



The Burning Bush - Online article archive

Polishing brass on a sinking ship

Two headlines in local newspapers today brought to my mind a wonderful sermon title used by an old-time preacher. It was Dr J R Rice I believe, though I could be wrong! The title was 'Polishing brass on a sinking ship.'

I believe that is just what the DUP is engaged in at present for Stormont and more regretfully, Northern Ireland, is sinking!

"DUP to push for new rule on Union flag for Northern Ireland"

Belfast Telegraph

"The DUP has vowed to press Secretary of State Brandon Lewis to fly the Union flag on Government buildings here all-year round in line with the rest of the UK.

It comes after London announced yesterday guidance will be issued for the flag to fly from Government buildings in England, Scotland and Wales permanently, instead of on designated days.

DUP MP Sir Jeffrey Donaldson said when the designated day's policy was introduced here in 2000 it was on the basis it was in line with the rest of the UK."

"Weeks after halting Irish Sea border staff recruitment, DUP minister quietly U-turns – and won't explain why"

Belfast Newsletter

These headlines highlight, above all, the deceitful, devious and spurious actions of the DUP with a view to misleading its electorate as to what is happening to the 'Ulster' that deluded voters entrusted to the DUP in past years.

The cause of 'Unionism' has been undermined to a most dire degree. To degree that I personally fear is terminal!

The power-sharing arrangements that the DUP entered upon in order to gain power for itself, sadly, also put equal power into the hands of fanatical, violent Irish Republicans. Indeed, thanks to their wickedly dexterous handling of the position that the DUP handed Sinn Fein/IRA, they have out-manoeuvred Unionists so that surreptitiously Northern Ireland has been shoved towards a united Ireland.

Today, we cannot celebrate the 100th anniversary of the founding of our state as our fathers would have done. We are not free to fly the national flag, indeed can be prosecuted for doing so in circumstances which 'offend' our republican neighbours. 'Sir' Jeffrey Donaldson's request to the Secretary of State is an acknowledgement of that sad truth!

Furthermore, at every turn, Unionists have been out-foxed, side-tracked, tricked, duped and swindled and their electorate will have to pay the price!!

Little did the DUP and its jubilant followers realise the harvest that would soon follow their half-witted deal with Sinn Fein/IRA back in 2007 as they rapturously celebrated their 'victory' in Stormont's 'hallowed halls'!

It was history repeating itself - it was as Belshazzar's feast all over again!

Ivan Foster.