



Speech by

JACK PAFF

MEMBER FOR IPSWICH WEST

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SOUTHERN MORETON BAY ISLANDS

Mr PAFF (Ipswich West—ONP) (10.22 a.m.): I rise to speak about the debate that has continued to fester over the southern Moreton Bay islands dating back some 20 years. In an adjournment debate on 20 March 1979, Mr Mackenroth said—

"The Government should get the whole Fraud Squad out and get into these crooks who are ripping off the people of Queensland."

Now Mr Mackenroth is the responsible Minister, and I call upon him to do something about this nationwide scandal—in fact, worldwide scandal. The rip-offs have only gotten worse. The Redland Shire Council is now involved in using land valuations to force people off their land. In particular, one valuation, which on 27 January 1999 was \$47,000, has now dropped in the six months to 27 July 1999 to \$500.

The Southern Moreton Bay Islands Action Group has been established under Mr Brian Fuller. He said he had received overwhelming response from other land-holders concerning the future of their properties. He said that the resumption plans were first mentioned as part of a joint Government draft strategy guide to future development on the islands. The study recommends that the council resume up to 4,000 blocks in a bid to restrict development and protect the island's environmental balance. Mr Fuller said that land-holders were afraid that compensation would be calculated on depressed valuations. There is evidence—and I have evidence here—that the valuations have been reduced. It would be very good to see the Government try to do something about this scandal. It has been going on for 20 years. It was first started by those on this side of the place. Now that members opposite are in Government, they should be doing something about the matter.

Time expired.
