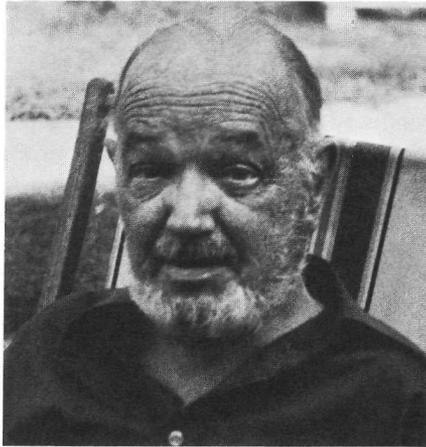

Dedication



It is a pleasure to dedicate this volume to Professor Richard T. Hallock on the fiftieth anniversary of his formal association with the Oriental Institute. In the autumn of 1930 he was hired as an assistant on the Assyrian Dictionary project, then under the direction of Professor Edward Chiera.

I N T R O D U C T I O N

Richard Hallock was born in Passaic, New Jersey in 1906. He studied at Trinity College, University of Toronto, earning his Bachelor of Arts degree in 1929. He then came to Chicago and received both an M.A. (1931) and a Ph.D. (1934) in Assyriology from this university. He served as a research assistant on the Assyrian Dictionary for many years, taking a leave of absence for government service at the time of World War II (1941–47). After he returned from his military duties, he worked another decade for the dictionary, finishing as editorial secretary from 1955 to 1957, when the first volumes were published. During this time and in later years, he also bore the thankless task of teaching elementary Babylonian to successive classes of beginning students.

Professor Hallock's primary contribution to scholarship has been in the field of Elamite studies. For more than forty years he has been working on the decipherment and elucidation of thousands of Elamite tablets found at Persepolis and dating from the early years of the Persian Empire. He has almost singlehandedly pioneered the study of the little-known late phases of the Elamite language; and his major work, *Persepolis Fortification Tablets* (1969), published more than two thousand of the difficult tablets. For his outstanding contributions to philology, he was elected a Corresponding Fellow of the British Academy in the early 1970's.

Following his official retirement in 1971, Professor Hallock has continued to edit more of the Persepolis tablets and informally to initiate interested students into the mysteries of Elamite. Except during a recent illness, most mornings have found him at his desk in a small office at the east end of the third floor of the Institute—quietly and modestly continuing his pioneering work on the Persepolis tablets that remain to be deciphered.

The Institute has been fortunate to have a faculty member as dedicated as Richard Hallock. We express our gratitude for his many years of service and wish him happiness and many more years for work in his chosen field.