

PREMIER — UNION SUPPORT

**347. Ms L. METTAM to the Premier:**

I refer to the Premier's ascension to the position of WA Premier after doing backroom deals with the Australian Manufacturing Workers' Union and betraying his own United Workers Union.

Several members interjected.

**The SPEAKER:** Order, please.

**Ms L. METTAM:** I ask the following questions.

- (1) What promises did the Premier make to any union or party member to secure his leadership?
- (2) Will the Premier make public any promises he made on legislation or future taxpayer investment?

Several members interjected.

**The SPEAKER:** Members, we do not need your comments on the question; we will just have the answer from the Premier, please.

**Mr R.H. COOK replied:**

- (1)–(2) I made a commitment to the Labor Party, which is the same commitment I made to the people of Western Australia: we are going to create the jobs of today and the jobs of the future. We will build our economy to continue to make it the strongest economy in Western Australia. We will continue to grow jobs in WA and make sure that we continue to have the lowest level of unemployment in this state.

I would have thought the last person who would be raising the issue of what the Liberal Party might call “poor influence” within its party would be my friend the member for Vasse. We know what goes on in her party. We have seen the backroom deals as Hon Nick Goiran and Hon Peter Collier continue to manipulate her and everyone around her to make sure that she continues to elaborate and project all these extremist views upon the people of Western Australia. The people of Western Australia have sorted the party out. They have found it out. That is why there are just the two of you sitting there. Until you step up and stare down these nefarious influences within your party, there will continue to be just two of you over there.