

INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS, GOVERNMENT PROMISES AND MANAGEMENT

1337. Mrs C.L. EDWARDES to the Premier:

As a supplementary question, is it really the case that Western Australia is in industrial chaos and that that is a direct result of the Premier not keeping his promises and not managing industrial relations in the way he committed to?

The SPEAKER: The Premier can answer the first part of the question.

Dr G.I. GALLOP replied:

The Opposition is at it again - running down Western Australia and being negative. Let me remind members of the brilliant former financial management used by the now Opposition when it was in government. Its financial strategy consisted of deficits and privatisation. Its industrial relations strategy was divide and rule. Enormous anomalies built up within the public sector. There were disparities between the wage levels of workers doing exactly the same work in the public sector, and we are reversing that. However, we will not succumb to unreasonable wage demands. We will protect the interests of taxpayers in Western Australia today.