




Speech By
Shane Knuth

MEMBER FOR DALRYMPLE

Record of Proceedings, 2 April 2014

MOTION: ESTIMATES HEARINGS

 **Mr KNUTH** (Dalrymple—KAP) (5.20 pm): I oppose this motion. In the Strangers' Dining Room the President of the LNP, the Premier, the Treasurer and the Deputy Premier were very concerned. As they spoke, they could see that their government was in trouble. They saw the polls in Cairns showing a 17 per cent swing. They saw that the Premier had no hope of winning his seat in Ashgrove. Likewise the poll in Redcliffe—

Mr STEVENS: Mr Acting Speaker, I rise to a point of order. It is a practice that no-one refers to guests in the Strangers' Dining Room—a practice established by previous speakers.

Mr ACTING SPEAKER: Order! The member for Dalrymple has the call.

Mr KNUTH: They could see from these discussions that there was a problem, but they could also see that as they won this massive majority their arrogance was slowly starting to filter out right across Queensland. They did everything in their power to try to stop this. They did everything in their power to try to prevent this. So they took the cameras out of Parliament House. That is just the start. They took the cameras out of Parliament House. They may laugh, they may choke, they may criticise—

Honourable members interjected.

Mr ACTING SPEAKER: Order! The House will come to order!

Mr KNUTH: The reality is that there is less than a year before the next election. The way they are trying to win voters back right across Queensland is to hand down a good budget. They have sent out a smokescreen that they will build dams, infrastructure and all these wonderful things. But there is one little obstacle in front of them right now, and that is parliamentary estimates where they know they will be appropriately scrutinised. They know well and truly what the parliamentary estimates have done in the past. For example, there is the Gordon Nuttall affair. They are hoping that issues like that may not arise out of this parliamentary estimates process.

Mr Crandon interjected.

Mr ACTING SPEAKER: Order! The member for Coomera will cease interjecting.

Mr KNUTH: It is well known that governments hate scrutiny. There is no doubt about that. They hate scrutiny. When the Leader of the House moved the motion and said that it is just a trial, all he had to do was walk across the floor. He could have come and spoken to us, but this is nothing different from the way they operated in the beginning when they were elected to government. Like all opposition members of this House, I fully oppose this motion.