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In This Issue

All of the articles in this issue, except one, were papers presented at the 24th annual Mythopoeic Conference held at the University of Minnesota in Minneapolis this past August. This was the third Society sponsored Conference to be held in the Mid-West. We have had previous Conferences in the region at Wheaton, Illinois and Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

The theme of the Minneapolis Conference was on Children's literature, and many of the papers, partially represented here, focussed on the theme. Also, as usual there were papers on the Inklings, and other topics. Of this last category, Joel Feimer's "Biblical Typology in LeGuin's *The Eye of the Heron*" and Corrine Larson's "The Fourth Branch of the Mabinogi" are fine examples.

The two papers on Tolkien, "Nature and Technology" by Gwyneth Hood and "Stone Towers" by Carl Hostetter and Patrick Wynne, are both important for different reasons. Miss Hood does something I would applaud to see in more Tolkien scholars; she applies ideas from one work to another, in this case ideas from *The Silmarillion* to *The Lord of the Rings*, and does this in a most lucid and informative way. Anyone who has read the latter will recognize that myths of former informed the latter. But here, Miss Hood takes this to a conceptual level not often encountered. Turning from the binoculars to the microscope, "Stone Towers" is a linguistic gem, bringing forth new insights in understanding Tolkien that all his readers will benefit from, not only those with a strong linguistic interest.

We thank David Branson for bringing us a survey of "The Arthurian elements in *That Hideous Strength*," and to Sarah Beach for thematically complimenting this with her back cover.

The diverse papers in this issue dealing with children's literature and the Conference's theme are: "An Ozdyssey in Plato" by Michael Johnson, "All Hell in His Knap Sack" by Howard Canaan, and "Touch Magic" by Sandra Lindow. The first is a charming and thoughtful Platonic interpretation of *The Wizard of Oz*. The second is a fascinating analysis of two fairy tales that many readers will not be familiar with — and all the more interesting because of it. The last is a poignant description of the need for fairy tales by emotionally disturbed and disabled children by one who teaches them.

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— Glen GoodKnight