

Unto the Mouth
From the Knee in Parton

An update and status report

Honored Mouth, I know that you have not heard from me before, as I, along with most of my people are in deep cover here.

As I am sure you are aware, the brains put us in place in Parton shortly after Ecumenical compact was signed and Parton was declared the official headquarters for the EC (Ecumenical Council). It was the reasoning of the brains, approved by her Magnificent grace, the Archduchess, that the Patriarch of Light would not, as a matter of honor, put agents in place at the EC, but that such agents should exist - therefore the Archduchy offered to provide a fair number of the staff for the Embassy of Eternal Light to the EC. All of those staff were trained in their official duties and many were also... otherwise trained.

Items for this report:

1. In the last 4 months there has been an enormous amount of maneuvering among the lesser faiths in the EC. I particularly here refer to Sytry and Whimsey. If I did not know better I would suggest that a religious war was brewing - but I don't see a reason for one, the two have cooperated, even prior to the EC, for the greater good - however, it is also true that Whimsey and her consort can have... moods.
2. The Temple of Gunnora, which has been remarkably generous considering its wealth (or lack thereof) has become more reclusive and has increased its number of bounders (hobbit... soldiers?) We thought it odd, and were finally able to determine that there had been two attacks on their offices. We cannot determine who ordered the attacks, but we have reason to believe that some of the attackers pierced the embassy, were captured, and are being held in cells in the basement of the embassy, as it is sovereign territory of the Gunnorian faith. We cannot fault their understanding of law and tradition, but we believe the situation to be a dangerous one if true.
3. An attempt was made to introduce poison into Parton's capital city, where the EC is housed, by bringing in tainted salt and vinegar. The authorities are too engaged here however, and random testing revealed the tainted products, they were able to bring in additional safe supplies. Several merchants were arrested and three were hung. It was determined that the others did not know that the supplies they carried were tainted. No one knows why anyone would try to poison the city, but we think that it was to disrupt the EC, although we cannot see what difference that would make.
4. We caught a spy inside the embassy of Light. By spy we do not mean an implanted agent, rather the ankle for this operation, assigned a mighty artifact, in the form of an eye of true seeing, happened to be wearing his monocle while going about certain duties deep in the bowels of the embassy and saw a figure moving around - invisible otherwise on all levels. Knowing that he was probably outmatched, he sent a message via an

apprentice wine steward on his way to the cellar, who alerted the rest of us. We attempted to capture this creature (who much resembled a man) alive, but his ferocity was such that we could not, and therefore we ended up being forced to slay him (thanks to the Light that we had an assigned magus among our group - despite it we had to explain the death of one of our toes as being a stumble down the stairs - (fortunately the bishop without portfolio was cloistered before his elevation, and the Captain of the honor guard is one of us)), at which time he was reduced, as it were, to a mass of acidic goo, which scored the very granite of the floor and then gradually dissipated. Later we found a badly pitted crystal within a hidey hole in the attic of the building (searching the embassy, given its size, took several days to do in a manner that would not draw attention - afterall, the embassy of Light must be larger than the embassy of Darkness! That crystal has been sealed in a lead coffer, as our only sensitive (who is rated too low to be trained in Farsensing) believes that it is a recording crystal and contains knowledge and so we wanted to make it as difficult to find or regain as possible. It is presently stored in a safe location, from whence it can be easily recovered when transit to the Archduchy is possible.