E be adopted.

Debate ensued. *Hansard p.2662*

Question put and agreed to.

Clauses 1 to 5 agreed to.

Schedule agreed to.

Ordered – To report progress and ask leave to sit again.

In the House

Reported – That the Committee had considered the Bills, made progress, and asked leave to sit again.

Ordered – That further consideration of the Appropriation Bill in Committee of the Whole House be made an order of the day for tomorrow.

16 NOTICE OF MOTION – ELECTORAL FRAUD *Hansard p.2672*

Leader of the Opposition (Mr Borbidge), pursuant to notice, moved—

That this House expresses its profound concern that the Labor Party corrupted the 1995, 1996 and 1998 election in Townsville seats by fraudulently enrolling voters; and calls on the Beattie Labor Government to establish a full, open, independent and public inquiry.

Debate ensued.

The following amendment was proposed by the Premier (Mr Beattie)—

Delete all words after 'House' and insert the following—

'expresses its support for the CJC's decision to appoint an independent person to direct and supervise investigations in relation to alleged electoral fraud to make recommendations, and further believes the CJC should be allowed to carry out its responsibilities without political interference and bullying.'

Debate ensued.

Paper: Mr Beattie, during his speech, tabled the following paper—

Extract from the *Criminal Justice Legislation Amendment Act 1997*

Debate continued.

Question put – That Mr Beattie's amendment be agreed to.

The House divided.

AYES, 42

Attwood
Barton
Beattie
Bligh
Boyle
Braddy
Bredhauer
Briskey
Cunningham, J

Edmond
Elder
Fenlon
Foley
Fournas
Hamill
Hayward
Kaiser
Lavarch

Lucas
Mackenroth
McGrady
Mickel
Mulherin
Musgrove
Nelson–Carr
Nuttall
Palaszczuk

Pitt
Purcell*
Reeves
Reynolds
Roberts
Robertson
Rose
Schwarten
Spence

Struthers
Sullivan*
Welford
Wellington
Wells
Wilson

NOES, 40

| | | | | |
|---------------|----------|-------------|----------|------------|
| Baumann* | Davidson | Kingston | Nelson | Sheldon |
| Beanland | Elliott | Knuth | Paff | Simpson |
| Black | Gamin | Laming | Pratt | Slack |
| Borbidge | Healy | Lester | Prenzlér | Springborg |
| Connor | Hegarty* | Lingard | Quinn | Stephan |
| Cooper | Hobbs | Littleproud | Rowell | Turner |
| Cunningham, E | Horan | Malone | Santoro | Veivers |
| Dalglish | Johnson | Mitchell | Seeney | Watson |

Pairs – Dr Clark, Mrs Miller and Mr Pearce (AYES) and Messrs Feldman, Goss and Grice (NOES)

*Tellers

Question agreed to.

Motion, as amended, agreed to.

17 PERSONAL EXPLANATION *Hansard p.2683*

A personal explanation was made by the Minister for Families, Youth and Community Care and Minister for Disability Services (Ms Bligh).

18 FREEDOM OF INFORMATION AMENDMENT BILL *Hansard p.2683*

Order of the day read for the adjourned debate on the motion of the Leader of the Opposition (Mr Borbidge) – That the Bill be now read a second time.

Debate resumed.

Question put.

The House divided.

AYES, 37

| | | | | |
|---------------|----------|----------|------------|------------|
| Baumann* | Davidson | Laming | Quinn | Stephan |
| Beanland | Gamin | Lester | Rowell | Turner |
| Black | Healy | Lingard | Santoro | Veivers |
| Borbidge | Hegarty* | Malone | Seeney | Watson |
| Connor | Hobbs | Nelson | Sheldon | Wellington |
| Cooper | Horan | Paff | Simpson | |
| Cunningham, E | Johnson | Pratt | Slack | |
| Dalglish | Kingston | Prenzlér | Springborg | |

NOES, 38

| | | | | |
|-----------|---------------|-------------|-----------|-----------|
| Attwood | Cunningham, J | Kaiser | Pitt | Spence |
| Barton | Edmond | McGrady | Purcell* | Struthers |
| Beattie | Elder | Mickel | Reeves | Sullivan* |
| Bligh | Fenlon | Mulherin | Reynolds | Welford |
| Boyle | Foley | Musgrove | Roberts | Wells |
| Braddy | Fouras | Nelson–Carr | Robertson | Wilson |
| Bredhauer | Hamill | Nuttall | Rose | |
| Briskey | Hayward | Palaszczuk | Schwarten | |

Pairs – Messrs Elliott, Feldman, Goss, Grice, Littleproud and Mitchell (AYES) and Dr Clark, Mrs Lavarch, Messrs Lucas and Mackenroth, Mrs Miller and Mr Pearce (NOES)

*Tellers

Question negatived.

19 MINERAL RESOURCES AMENDMENT BILL *Hansard p.2688*

Order of the day read for the adjourned debate on the motion of Mrs E Cunningham – That the Bill be now read a second time.

Debate resumed.

Debate adjourned on the motion of Mr Seeney.

Ordered – That the resumption of the debate be made an order of the day for tomorrow.

20 ADJOURNMENT *Hansard p.2709*

Minister for Employment, Training and Industrial Relations (Mr Braddy) moved – That this House do now adjourn.

Debate ensued.

Paper: Mrs E Cunningham, during her speech, tabled the following paper—
Letter, dated 14 March 2000, from the Manager, Rural Equipment, Rural Fire Service to the Secretary, Tannum Rural Fire Board

Debate continued.
 Question agreed to.
 The House adjourned at 11.32pm.

21 ATTENDANCE

The following Members were present—

| | | | | |
|---------------|----------|-------------|-------------|------------|
| Attwood | Dalglish | Kingston | Nelson–Carr | Schwarten |
| Barton | Davidson | Knuth | Nuttall | Seeney |
| Baumann | Edmond | Laming | Paff | Sheldon |
| Beanland | Elder | Lavarch | Palaszczuk | Simpson |
| Beattie | Elliott | Lester | Pearce | Slack |
| Black | Fenlon | Lingard | Pitt | Spence |
| Bligh | Foley | Littleproud | Pratt | Springborg |
| Borbidge | Fouras | Lucas | Prenzler | Stephan |
| Boyle | Gamin | Mackenroth | Purcell | Struthers |
| Braddy | Hamill | Malone | Quinn | Sullivan |
| Bredhauer | Hayward | McGrady | Reeves | Turner |
| Briskey | Healy | Mickel | Reynolds | Veivers |
| Clark | Hegarty | Miller | Roberts | Watson |
| Connor | Hobbs | Mitchell | Robertson | Welford |
| Cooper | Horan | Mulherin | Rose | Wellington |
| Cunningham, E | Johnson | Musgrove | Rowell | Wells |
| Cunningham, J | Kaiser | Nelson | Santorio | Wilson |

R K HOLLIS
 Speaker

R D DOYLE
 The Clerk of the Parliament