

# THE ASSYRIAN DICTIONARY PROJECT

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**W**E CONTINUE to operate under the grant awarded us by the Division of Research Grants of the National Endowment for the Humanities, to run for the three years from July 1, 1976 to June 30, 1979. It has proved complicated and time-consuming for invited senior faculty to make the necessary arrangements about obtaining temporary leaves from their home institutions to come to work on the Dictionary, so we asked for and were granted an extension of the tenure of our grant. It will now run until June 30, 1980. This additional year gives us a long enough period in which to obtain the services of the senior staff for which the NEH funds are designated, and thus to speed completion of the Dictionary.

Matthew W. Stolper, on leave of absence from the University of Michigan, began his visiting appointment with us on April 1. He will be with us through the end of 1978 working on the R volume. Irving L. Finkel continues as Research Associate, working mainly on *Materials for the Sumerian Lexicon*, Vol. XVI. Maureen L. Gallery, who joined the CAD staff as Research Associate in July 1976, has been appointed Visiting Assistant Professor in the Oriental Institute and the Department of Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations.

We are happy to announce that copies of the long-awaited two-part volume M were finally received in June. There was a great flurry of activity filling and mailing over 200 back orders from educational institutions around the country that had been accumulating in the sales office during the past several months. The initial run of M was 1500 copies, testifying to the interest in and reliance on the Dictionary by a growing number of scholars.

The manuscript of N was sent to the printer in mid-July 1977; we are now receiving first galleys for editorial processing.

The first visiting scholar on our grant, our old friend and collaborator on the CAD Professor Burkhard Kienast of the University of Freiburg, made substantial progress on the manuscript of Q when he was here for nine months in 1976/77. The manuscript was completed by the resident staff; eighty percent has now been edited, and we anticipate that it will be ready for press in the fall.

Concurrently, Volume R is being prepared. The present staff will be joined on July 1, 1978 by Ms. Joan Westenholz, Copenhagen, and Professor Hans Hirsch of the University of Vienna, so that we foresee the completion of this volume during the academic year 1978/79.

We have already mentioned the initial run of 1500 copies of the newly published two-volume set of M. This is the largest first printing of a Dictionary volume to date, and reflects the growing demand. Also, by the end of the year, all earlier volumes will have been reprinted, some of them more than once. D and S, long out of print, became available again at the end of July 1977. Delivery of L reprints has been promised by July 1, and six other volumes will follow.



A compositor setting Chinese type at the Glückstadt, Germany, workshop of J. J. Augustin, publisher of the Assyrian Dictionary—from a 1930's photo essay by Ursula Schneider