



Speech by

Hon. P. BRADDY

MEMBER FOR KEDRON

Hansard 25 August 1999

SES POSITIONS, MERIT SELECTION

Hon. P. J. BRADDY (Kedron—ALP) (Minister for Employment, Training and Industrial Relations) (6.15 p.m.): I move the following amendment—

"Delete all words after 'That this House' and insert—

'congratulates the Beattie Labor Government for returning the Queensland Public Service to the fine traditions of the Westminster system of responsible and accountable government and confirms its support for the principles of merit and equity in the public service.'"

It is very obvious that the member for Clayfield has learned nothing since he circulated his last grubby hit list in 1991. He has failed to understand that the ALP and people associated with the ALP or the trade union movement can, indeed, make an honest, decent and worthwhile contribution to public life in this State. He seems to have a pathological hatred of anybody associated with the Labor Party or the trade union movement. With this list of people that the member circulated yesterday, he has attacked some of the finest people in this State. I will refer to two people—one whom the member attacked in his speech yesterday and one whom the member has attacked previously. Ian Brusasco, who we appointed as chair of the WorkCover board, is on the member's grubby hit list. Ian Brusasco is a proud member of the ALP. He is also one of the greatest people in this State. He is highly regarded as a business leader who has made an enormous contribution to the business community, to public life and to the sporting life of this State. Yet he is on the member's list.

Today and again tonight, as the shadow Minister for Industrial Relations, he has disgracefully attacked Dianne Linnane, the Vice-president of the Queensland Industrial Court.

Mr Santoro interjected.

Mr BRADDY: Now in his mealy-mouthed way, the member is trying to say that he has not attacked her. In a speech in which he says—

Mr Santoro interjected.

Mr BRADDY: I listened to the member in silence. I would appreciate the same courtesy. In his mealy-mouthed way, the member has come into this place and put her name on the list. He has attacked her by saying that—

Mr Santoro interjected.

Mr BRADDY: I listened to the member in silence. I expect the same courtesy.

Dianne Linnane is the holder of a quasi-judicial office, yet the shadow Minister has effectively attacked her and damned her, implying that she attained this important position only because at one stage she was a trade union official—some 11 years ago. Since then, never having been a member of the ALP, she has practised law and received many briefs from the business community—the employer's side! If a person had a proper attitude to this issue, he or she would think very carefully before they attacked the holder of such an office.

This member for Clayfield has no respect for anybody. He is the same person—the first person to do so in recent history—who removed a member of the Industrial Relations Commission. He is also the same person who made sure that no member of the Labor Party or anyone associated with the

trade union movement was appointed to the WorkCover board—a board which was set up primarily to look after workers' interests.

I ask members to compare his behaviour with my behaviour. Who is the deputy chair of the WorkCover board? Who did I leave as deputy chair? Terry White, the former parliamentary Leader of the Liberal Party—a man who I regard as having ability. I will not remove him because he happens to be a Liberal Party member. I would not remove him. The same member opposite calls on us to circulate hit lists. We will not circulate such lists. Terry White is a decent human being, as is Ian Brusasco. One is a member of the Labor Party; one is a member of the Liberal Party. One is chair of the WorkCover board; one is deputy chair of the board. Clive Bubb, the man I have left as chair of the Workplace Health and Safety Board, is a former Liberal Party member in Victoria—a close associate of the Liberal Party. I have left him as chair of the Workplace Health and Safety Board.

The contrast between my behaviour and the member's behaviour is extraordinary. For this member to attack people merely because they are members of the Labor Party shows his pathological nature. He should go out and have a good look at himself and understand that there are some people in this community, whether they are in the Labor Party, the National Party or the Liberal Party, who are able to provide public service.
