Volume 15 (S) of the Chicago Assyrian Dictionary, which was in press at the time of last year’s report, has finally appeared. Advance copies were received in November in time to accompany our application for the renewal of our NEH grant, and distribution of the volume began in January. In the fall of 1984 we sent to the printer an additional c. 1500 manuscript pages of Volume 17 (S) to bring the manuscript at the printer to the halfway point. We now hope to publish Volume 17 in two parts instead of the three originally envisaged. S is by far the largest volume; its projected length is roughly 1350 pages, compared to the longest single volume so far, K, 617 pages, and the largest double volume, A parts 1 and 2, 923 pages. To date 900 galleys have been received and over half returned for the next stage of proofs.

As we were anxious to take in hand the remaining letters to be written (T, T, U, W), we welcomed the return this spring of Prof. Richard Caplice of the Pontifical Biblical Institute in Rome, a long-time faithful collaborator on the Chicago Assyrian Dictionary, who was pleased to see the fruits of his previous work, the letter S. With his arrival a beginning was made on letter T, Volume 18; the collaborators whom we expect this summer will continue work on T. Professor Caplice also contributed some additional words to the manuscript of P which he had begun at previous stays in Chicago, and the editor-in-charge hopes to prepare this volume next for press. During this academic year we also retained Prof. Dietz O. Edzard for an additional month in July, and Prof. Parpola arrived in April for a three-month stay.

Finally, we are happy to report that the NEH has offered us a further grant, in part on a matching basis, for the next two academic years.