

## Raiding Dragons Assault Zale.

On March 26<sup>th</sup> the city of Zale, still reeling from its defeat by Midwinter, was attacked by six raiding dragons. They arrived at sunset from the northeast and immediately began to attack ships in the harbour and our occupying troops, forcing Marshal Windstar to order the evacuation of the city.

The Marshal reported that the dragons had still not abandoned the city and seemed intent on occupying it for some time. Refugees fleeing the ruins said that the dragons were laying waste to large portions of the city.

Experts at the Academical Society believe that the dragons could be moving in to stay. "This is typical behaviour for young Dragons when they move into new territory." Archivist Wayven Judd told the Herald, "They establish a nest and clear the area around it so there are no easy approach routes for rivals. The civilised lands around the city will provide ample amounts of livestock to feed the dragons and their offspring."

Marshal Windstar informed the Herald that they would be monitoring the situation carefully for possible incursions into and against Midwinter.

## Undead Horrors Sheltered by Merchant Family.

On March 24<sup>th</sup>, the peaceful streets of Beaconsfield were the scene of a raid organised by the Priests and Paladins of Orloth. The thirty-strong assault squad laid siege to the home of the Talarry family in the northern quarter of Beaconsfield.

Damlor Longwolf, Preceptor of Orloth in Midwinter, appeared before the High Council on March 25<sup>th</sup> stating that members of the church had discovered signs of undead living in the crypts beneath the house. Lyris Talarry, head of the family, and his two children Markus and Jennara were ordered to surrender but they refused and attacked the Orlothian forces. During the resulting confrontation, all three were killed along with over thirty vampires.

The High Council made a statement that they were happy with the evidence presented by the Orlothians and that the Talarry family was guilty of crimes against the state. The Talarry estates have been placed under control of the Merchants Guild and will be sold, the profits being paid to the Church of Orloth.

## Suspected Assassin Dies During Questioning.

Heavy-handed watch officers caused the death of suspected assassin, Ayaq Dakhar, last week during his interrogation. Dakhar had been captured by members of the Lamp Street Watch during an attempt on the life of Gita Bazamos at her home in the Walks.

Dakhar was thought to be the only lead in a series of seemingly unrelated murders that have occurred over the last month. Commander Arjay Thornapple stated that at the moment there was no indication of foul play, but a full internal investigation would be carried out in due course.

## **Arcane Duellers Arrested.**

Last week twelve duelling mages were arrested in the Memorial Park. The park was 'lit up like a bonfire' according to local residents. The duel was between rival mage factions from the Academical Society and the new Guild of the Arcane.

The duellers were apprehended by local Watch and handed over to their respective guilds for punishment. The Archmage Yarra Atheran told the Herald "Behaviour like this will not be tolerated. The perpetrators will be punished according to the law."

The Guild of the Arcane refused to comment.

## **Poisoner's Trial Ends.**

The trial of the Zale Poisoners ended last week. The ring-leader, Adin Whiteblood, was found guilty of treason and sentenced to death. The remaining seven were convicted of conspiracy to commit murder and sentenced to 20 years hard labour. Whiteblood's execution will take place on April 11<sup>th</sup>.

Heslor Radizar, who was arrested following a burglary at his shop, was found innocent of treason and conspiracy. He was, however, found guilty of the lesser charge of smuggling narcotics into Midwinter. He was ordered to pay a fine of 10,000 Gold Crowns.

## **Food Shortages Soon Over.**

The first ships of grain and supplies have reached Midwinter following the cessation of the war against Zale. Food shipments are expected to arrive daily for several months.

The Merchant's Guild confirmed yesterday that there would be an increase of 1 copper penny on import taxes to generate the extra revenue for the city.

## **Recruits Wanted.**

The Fairwind Recruitment Company is seeking individuals aged between 18 and 30 to join their acclaimed military academy.

Fairwind-trained officers can expect the best positions and wages available after they graduate.

Interested parties should pass their details to the Mercenaries Guild.

## **Jabari Dominate Races.**

March 29<sup>th</sup> saw the first horse-racing meet of the season. The day's prizes were all awarded to foreign horses from Al Jabar. Most notably the horse Maqtar, trained and ridden by Sulif al Marjad, won three of the day's five races.

Local horses performed no better at the Planting holiday meeting, where seven out of the ten races that day were won by Jabari horses.

## **Venetta Downey.**

Softly the leaves of memory fall.  
Gently I gather and treasure them all.  
Unseen, unheard, you are always near,  
So missed, so loved, so very dear.

## **Harry Mole.**

In our hearts you will always stay,  
Lovingly remembered every day.