

POLITICALLY SPEAKING

SECRET BALLOT DEMAND

Comments of State Health Minister, David White, about throwing unbending public servants down lift-wells fascinate Basil Smith candidate for the Secret Ballot Party in the Nunawading Province on August 17.

As a previous private industry accountant, now Federal Public servant, he states that he appreciates the often insurmountable obstacles opposing rational change.

He agrees, he says, that the public sector could, if made accountable to both Parliament and the community, be efficient and effective.

He states however that he believes, along with many others in the community, that the weak link in the chain of accountability is the party structure of parliament itself because of the constant battle between the two major parties for pre-eminence and power, continually nudged by pressure groups of all shapes and sizes, things being done which ought not to be done, and things which ought to be done not being done . . . and while the parents fight the kids don't get on with their homework!

He states categorically that an electronic secret voting machine installed in the Legislative Council would make Councilors accountable to the electorate and give the Council freedom from the vagaries and pressures of party politics, and the same reform in the Lower House would give the parliament the power it needs to ensure public sector accountability.

The Secret Ballot Party, he says, sees this reform as capable of bringing the secret

debates out of the party rooms into the open forum of parliament, and precluding the forming secret deals. Thus the hard questions could be dealt with and the community consulted and rallied in support of proper measures, including the satisfactory resolution of industrial conflicts, through decisions by arbitral bodies which can be made to stick.

Basil Smith also states that the Party fully supports the concept of Secret Ballots in union meetings where strikes or similar actions are proposed but, doubts that an effective answer to industrial strife can be found without the advent of genuinely accountable parliaments using the secret ballot. To the Party the part system is the root of all political evil, not politicians.

The Party exists only for this reform and comments on any other matters are to highlight the difficulties created by the party system only.

He also quotes British comments in past days that since co-operative

and effective government occurred during World War 2 that perhaps another war would be good! And the thought sometimes expressed that since our 'democracy' is so clumsy at getting sensible decisions made, perhaps a dictatorship could even be necessary . . . words fail!

The answer, he claims, is the clean-cut, flexible, just and stable decisions which would flow without fuss or rancour from a Secret Ballot Parliament, and that this is the only method which can qualify for the title of democracy.

Furthermore, he states the technology is no problem. A suitable equipment has already been prepared (for demonstration purposes) and could be made available for immediate use.

George Bernard Shaw is quoted as saying "Some people see things as they are and say: Why? I dream things that never were and say: Why Not?". The Secret Ballot Party's sentiments exactly.

Sir,

I refer to the five-city Mayoral Committee's Press Conference at the Doncaster/

Templestowe Municipal Chambers on Monday, 22/7/85, at which they announced a well researched and constructive plan to extend the Eastern Freeway from Doncaster to Ringwood.

At the end of this Press Conference, Mr Ives, ALP candidate for Nunawading Province, staggered the assembled councillors and municipal technical representatives by issuing a Press release which he soon tried to recall when he realised its absurdity, in which he bluntly rejected the Mayoral Committee plan for extension of the freeway, and virtually accused the worthy municipal representatives of five cities of gross incompetence, political corruption in wheeling and dealing with the Liberal Party, and negligence in not consulting technical officers — who were present at the meeting as part of the Mayoral Committee!

This ludicrous and politically incompetent Press release of Ives is a slur on the dedication and professionalism of the Mayoral Committee, and should be widely known and widely condemned. The Liberal Party, and its fine candidate for Nunawading Province, Rosemary Varty, supports in principle the Mayoral Committee's proposal to extend the Eastern Freeway from Doncaster to Ringwood, and roundly condemns Mr Ives for his cheap and illogical Press release: does Mr Ives want us to forever have traffic jams on leafy bush tracks?

Hon. John Mills, MLC
Member for Templestowe



Linda Ross is a 19 year old Economics student currently studying at Monash University.

She is a member of the student organisation AIESEC (International Association of Economics and Commerce Students) through which a Canadian Study Tour/Export Mission is being organised.

AIESEC is situated in 40 campuses throughout the world, aiming to bridge the gap between student, business and academic communities.

The Canadian Study Tour will involve all three groups and thirteen University students will travel to Canada to research various markets, and report back to Australian firms. Linda and the rest of the team will also be helping to promote Australia.

With the obvious similarities between the Australian and Canadian economies, the project was conceived and developed as a viable proposition.

The benefits derived from the project include practical business experience for Linda and the rest of the team, whilst providing necessary international trade information for Australian companies.

HAUNTED HOUSE

After spending his first two weeks in the Upper House, newly elected MLC for Templestowe Province, John Miles, likens the Legislative Council to a haunted house, or perhaps "the Chamber of Horrors".

"The Upper House is haunted by the spectre of the Socialist Left, illustrated by the dominating presence of George Crawford, ALP Social Left Hardliner," said Mr Miles.

The expert way in which Socialist Left MLC's Joan Coxswede, Jean McLean and George Crawford denigrated and ridiculed their own ALP government when they spoke against the deregistration of the BLF, was a frightening revelation to Mr Miles.

"I realised from close quarters the powerful influence of the Socialist Left, and if Labor wins Nunawading, there will be no safeguard against the excesses of Left Wings legislation, and the splendid architecture of the Upper House will degenerate into a real Chamber of Horrors for the tortured people of Victoria.

I am sure that the voters of Nunawading will ensure that there is a safeguard, a check and a balance, and that they will therefore elect an outstanding local Liberal candidate, Rosemary Varty," concluded Mr Miles.

HON. JOHN MILES, MLC.,
MEMBER FOR TEMPLESTOWE PROVINCE



A host of Golden Daffodils' along with Camellia's and lots of other interesting Horticultural Beauty will be on show at the Box Hill Horticultural show, between the hours of 2pm and 8.30pm at the Box Hill town Hall, Whitehorse Road, Box Hill on September 7.

We have received good support from The Box Hill City Display "Camellia Lodge, Brewitt & Sons, "The Pines", Nunawading Garden Centre.

At this show it is the time to pick out new Camellia's and some very beautiful ones will be on display for you to choose from.

The entry fee is only \$1 or 50 cents Students and Pensioners. Further information contact Publicity Officer, Lillidan Buzwell 890 6836.

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