

MINISTER FOR FAIR TRADING, ALLEGED MISLEADING OF GUNNING INQUIRY

42. Mr McGINTY to the Minister for Fair Trading:

- (1) Speaking of untruths, why did the minister deliberately mislead the Gunning inquiry when he said on page 11 of the transcript of 21 June with reference to Dominic Casella, "There's a photo of McGinty and Casella and T leaving the court and the writs were issued, so they went down there and filed it"?

The minister knows there is not a shred of truth in that statement.

- (2) Does he not know that telling untruths to an inquiry is perjury?
(3) Will he now apologise and take action to correct the record?

Mr SHAVE replied:

- (1)-(3) If I included the member for Fremantle -

Mr McGinty: It is here in your sworn evidence, given under oath to the Gunning inquiry. You are a perjurer.

Mr SHAVE: That is a very long bow.

Mr McGinty: Just because you told a lie?

Withdrawal of Remark

Mr BARNETT: I have a point of order.

Mr McGINTY: I withdraw.

Questions without Notice Resumed

Mr SHAVE: If the member for Fremantle was mentioned in relation to this photograph and there was an oversight on my part -

Mr McGinty: You perjure yourself and smear people and claim it is an oversight!

Several members interjected.

The SPEAKER: The matters being raised are extremely serious. If the minister has lied, he is in trouble and he will not be a minister for long. Likewise, if he has perjured himself, he will probably not be a minister for long. Perhaps members will listen very carefully to what the minister has to say without constant interjections.

Mr SHAVE: If an oversight occurred on my part in including the member for Fremantle in the list -

Mr Ripper: Would you not say that your involvement in this matter has been a complete oversight?

Mr SHAVE: The Deputy Leader of the Opposition can say what he likes. Mr Casella is now going -

Mr McGinty: What have you done to correct the Gunning inquiry record? You have done nothing.

Mr SHAVE: I have done nothing because the member has not brought it to my attention until now.

Mr McGinty: That is a criminal offence. You told a deliberate untruth to an inquiry.

Point of Order

Mr BAKER: The member for Fremantle -

Several members interjected.

The SPEAKER: I have not given the member for Joondalup the call yet.

Several members interjected.

The SPEAKER: The member for Joondalup.

Mr BAKER: The member for Fremantle has accused the minister of committing a criminal offence. It is a very serious allegation to make; it impugns the minister's character. I ask that he withdraw the remark.

Mr KOBELKE: The words used by the member for Fremantle were almost identical to the words about which I took an earlier point of order. I assume that you will rule accordingly.

The SPEAKER: I am not taking the point of order.

Questions without Notice Resumed

Mr SHAVE: It is ironic that the member for Fremantle has such sensitivity about Dominic Casella. When I raised the issue of Mr Casella in this place, the member for Fremantle ran outside and told the police that I had

Extract from *Hansard*

[ASSEMBLY - Tuesday, 15 August 2000]

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Mr Jim McGinty; Mr Doug Shave; Mr Colin Barnett; Speaker; Mr Chris Baker; Mr John Kobelke

committed a criminal offence. Of course, the member is aware that we will sort that out in court. In fact, he and his lawyers will have all the opportunity in the world to cross-examine me on this matter.