

## A Hittite Dictionary Project

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When I joined the staff of the Oriental Institute late in the summer of 1974, the time was opportune for a major work in Hittite philology involving a collaboration between Hans Güterbock and myself. We have decided to make a start in the production of a Hittite dictionary. The dictionary we envisage will not be as voluminous as the *Assyrian Dictionary*, but it will be as comprehensive. It should be no larger than two volumes when completed. We will attempt to include all the words that occur in published Hittite texts, even if at present no English translation can be offered for some. The Hittite context will be furnished in all cases where it might prove useful. Since Mr. Güterbock is a leading authority on questions of dating texts by script and orthography, the discussions of orthography and translation of each word will be organized diachronically, treating Old Hittite and Middle Hittite evidence first, followed by the New Hittite (Empire period) evidence.

We hope to be able to produce the dictionary in fascicles printed annually, the first appearing in 1977. Ten fascicles should accommodate the entire dictionary. Pooling our lexical files, we estimate that about 65 per cent of the collecting has been completed and that with an organized and properly funded effort the remaining 35 per cent can be collected within the next two years. After that point the collecting phase will be reduced to the less taxing effort of keeping current with newly appearing texts.

Obviously the pace of the work will depend on obtaining adequate funding, which we are presently seeking through various channels, especially the National Endowment for the Humanities.