

## Gerry Adams Gets Ready to Step Down



Could it be only a matter of time before Gerry Adams steps down as leader of Sinn Fein? One political leader has already left his position this year, and I feel it is only a matter of time before Mr. Adams does the same.

Having observed Mr. Adams in the Stormont Chamber I noticed that he seems uninterested, unenthused and unconcerned. His general lacklustre demeanour shows a man bored with Stormont and the politics of Northern Ireland. This was demonstrated with his attempt, albeit a failed one, to gain power in the Republic of Ireland.

With Sinn Fein and the DUP now at least pretending to get on with each other and working together there seems to be no reason to fight or argue with no another the way they used to. Sinn Fein now has power in Stormont and they do not want this to be taken away from them. The resignation of Dr. Paisley showed us what happens when someone has no more reason to shout "Never", in that he had nothing left to shout about and was no longer needed. The DUP has tasted power and wants to retain it too. With Mr. Adams and Sinn Fein now in a similar position, he too may have to leave or be forced from office. He could continue to shout and campaign for a United Ireland, but I see no hope for this in the near future. Anyway, I am sure Sinn Fein has more pressing ambitions at hand.

With the change of politics and policies, and in some cases politicians, it is time for the radical leaders to step down and be replaced with newer faces. The DUP have done this, and I am sure it is only a matter of time before Sinn Fein do the same. Now they have tasted the richness of politics they won't want to go back to the way it was before, and so will have to adapt to be able to be able to serve this country, its citizens and their needs.

The natural candidate for the job that Mr. Adams currently holds, I feel, would be Mr. Conor Murphy. He seems to be a more accessible person and one that could capably fill the shoes that Mr. Adams will leave. He has enough experience in office to be able to handle the pressures of leading a political party and I think it is only a matter of time before he, or someone else, does so.

In any case, in the ever changing political spectrum that is Northern Ireland, I believe the tide is turning and the major parties need to shape up or ship out, and the only way for them to do this is, as we have seen, with change.

