

REPORT ON THE ASSYRIAN DICTIONARY PROJECT

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Quite early during the past year Volume A/1 (392 pages) was published, and now, at the end of the same year, the next volume, Volume B (about 450 pages), is already in page proofs and scheduled to come out in early fall, 1965. This indicates that the team working on the Project has not slackened its pace since the publication phase of the CAD began in 1954. Over the past eight months the manuscript for the coming volume (A/2), which will be longer than any published previously, has been in preparation.

Apart from writing and editing the articles and reading proof, the staff devotes part of its time to take care of the steady flow of newly published text material in order to keep the CAD files up to date and to maintain files of additions and corrections to the volumes already published. A final index volume of all English translations of Akkadian words, a list of Sumerian words mentioned, and a list of all cited passages is likewise in preparation.

- I. Volume A/1 (1964) xxxvi+392 pages. \$18.00
- III. Volume D(1959) xiv+203 pages. \$ 8.50
- IV. Volume E(1958) xiv+435 pages. \$15.00
- V. Volume G(1956) xiii+158 pages. \$ 7.00
- VI. Volume H(1956) xiii+266 pages. \$10.00
- VII. Volumes I-J(1960) xv+331 pages. \$13.00
- XVI. Volume S(1962) xv+262 pages. \$12.00
- XXI. Volume Z(1961) xv+170 pages. \$ 8.50

◇ *Copy of cuneiform original (left), punch cards (center) and concordance (right) of Sumerian literary texts*

In order to facilitate work on the Assyrian Dictionary Project, as well as the personal research of individual scholars, the team of the Dictionary has undertaken the task of having the entire Assyriological literature microfilmed. This was done according to the Recordak System, which allows the location of an individual page on a roll of 100 feet (with up to fifteen hundred exposures) within a few seconds by means of a system of coding. The entire corpus of Assyriological literature, text publications, editions and discussions, books and individual articles alike, was organized for this purpose in ways which should make them a handy and efficient tool for the Assyriologists working on the Assyrian Dictionary Project. The cartridges, which are assembled according to topic (literary, medical, lexical, etc.), geographical provenience (Cappadocian, Old Assyrian, Peripheral, etc.), and similar principles (texts in the British Museum, etc.), amount now to about thirty, exclusive of those which contain entire periodicals of importance for Assyriology or related fields. Efficient microfilm readers have been placed in several offices so that any passage in cuneiform or referring to the work of an Assyriologist can be easily and quickly checked. The use of microfilm in this convenient system not only will help to preserve the books and manuscripts in our library, which are rapidly deteriorating through constant use by a team of six and more members, but will also alleviate the ever more pressing problem of the storage of books.

Present plans are to enlarge the collection of microfilm cartridges toward full coverage and to study the problem of still more practicable and useful arrangements within that collection.