

TABLING OF LETTER FROM MS JEAN THORNTON TO PREMIER

923. Mrs C.L. EDWARDES to the Premier:

I have a supplementary question. Does the Premier realise that this type of disclosure sends the message to other public servants that they cannot trust him with any information whatsoever, even if they mark it private and confidential, send it to his home and ask him specifically not to table it?

The SPEAKER: The first part of the question seeks an opinion.

Dr G.I. GALLOP replied:

Every public servant in this State knows that under a Labor Government they will be listened to and the questions they raise will be properly dealt with. I remind the House that under the Liberal jurisdiction a Department of Main Roads employee was hounded, and a schoolteacher was suspended when this Leader of the Opposition was the Minister for Education. The Labor Government's record is one of supporting the public service. This Government has made sure that when people raise concerns it takes them seriously. That is exactly what we have done in this case.

Several members interjected.

The SPEAKER: I call to order the member for Nedlands and the member for Dawesville.