



Speech by

John-Paul Langbroek

MEMBER FOR SURFERS PARADISE

Hansard Tuesday, 8 June 2010

MOTION OF CONDOLENCE: MR G WYBORN

Mr LANGBROEK (Surfers Paradise—LNP) (Leader of the Opposition) (9.39 am): I am happy to rise and second the motion moved by the Premier about George Wyborn, who was the 8th Clerk of the Queensland Parliament. It is interesting that in 150 years we have only had 11 Clerks. He was born at Brisbane on 1 June 1916, the son of John Ernest Wyborn and Sara Hellen. He was educated at Moore State School and Ipswich Grammar School and, after leaving school at junior, completed a commercial course at the State Commercial High School in Brisbane. He joined the Parliamentary Service on 3 April 1933 as a junior clerk and then served as Third Clerk Assistant until 1969.

It is interesting that, for many of us, some of these things may seem like ancient history, but 1933 was only 11 years after the abolition of the upper house. That means that George Wyborn served here through the Depression years and, as the Premier mentioned, worked here until he retired in 1979. Certainly that puts in perspective some of the time lines about when he served here and the things he would have seen and experienced, given that many of us would regard as ancient history the abolition of the upper house.

As the Premier said and as I have mentioned, he joined the Parliamentary Service in 1933 and served as Third Clerk Assistant until 1969. He was appointed Second Clerk Assistant when Bill Johnson became the Clerk of the Parliament and, on the elevation of Cyril George to the Clerk's position in September 1970, George Wyborn was appointed Clerk Assistant and Sergeant-at-Arms. When Cyril George retired in January 1978, George Wyborn was appointed Clerk of the Parliament. As the Premier mentioned, of the 11 Clerks, his period of office proved to be the shortest to date and he retired the next year, on 6 July 1979, after 18 months as the Clerk of the Parliament.

As the Premier has mentioned, in 1943 he married Audrey Frances Moore. She predeceased him. I pass on the condolences of the opposition to his family. I understand that in his later years he resided at Golden Beach. I note that he passed away peacefully on 27 May 2010, aged 94 years. I pass on the condolences of the opposition to his family.