most free of it. But some instances are: the G-rune on the packets stand-
ing for 'Gandalf/grand' — here 'geweldig' is used ('mighty/terrific/awful/
enormous'); the G-rune on Galadriel's box ('Galadriel/gardening') — 'gaar-
de' is used (poetic for 'garden'). In the ride of the Rohirrim: "'What is
afoot?' 'Anything that can remain so.'" (play on 'afoot', = 'going on' or
'on its feet'); here the Dutch has, "'Wat er gaande is?' 'Alles dat er
gaande kan zijn.'" (roughly, "'What is going on?' 'All that can keep going
[on].'").

Poetry: The alliterative verse is translated as alliterative. Some-
times the metre and alliteration suffers in the interest of accurate trans-
lation; but the translator may not have completely understood Anglo-Saxon
alliterative verse: in one case, "as *wind* in the morning. *War* was kindled"
becomes "als *wind* in de morgen. *Oorlog* ontwaakte" ('War awoke'), with the
alliterant letter incorrectly on the second rather than the first strong
beat of the second half-line ('Ontwaakte oorlog' would correct this).

A. Appleyard

Gimli's Axe

In his article on this subject in Mallorn 13, *Jonathan Simons maintain-
ed that since a double-bladed axe would have been impractical, Gimli's axe
must have been single-bladed. Ashfaq Mashhadi here puts forward a contrary
view.*

All who I have asked have told me that they (like myself) had received
the impression that Gimli's axe was double-edged. However, our Chairman's
article proved that an axe with two equal-sized blades would be difficult
to swing. But what if one were smaller than the other? Thus:
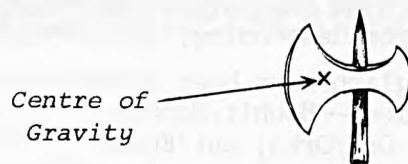
Centre of
Gravity

If the axe was designed thus, it would still keep the centre of grav-
ity between the shaft and the larger cutting edge. Also, more to the point,
in a backswing the smaller edge would be more useful than an armour-punch,
since in pitched battle Gimli aimed at necks rather than midriffs.

As for greater danger of laceration, I doubt that a mail-wearing Dwarf,
experienced at carrying an axe, would be likely to injure himself on his
own axe when he wore it.

[Ashfaq Mashhadi]

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*(Writer's own tengwar.)