



Speech by

SHAUN NELSON

MEMBER FOR TABLELANDS

Hansard 5 October 2000

YMCA YOUTH PARLIAMENT

Mr NELSON (Tablelands—IND) (10.23 a.m.): I take the opportunity to speak about probably the most positive thing I have seen in my two years here, namely the Youth Parliament held last week. It was an excellent forum that allowed young people to speak in this Parliament. There were teams from Cairns, Monto, Emerald, Gladstone, Pine Rivers—

Mr Mickel: Woodridge.

Mr NELSON:—and Woodridge. They were from all over the State. I think the young people sitting in these seats last week were a hell of a lot better looking, and in some cases more informed, especially about the issues that seriously affect them in the areas in which they live. I congratulate the YMCA on the amount of time and effort it put into organising and preparing this forum for young people to have their say. I thank the honourable members for Kurwongbah, Logan, Gladstone and any other members who also helped out. The young people were glad that these honourable members could serve as Deputy Speakers for the day. I thank Mr Speaker for allowing the forum to take place in the Chamber. It is a good thing for young people to be able to have their say in this place and pass on their messages to their elected representatives.

Having said that, next year I would like all honourable members to get involved and see what they can do to help young people to have their say. As I said, the YMCA Youth Parliament is the best thing that I have seen in my two years in Brisbane. I call on all honourable members to think about that next year when they are approached by the YMCA.
