## Jester Coins Not Legitimate

Despite frequent warnings and notices from the Lord Mayor's office, illegally minted coins are still in use. The coins can easily be recognized by the face of a jester minted in the place of the lord-mayor's or royal seal.



Possession of these socalled jester coins is an offence and punishable by a fine of up to 300 gold and 3 months incarceration.

The Mayor's office states that citizens may hand in all jester coins in their possession to an officer of the exchequers without fear of persecution.

All officials deny any links between the illegal coins and the Last Laugh syndicate

## The Cauldron Herald

## Orphans Latest Victims as Kidnappings Continue

In the latest kidnapping incident in Cauldron, four orphan children were taken from the Lantern Street Orphanage. Despite Captain Skellerang's assurances that his best man sergeant Krewis is trying to find the missing persons, Cauldron's citizens worry that there are nefarious forces at work in and around the city proper. A quick survey on the streets will offer the seeker any number of possible explanations from the mundane to the bizarre.

Some say a secret guild of Halfling rogues is responsible for the robberies and kidnappings, but up to now evidence is scarce.

Coryston Pike, one of the kidnapped victims, feared for her life days before she vanished. Coincidence? I think not!

"A cloaked figure collided with me in the street and knocked me down. She uttered some horrible curse, glared at me with her ghostly face and haunting blue eyes, then strode off." reports one local who chose to remain anonymous.

Captain Skellerang denies rumors of an evil cult that has taken residence in Cauldron and is sacrificing kidnap victims to Morkoth, the creature rumored to live in Cauldron Lake.

"Hogwash!" states Captain Skellerang. "Morkoth is a child's story as is, let alone some fantasy cult. We'll get to the real culprit."

The church of St. Cuthbert has vowed to locate the missing children and bring the kidnappers to justice.

## **New Tax Plan Unveiled**

Terri Stanheort, Chancellor of the Exchequer, has announced a change in the tax code--the first change in 15 years. According to documents attained by the Herald it is the wealthy citizens that will be most affected by the change. On top of the usual tariffs on goods imported from other lands, the city will now be taking a modest fee on luxury items. According the Exchequer, luxury items include delicacy meals, ornate jewelry and art, and other non-necessary items of splendor. A new inheritance tax has also been declared, that being 1 silver on the gold.

Most citizens are ok with the tax increases, stating security as a justifiable reason. "We need guards and investigators to figure out and prevent these hear kidnappings. That costs money. Those rich high mucky mucks can help front some of the blow in my opinion." says one local fisherman. Local merchants and trading houses however are concerned that this could be the first of many tax increases in the coming year.