

The responsibility of editorship of the Hittite Dictionary demands nearly all of PROFESSOR HOFFNER'S time, including the summers, when he must both direct the dictionary team in Chicago and travel to Turkey for collation of tablets in the Istanbul and Ankara museums. In spite of this, he has been able to maintain a small flow of publications and public lectures.

This year the text of his lecture at the Vienna Rencontre Assyriologique appeared in print. Professor Hoffner discovered a join piece to the famous Milawata Letter, which revealed the name of a

previously unknown king of Wilusa, a kingdom in Western Asia Minor identified by some with Ilios in the Troad. The new context recovered by the join also sheds welcome light on the problems of diplomatic and military relationships between Hatti and its western neighbor-states during the 13th Century B.C. and on questions of historical geography in the region.

Few other Hittitologists are able to prepare a detailed review and evaluation of the Hittite dictionary of Professor Kammenhuber of Munich. His extensive review of fascicles 4 and 5 of Kammenhuber's dictionary has just appeared in *Bibliotheca Orientalis*. Although it will be years before the Chicago dictionary will reach this part of the Hittite alphabet, through his remarks in critical reviews Hoffner is able to give a preview of the Chicago material and analysis of the words in question.

In a memorial volume for the German Indoeuropeanist Heinz Kronasser (*Investigationes Philologicae et Comparativae*, Wiesbaden, 1982) Professor Hoffner clarified the meaning of the Hittite negative word *numan*, which contrary to previous opinion does not mean "never" or "in no way," but "would not" or "could not." In the course of this study he also demonstrated two uses of the Hittite optative particle *man*: speaker optative, and subject optative.

In *Journal of Cuneiform Studies* 33 (1981) 206ff. he identified a new join piece to the only Old Hittite copy of the second half of the Hittite law code. The new piece offered an unexpected and highly significant textual variant, the word *meani* for the more familiar *mehuni* "at the time" which the later copyist replaced it with. Since fascicle two of the *CHD* includes *meyani-*, the discovery was timely.

Professor Hoffner enlarged his private control corpus of Hittite texts on the University's Amdahl computer during 1982-83. The capability to perform sophisticated data retrievals on this corpus offers exciting prospects for Hittite linguistic research.