

THE ASSYRIAN DICTIONARY PROJECT

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The year 1975/76 was spent by the CAD staff, as usual, looking backward as much as looking ahead. Much of the editors' time was taken up by reading second galley proof of volume M. Since at least two years will have elapsed between sending the volume to press and its publication, proofreading involves not only catching errors but also, wherever possible without grossly overstepping our printing budget, updating the volume with the addition of important texts that have appeared in the interim.

Considerable progress has been made on the editing of volumes N and P, and we hope to send N to the printer in the course of this year. The manuscript of volume Q, begun by Professor Burkhardt Kienast of the University of Freiburg-im-Breisgau, Germany, our faithful friend and collaborator since his first visit to Chicago in 1958, will be continued by him in the summer of '76, so that when N and P are edited, we shall again have two letters, Q and R, in manuscript. Dr. Kaspar K. Riemschneider in his second year as James Henry Breasted Fellow continued preparing the manuscript of R.

Volume A, part 2, published in 1968 and out of stock for the past six months, is now being reprinted. Except for K and L, the most recently published volumes, every volume has been reprinted, two of them twice. This indication of continued scholarly interest in the Dictionary is encouraging.

A not insignificant portion of the editor's time was taken up by exploring possibilities of outside financial support for the CAD, beyond the contribution we continue to receive from the International Union of Academies. If such support, either for staff or for printing cost, does become available, then the weeks spent in writing proposals will have been well spent.

While the personal research of Assyriologists is described in another section of this Annual Report, I consider it my privilege and my duty to underline here the fact that the quality of the CAD depends in a large measure on the individual projects of each of its collaborators. The in-depth research on some particular aspect of Mesopotamian civilization, which resulted in the publications listed under each individual's name, is an essential input in the work on this dictionary if it is to continue its character of interpreting civilization through its vocabulary.