




Speech By
Colin Boyce

MEMBER FOR CALLIDE

Record of Proceedings, 14 May 2019

ADJOURNMENT

Scott, Mrs A; Heit, Miss L

 **Mr BOYCE** (Callide—LNP) (7.12 pm): I rise to recognise two Callide constituents, especially during this week where we have noted and celebrated the election of the first woman to the Queensland parliament, Irene Longman, some 90 years ago. I recently visited Mrs Annie Scott who celebrated her 105th birthday. Mrs Scott has lived all of her 105 years in the Taroom district, where I also live. Mrs Scott, with her husband Bob, ran beef cattle on their property Glenleigh. They were a racing family, owning racehorses—Bob being a jockey in his younger days. Mrs Scott never missed a race meeting in Taroom. I visited Mrs Scott on her birthday and she is still quite vocal on many subjects and sharp as a tack.

As a new bride, she always welcomed as family the young working men of the station into their home and she still recalls many stories of those days. Mrs Scott began work as a housemaid at the age of 14 at Glenhaughton Station where she met her husband Bob. As a young girl, she remembers it took two days to get to town to get supplies and three days to get home. Mrs Scott has seen the days of the horse and buggy, the days of doing the washing with a scrubbing board and a copper boiler and the days of scrubbing the timber floors of her home. She has seen World War II and man walking on the moon, right to the present ever-changing world.

At the age of 101 years, Mrs Scott survived a house fire, losing a lifetime of possessions and treasured memories. She walked barefoot to the neighbours to raise the alarm to be left with nothing but the clothes she stood in. Mrs Scott epitomises the strength and character of women of her generation and is loved and respected by all who meet her.

I move from the eldest woman in Callide to one of our younger women, Miss Laura Heit, a progressive young lady from Biloela who is reaching for the stars. Laura completed all of her schooling in Biloela—primary school at Redeemer Lutheran College and high school at Biloela State High School where she achieved an OP 1 and was named dux of the school. She is in her fourth year at UQ studying law and majoring in political science.

Laura recently represented Australia in Washington DC at the international finals of the Philip C Jessup mooting competition. In Laura's own words, it was 'an experience I will never forget', mooted with students from over 100 nations from around the world. Not only was Laura's UQ team awarded Best Overall Respondent Side at the international finals and placed 11th overall, she was individually recognised as the sixth best speaker in the preliminary rounds out of the 700 students—an amazing achievement. I look forward with interest to watching her career unfold with these skills. I have great respect and admiration for women who pave the way for others to follow, those who have arrived at their positions by their own strengths and merits, not by quotas.

(Time expired)