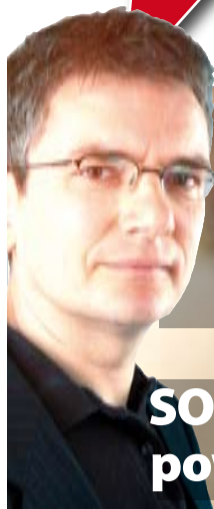


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Friday December 24 2010



Civil Service's money men

SOLOMON HUGHES on the power money can buy: P12

THE CHRISTMAS QUIZ 2010

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BBC 'relaying the fat-cat spin'

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HONEYMOON OVER AS THE CRACKS WIDEN

Coalition begins to fall apart as Lib Dems unleash their true feelings for the 'out-of-touch Tories'

by Will Stone

UNIONS and MPs are counting down the days to the coalition's destruction after Liberal Democrats revealed their true feelings about "out of touch" Tory ministers.

Hot on the heels of Business Secretary Vince Cable's candid views on Rupert Murdoch's media empire behind closed doors, other Lib Dems were caught out describing Prime Minister David Cameron as someone not to be trusted and Chancellor George Osborne as getting "up one's nose."

Care Minister Paul Burstow told people he thought to

be Lib Dem voters: "I don't want you to trust David Cameron" and Deputy Leader of the Commons David Heath said that "George Osborne has the capacity to get up one's nose doesn't he?"

Mr Heath also went onto discuss the Tories generally.

"Some of them just have no experience of how ordinary people live and that's what worries me," he said.

Transport Minister Norman Baker also admitted: "I don't like George Osborne very much. There are Tories who are quite good and there are Tories who are beyond the pale and, you know, you have to just deal with the cards you've got."

He also admitted to playing Tories off against each other.

The revelations will pile pressure on a coalition already straining to

keep up its public image after Mr Cable declared war on News Corporation and said he would block its bid to take full control of BSkyB.

Labour MP Jeremy Corbyn believes the latest comments prove that the coalition's lifespan is reaching an end.

"It is fascinating that these Lib Dems will say what is blatantly obvious behind closed doors but still vote for hikes to tuition fees and VAT," he said.

"I don't see how the coalition can survive with the Lib Dems being rapidly marginalised and both parties set to be smashed in the local elections."

RMT general secretary Bob Crow said that the comments revealed just how far the coalition is riddled with venom, hatred and animosity. He said: "The individual members of this government are so obnoxious it

is no surprise they hate each other. "If they can't find common cause among themselves, then it makes you wonder what they are doing in government in the first place.

"Now that the cracks have opened up in this Con-Dem administration it is down to us to drive a wedge in that will collapse the government and force the abandonment of its attacks on working people and its austerity cuts to public services."

But Tory Minister Oliver Letwin said hopefully: "If people feel four-and-a-half years from now this was a government that cured the deficit, kept public services intact and indeed improved them, gave people more power over their lives, they will re-elect us."

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Students out on streets in force

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Ponting set to play in Boxing Day test

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HAPPY CHRISTMAS TO ALL OUR READERS!

THE MORNING STAR WILL RETURN ON

WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 29