



Speech by

JACK PAFF

MEMBER FOR IPSWICH WEST

Hansard 3 March 1999

ADDRESS IN REPLY

Mr PAFF (Ipswich West—ONP) (3.20 p.m.): I rise to speak in the Address in Reply debate. I pledge my loyalty to the Queen and the Governor. It is a great pleasure to be elected to this House by the electors of Ipswich West who saw fit to elect me in place of Labor and to end decades of Labor Party rule.

Democracy was dealt a severe blow in Queensland today when I was forced to resign from the Parliamentary Criminal Justice Committee for telling the truth about leaks from the Criminal Justice Commission. I decided to resign my post on the PCJC at the start of today's sittings of the House because I know that the Government and the Opposition had colluded to sack me. I could see that the Beattie Government and the Borbidge-led National/Liberal Opposition had decided to play a numbers game against justice instead of upholding the principles of law. Let us remember that those principles of law are supposed to protect all Queenslanders.

My electors saw Labor as simply an updated version of the old rump that ruled Queensland so badly for so many years—extreme, arrogant and totally without scruples. Under Labor, Ipswich West saw the closure of the Ipswich railway workshops. This resulted in the retrenchment of hundreds of workers and damaged the local economy. Mines have been closing after having been bought by the Japanese. Big business has been buying up Australian firms. All this time the Labor Party could not care less about workers and the city so long as it could push its extremist barrow of vilification politics.

The Labor Party does not have any policies except those of retrenchment and envy. Labor's only lasting policy is the policy of vilification. This is the policy it has vigorously applied to One Nation ever since Pauline Hanson exposed Labor's extremism, its slavish devotion to economic rationalism and its promotion of deceitful political correctness in this nation.

It is a wonderful situation that the heartland of the Labor Party is awakening to Labor's essential bigotry with regard to anything Australian and its almost incestuous love of anything non-Australian. Labor has been bad-mouthing Australia for decades and getting away with it because the coalition has not had the backbone to call a bigot a bigot. Instead, the coalition crawls into bed with the bigots.

Yesterday, a Labor member said that he wanted a foreign republic imposed upon Australia. However, only hours ago he swore undying allegiance to our Queen, her heirs and successors forever. Today he has forsaken those words for the words of an extremist betrayer—

Mr Seeney: Who?

Mr PAFF: That gentleman over there.

Mr Seeney: There are no gentlemen over there.

Mr PAFF: Thank you. You are right about that. His policy is that of the old Communist Party. How extreme can one get! Many members of this House must have been surprised to hear the outburst and the intemperate remarks of the member for Rockhampton yesterday. It is hard to comprehend what the honourable member says at the best of times, but the one thing I want to impress upon honourable members is that I do not attack the Police Service as do so many of those on the Labor side of this House. If the honourable member wants to do something worthwhile, he can go back to Rockhampton and do something to fix the city that is so run down under his care.

Rockhampton is notorious for drunks lying about the streets. It is a city that cries out for a good paint job.

Labor was the party that tried to do away with the Criminal Justice Commission but it was shouted down by the coalition which screamed corruption. Similarly, the coalition tried to disband the CJC but it was shouted down by the Labor Party who again raised the tired old dirge about going back to the Joh years. Thank God that at that time Labor was in the wilderness with its child molesting leader, Keith Wright—also a member for Rockhampton. This so frightened the coalition that its members nearly collapsed into a heap of whimpering and quivering protoplasm.

Government members interjected.

Mr PAFF: Go back to school. It is a disgrace that the CJC has cost the people of Queensland some \$300m-odd, give or take a few million, in the last 10 years. What we have today is a feather duster police force, fat solicitors, even fatter Labor lawyers and their accompanying barristers, and a parking ticket or two as a record of crime fighting. This is a total waste of public money.

We now have in place a Parliamentary Criminal Justice Commissioner, a crime section under an Assistant Commissioner for Police, a police professional standards unit and the Director of Public Prosecutions. It seems that in order to control crime and corruption in this State we need five bodies which cost the State some \$60m a year. However, the only result we seem to have achieved is that the State has a rising crime rate, a poor hospital system, local government councils crying out for resources and a CJC that is eating up ever increasingly large amounts of money.

It would appear that the CJC is now so politicised that the Government of the day wants to control its functions. The Government does so through its political mates. The Government uses the PCJC, its mates inside the CJC and its mates in the media.

Mr LUCAS: I rise to a point of order. I find the member's remarks offensive and untrue and I would ask that he withdraw them.

Mr PAFF: Which parts is he asking to be withdrawn?

Mr LUCAS: Reflections on the Parliamentary Criminal Justice Committee.

Mr PAFF: I withdraw the part about their mates inside the PCJC. The CJC leaks information like a sieve. When political information is involved, it leaks even faster. These leaks jeopardise the lives of many people who are critical to crime fighting in Queensland. These leaks have caused suicides and the destruction of families. But the PCJC, the Government and the CJC have done little or nothing to root out these party political leaks.

The people of the electorate of Ipswich West are well aware of the Labor Government's past. They are aware of its incredible record of failure. The previous Labor member for Ipswich West was universally known as "Lazy" Livingstone, the slowest gun in the west. Custer could not have wished for a better Indian. Labor did not do anything for Ipswich West because Labor took the electorate for granted.

I was happy to have Labor as an opponent. I am happy to serve the people of Ipswich West, to expose the extremism of Labor and to expose its disregard for the working man. I am pleased—

Mr Schwarten: I didn't go to work drunk on duty like you.

Mr PAFF: Are you a drunk? I do believe you are.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER (Mr Reeves): Order!

Mr Schwarten interjected.

Mr PAFF: I have seen you in that condition.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order! The Minister for Public Works!

Mr PAFF: I am pleased to expose the essential failure of the CJC and its many tentacles. Thank you.
