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# The Assyrian Dictionary Project

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It has been our good fortune in the past year to receive a grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities of \$350,000 outright, with two additional grants of \$160,540 each (one from a private donor and matching funds from NEH), to run from July 1, 1976 to June 30, 1979. This has enabled us to add to the Dictionary staff with the objective of increasing the pace toward completion of the series. At our invitation, Professor Burkhart Kienast of the University of Freiburg spent nine months with us from July 1976

through March 1977, as the first of a series of senior visiting appointments, during which time he virtually completed the draft of the manuscript of the Q volume. Three recent Ph.D. graduates were appointed as research associates: Irving Finkel from the University of Birmingham, England; Maureen Gallery from Yale; and Brigitte Groneberg (the James Henry Breasted Research Associate) from the University of Münster.

Although we lost, through resignation, Johannes Renger, we are happy that Hermann Hunger, formerly of the University of Vienna and a colleague on the dictionary staff from 1970 to 1973, has joined the faculty. Marjorie J. Elswick has retired after ten years' service as a most competent Editorial Secretary, and has been succeeded by two Editorial Assistants, Mr. Peter T. Daniels and Mrs. Claire D. Lincoln.

Our work on the two-volume M is at last almost complete after long delays in receiving proof from the German printer. The books will appear during the latter half of 1977. The manuscript of N underwent a final reading and was sent to the printer in July. It is anticipated that it, also, will appear in two volumes. The manuscript of P is currently being edited.

After being out of print for a number of years, D and S will again become available in mid-summer. Plans are also under way to have seven other volumes reprinted during the last half of 1977, which will insure adequate stock for the steadily increasing sales of the Dictionary.