

State Government at work.

Three contractors are bidding to fix a broken fence at the Queensland Parliament Buildings. One is from Ipswich, another from Logan and the third is from Kenmore.

All three go with a Parliament official to examine the fence.

The Ipswich contractor takes out a tape measure, does some measuring then writes down some figures. "Well," he says, "I figure the job will run about \$900, \$400 for materials, \$400 for my crew and \$100 profit for me."

The Logan contractor also does some measuring and figuring, then says, "I can do this job for \$700, \$300 for materials, \$300 for my crew and \$100 profit for me."

The Kenmore contractor doesn't measure or figure, but leans over to the Parliament official and whispers, "\$2,700."

The official, incredulous, says, "You didn't even measure like the other guys! How did you come up with such a high figure?"

The Kenmore contractor whispers back, "\$1000 for me, \$1000 for you, and we hire the guy from Logan to fix the fence..."

"Done!" replied the government official.