

PRO-EDITORIAL FROM THE PRO-EDITOR.

Greetings to all our good readers! Atlast, at long last, MALLORN 5 springs into life--- did I hear someone say 'And about time too...'?

Apologies, and an appeal to your patience, good Hobbit-folk and all the rest of you. It should have been out by.... well, never mind. Our Joint-Editors, the Laurelindorinan Smial, having got out MALLORNS 2,3 and 4 in excellent style, suffered the common fate of their age, and were swept asunder by the fortunes of studentdom. Steve Thomson struggled on as best he could, but eventually dropped into my lap what I was tempted to compare to a stillborn baby---- but having summoned help, Hartley Patterson, John Martin and the Fairy-Midwife of Overburrows Flet took energetic measures, applied the kiss-of-life, oxygen and infusions of Athelas, and behold, here is the infant, alive and I hope kicking in all directions. If it isn't quite so large and bouncing as some, that must be the excuse. We have done our best.

And now, an appeal from the heart--- WE WANT AN EDITOR. Any offers? Any volunteers? Unpaid, save with the gratitude of all Tolkienists--- no inducements to offer---but oh, how we do need one--- or more. If perhaps it is a thing no one will take on entirely, perhaps some of you would consider editing MALLORN for one number, or for alternate numbers? I leave it with you--- let us hear from you.

We have now had the A.G.M., and the report of it is in the Bulletin, ANDURIL O. We also have a Constitution, and anyone who wants a copy can obtain it by writing to the Chairman (Keith Bridges, Beorn.) And anyone who objects to any part of it must now wait till next year and come to the 1973 A.G.M.--- which we are planning to hold in LIVERPOOL, under the auspices of the Merseyside Tolkien Society. We hope to make this something of a CON, with a number of attractions, so make a provisional note of this. It will be about the end of February 1973. All details will be in ANDURIL.

The Professor's Birthday was a noteworthy occasion, and though mentioned in ANDURIL deserves a place here. The Society sent him a telegram of congratulation, and also a handsome china tobacco jar, designed in green with white huntsmen chasing white harts in a forest, and an appropriate message--- the contents of the jar, while not really the genuine Longbottom Leaf, were the best Latakia Mixture. Miss Joy Hill, the Press Officer for Allen & Unwin, rang me up on the very eveing of the birthday to tell me of the Professor's great pleasure, and later I received the following:

6th February 1972.

Dear Mrs. Chapman,

May I thank you and the Tolkien Society for your good wishes and kind gift on my 80th birthday. I appreciated your generosity very much indeed. Best wishes,

Yours sincerely, J.R.R.TOLKIEN.

Considering how very rarely the Professor ever writes to anyone at all, we are greatly privileged. The letter is in my possession, and may be seen on request.

Activities are planned for this summer --- a party from Merseyside will be coming up to see Tutankhamen's Treasure, and any members will be welcome to join them---details in ANDURIL; I hope also to arrange periodical meetings, of a social and literary kind, in a pub within easy reach of Euston Station; And a special invitation: If anyone would like a visit to the LONDON ZOO BY NIGHT on Wednesday June 7th, will they please write to me as soon as possible?

That's all for now, and ELA SILEN LUMENN' OMENTIELMO.....

Your very temporary Pro-Editor,
BELLADONNA TOOK

