

MYTHPRINT

The Monthly Bulletin of The Mythopoeic Society

interested in the study, discussion, and enjoyment
of myth, fantasy & imaginative literature, especially the works of
J.R.R. Tolkien, C.S. Lewis & Charles Williams

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A New Constitution

The Mythopoeic Society is now just over three years old. The large majority of present members were not part of it from the beginning, yet they have certainly benefitted from the backlog of learned experience through growth and meeting new conditions with new 'evolvments' out of the original idea of the Society. The main attention, nearly all the the attention, of the Society has been in its content — that is its purposes and the activities that express its purposes. This is exactly as it should be. And I feel because of this, we have been able to come a long way in three years.

Currently the Society, through the monthly meetings, is involved in considering the new constitution that is being worked out. A new, adequate constitution is now needed because of the large growth of the Society, and if we are to have a well-functioning Society, many new things must be included and spelled out. We have two out-of-state branches and the possibility of more. It is of utmost importance that a workable, viable constitution be adopted to the acceptance of all. This currently is a pre-occupation with form, and a necessary one for the time being — necessary so that the smooth, efficient operation of the Society be worked out for the on-going growth of the present and future developments.

The November branch meetings should finish their considerations and sum up their suggestions for changes to be made in the proposed constitution which should have been read and discussed at the October meetings. These suggestions should then be brought to the Council meeting to be held in early December to be discussed and voted on there. The revised constitution will then be resubmitted to the Society for acceptance or rejection.

Let us now then put our minds to the task of working this out, so that we may continue our primary involvement with purpose and content that has given the Society that very special quality which is treasured by so many of us.

TOPIC SUGGESTION

The Wind in The Willows by Kenneth Grahame is one of the greatest books ever written. Because it covers all the seasons of the year, it would make an excellent elective discussion topic for December, Spring, or early Fall.

Grahame seems to contrast the quiet, close to nature characters of Rat, Mole, and Badger with the impetuous, nearly burlesque, character of Toad. Although I do not especially enjoy the chapters dealing with Mr. Toad, and do consider the chapters "Dulce Domum," "The Piper at the Gates of Dawn," and "Wayfarers All" as indescribable pieces of transcendent beauty, I recognize the ironic comparison of the two kinds of attitudes expressed in Toad versus the others, gives added strength and substance to this most subtle, and well written book.

NEW NARNIA PAPERBACKS DISAPPOINTING

MacMillian Publishing Company, which has published the Narnia books by C.S. Lewis in this country since their beginning, has now come out with paperback editions at 95¢ each. The price of the hard bound editions is now somewhere around \$5.00. I strongly suspect (without actual proof) that the reason MacMillian has done this is not because the hard bound edition sales have dropped, but rather to compete and hopefully eliminate competition with the British Puffin paperback editions. The British paper editions have more illustrations than the American hard bound! and have pleasant color covers by the illustrator, Pauline Baynes. The British editions say right on the back "for copyright reasons not for sale in the U.S.A.," yet they have been selling at a brisk pace for several years in certain stores, and many Americans have been ordering them directly from book dealers in England. They are far superior to the American paper editions, except for the quality of paper used and perhaps slightly smaller type. They cost 42¢ each, and are well worth the wait of a few months to get them shipped. The American paperbacks are not disappointing because of the price, but because of the illustrations. I don't especially object to the pseudo-Peter Max covers; they're not as bad as some had told me. What I do seriously object to is the butchering of Pauline Baynes artwork. Only a very few of her illustrations have been left in, but even the ones that appear are only fragments of what the original illo was. Not only that, but it seems as if the illo was run through a xerox machine first, so that all fine detail lines are washed out and then printed. In The Last Battle in the illo where Tash is grasping Rishda Tarkaan, Tash's feet are cut off. This is what I meant about only fragments being used. I am sorry to see Pauline Baynes' artwork treated so crassly, and even though I am a collector, I personally will not buy the Macmillian paperback editions. Let your conscience be your guide.

13TH & 14TH BRANCHES

Two more branches have been formed. According to the new constitution, they will continue on provisional status until the Council is assured that they have met the requirements necessary to be on official branch status. The question is which is the 13th and which the 14th. I was informed that both groups have already had their formational meetings, but both letters did not mention the date of those first meetings, so until we find this out it will remain an open question.

The first branch to write is located in Goshen Indiana! It was organized by a former member of the Orange County Branch who has gone off to college and promptly formed a branch there. He is David Keller who is at Goshen College. (That Manifest Destiny slogan wasn't empty. Now we've crossed the Mississippi.)

The second branch to write is in Santa Rosa, California. Santa Rosa is about fifty miles north of San Francisco. Five of the branch members: Kristin Johnson, three of the Simmons family, and Ed Mast, were able to attend Mythcon. So now there is also a branch in northern California.

TO BOTH BRANCHES WE ALL SAY WELCOME !

Glen & Bonnie Engaged

Bonnie Bergstrom and Glen GoodKnight announced their engagement to be married at the Bilbo and Frodo Picnic held on September 27th. They are hoping to be married in the Wedding Chapel at the Riverside Mission Inn during the 1971 Mythcon. They met at the 1968 Fall Picnic and want to be married in the presence of all their good friends in the Society.

TOLKIEN RUMOR UNFOUNDED

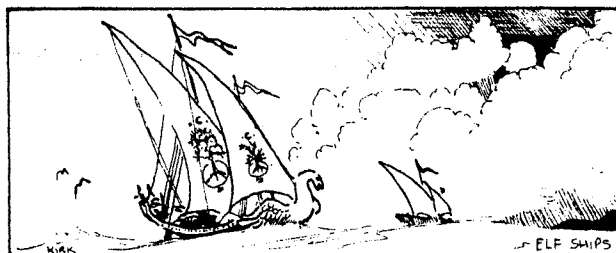
There was a rumor going around at Mythcon that J. R. R. Tolkien was sick, near death, and loosing his eyesight in a English nursing home. I asked C.S. Kilby about this at Mythcon, and he seriously doubted it truth. In a letter dated 23 September 1970 Professor Kilby wrote me:

I think I told you that I had written Rayner Unwin ((of Allen and Unwin, the British publishers of LOTR)) about the health of Prof. Tolkien. He replied: "I am only too happy to dispel your fears. Prof. Tolkien is in good health though he and Mrs. Tolkien have their ups and downs as any one of their age must be expected to."

MEMBERSHIP AND DUES

For those living outside areas of branch meetings and who wish to be a member of the Society, they may join as an Associate Member at \$2 per year. This will insure their receiving Mythprint, and any supplements it may carry. Write to Lois Newman,

Under the new proposed constitution as agreed upon at the last Council meeting, one must be a dues paying member to vote in the Society. Dues can be paid on either on a yearly, bi-annual, or monthly basis. It has been suggested in Council that members be urged to pay their dues —\$6— for the year of 1971 in January to your branch Treasurer, thus saving the monthly task of fishing out your monthly 50¢. This would also make it easier for record keeping by the branch treasurers. The paying of dues on a yearly or six month basis is only a suggestion, not a requirement. Those wishing to continue to pay each month are free to do so.



FORGOTTEN FANTASY

If you haven't seen a copy of the second issue of Forgotten Fantasy, I urge you to seek it out. Some magazine and newsstands carry it, others, unfortunately do not. The Editor of the magazine, Douglas Menville, has written what amounts to a two page plug for the Mythopoeic Society. He was very kind to do this, giving us a very flattering image. I have already received several letters inquiring about the Society this week (Oct. 20) from people around the nation.

The editorial has a Bernie Zuber hobbit illustration at its end, and the striking color cover is done by George Barr.

First Friday: NOVEMBER 6

The Santa Rosa Branch

TOPIC: The Magician's Nephew by C.S. Lewis
LOCATION: At the Olsen's. For information contact Mrs. Simmons,

First Saturday: NOVEMBER 7

The La Mirada-Whittier Branch (Archenland)

TOPIC: The Thirteen Clocks by Thurber. A dramatic reading.
LOCATION: The home of Rubetta Ridderhof,

Second Saturday: NOVEMBER 14

The Long Beach Branch (The Havens of Long Beach)

BEACH PARTY at 6:00 pm.
TOPIC: "The Grey Havens" from Lord of The Rings by J.R.R. Tolkien
LOCATION: Bolsa Chica State Beach, North Entrance. Firepits and food. Look for banner and signs on cars.

The San Diego Branch

TOPIC: The Greater Trumps by Charles Williams
LOCATION: The home of Donna McGary,

The Pomona Valley Branch (The Desolation of Smaug)

TOPIC: Beowulf
LOCATION: The home of Shawneen Beske,

The Hollywood-Wilshire Branch

TOPIC: The King of Elfland's Daughter by Lord Dunsany
LOCATION: The home of Dale Ziegler,

The Santa Barbara Branch

TOPIC: Many Dimensions by Charles Williams
LOCATION: The home of Lisbeth Caccese,

Third Saturday: NOVEMBER 21

The West Los Angeles Branch (Chapter of The Western Marches)

TOPIC: The Lion, The Witch and The Wardrobe by C.S. Lewis
LOCATION: The home of Abigail Bok,

The San Bernardino- Riverside Counties Branch

TOPIC: "Gandalf" from The Lord of the Rings by J.R.R. Tolkien
LOCATION: The home of Joe and Diane LeRoy,

The Orange County Branch

TOPIC: Perelandra by C.S. Lewis
LOCATION: The home of Teny Rule, . A special tape of a "Perelandra Opera" by Donald Swann will be played.

The San Fernando Valley Branch

TOPIC: Descent Into Hell by Charles Williams
LOCATION: The home of David Ralph, . Call Marj Hoyt for info.

The Valley of The Sun Branch

TOPIC: Perelandra by C.S. Lewis
LOCATION: The home of Robert Prokop,

Fourth Sunday: NOVEMBER 22

The San Gabriel Valley Branch (Lothlorien)

TOPIC: That Ilideous Strength by C.S. Lewis
LOCATION: At Cal Tech, on California Blvd. Meeting in Club Room 2, Upstairs of the Winett Student Center, near center of Campus. Call after 4pm for information
TIME IS 6:30 INSTEAD OF 8pm SINCE THIS IS A SUNDAY.

Fifth Sunday: NOVEMBER 29

The Goshen Branch

TOPIC: The Two Towers
LOCATION: Kratz Hall Lounge, Goshen College, Goshen Indiana. 3pm

special events

CCL Fall Meeting

On Saturday, November 7th, at the Fall meeting of CCL, Professor Warren Hollister of the History Department of UC Santa Barbara will speak about "Christian Culture in the Twelfth and Thirteenth Centuries," and Professor Robert Brophy of the English Department at Cal State Long Beach will speak about "Religious Themes in 20th Century Literature: Concepts of a Course."

Professor Hollister is a member of the Santa Barbara Branch of the Society, and has published a children's fantasy novel, The Moons of Mere, co-authored with Judith Pike.

The CCL meeting will be held in the Soroptimist House of the Cal State Long Beach Campus. Registration will begin at 9:30 and the meeting will conclude at 3:30. Lunch will be available for a reasonable price.

CCL stands for Conference on Christianity and Literature. "It is a non-sectarian professional association devoted to greater understanding of relations that may exist between religious faith and the creation, study, and teaching of literature." Further information may be had from Professor James DeSaegher, CCL Treasurer, Department of English, California Western University Campus,

Barony of the Angels

The Society for Creative Anachronisms, a organization interested in Medieval culture and the implementing of many facets of that culture in 20th century life styles, is attempting to form a new group in Southern California, known as the Barony of the Angels. They will be holding their first Tourney and Revel on Saturday, November 21. There will be visitors from the Kingdom of the Mists (the parent group in the Bay Area) present. The Tourney will be held on new grounds in Chatsworth. For more information, contact Baron Powell PenAnwn, or Seneschal Gordon Monson,

C.S. Lewis' Birthday

November 29, 1970 is the 72nd anniversary of the birth of C.S. Lewis. In honor of this occasion, there will be a special literary Birthday Party at the home of Glen GoodKnight,

Besides the refreshments, there will be readings from some of Lewis' greatest writings by several people. All are invited. The Party will begin at 1:30 pm, a Sunday afternoon.

Some of the works to be read from will include: The Space Trilogy, Narnia, Screwtape, Surprised by Joy, The Weight of Glory, They Asked for a Paper, Of Other Worlds, The Four Loves, A Grief Observed, Miracles, and others.

DEAD WOOD ARISE !!!

YOU HAVE UNTIL DECEMBER 20TH TO ACT IF YOU WANT TO CONTINUE TO GET THIS MONTHLYBULLETIN. EITHER ATTEND A SOCIETY MEETING (or other function) OR WRITE TO LOIS NEWMAN, ASKING TO BE KEPT ON THE MAILING LIST. OTHERWISE YOU WILL NOT GET MYTHPRINT AFTER NEXT MONTH'S ISSUE.

DUE TO THE GROWTH OF THE SOCIETY, AND THE EXPANDING COSTS, IT IS NECESSARY THAT WE SEND MYTHPRINT TO THOSE ONLY WHO TRULY WISH TO GET IT. WE FEEL THAT WE ARE BEING MORE THAN FAIR IN THE ABOVE STATED CONDITIONS BY WHICH YOU MAYCONTINUE TO RECEIVE MYTHPRINT. WE HAVE MET MANY PEOPLE THROUGH THE SOCIETY, AND WOULD LIKE TO KEEP IN CONTACT WITH ALL WE HAVE MET. THIS MEASURE IS REGRETTEED SINCE WE WOULD LIKE TO KEEP EVERYONE INFORMED ON WHAT IS HAPPENING, BUT THEN WE ARE NOT A HUGE ORGANIZATION WHO CAN AFFORD TO SEND OUT MATERIAL JUST TO BE THROWN AWAY BY DISINTERESTED DEAD WOOD ON OUR LISTS. IT'S UP TO YOU.

Love, Lois and Glen.



Mythprint

Glen GoodKnight

Handwritten address correction: 29770 dgggag jsk
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Address Correction Requested



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