



Speech by

Hon. R. E. BORBIDGE

MEMBER FOR SURFERS PARADISE

Hansard 15 September 1999

JOB CREATION

Hon. R. E. BORBIDGE (Surfers Paradise—NPA) (Leader of the Opposition) (10.12 a.m.): Yesterday the Premier, likening himself to Solomon, modestly described his Government's record in respect of job creation as sensational. I think it is about time we started to have a look at the facts and the reality of "jobs, jobs, jobs" under the Beattie Labor Government in Queensland and at the fact that this Premier and this Government have not demonstrated the same capacity to generate jobs as their coalition predecessors.

The Australian Bureau of Statistics—ABS—figures prove the lie. The fact is that in the first year of the Beattie Labor Government economic growth was 4.75%. In the last year of the coalition Government, economic growth was 4.75%—exactly the same. The ABS data shows that for the first year of the Beattie Labor Government 40,300 jobs were created in Queensland. That same ABS data shows that in the final year of the coalition Government, with the same level of economic growth, 50,800 new jobs were created—10,000 fewer jobs created under the jobs, jobs, jobs Premier than under the previous coalition Government.

The facts continue to speak for themselves. This Premier and this Government still do not have one economic development project that they can call their own, with the exception of net bet. They cannot put their signature on one new mine or one major development in this State.

Time expired.
