

HARRY · A · HOFFNER · JR

As in previous years Harry A. Hoffner, Jr. spent most of his time in the work of the Chicago Hittite Dictionary (see separate report under "Philology"). He attended the meetings of the American Oriental Society in Los Angeles during the spring of 1987 and read a paper entitled "A Scene in the Realm of the Dead." This paper had been prepared as an article contributed to the planned volume in memory of Prof. Abraham Sachs of Brown University. The text treated not only gives us our first view of the Hittite conception of the afterlife in the netherworld, but offers the first evidence for the pronunciation of the Hittite word for "brother," *negnas*. It now appears that in Hittite, as opposed to many other languages, the word for "brother" (*negnas*) was derived from the word for "sister" (*negas*) rather than the converse.

During 1987 *The Encyclopedia of Religion* edited by Mircea Eliade and others was published by MacMillan Publishing Company. The enormous work contains two articles by Hoffner, the larger of which is entitled "Hittite Religion" and appears in volume 6. Also scheduled to appear in 1987 in the Spanish Journal *Aula Orientalis* is a scientific edition of "Paskuwatti's ritual against sexual impotence." Although translated into English by A. Goetze in the 1950s as part of the volume *Ancient Near Eastern Texts Relating to the Old Testament*, this important ritual has never before been edited with complete transliteration, translation, philological, and grammatical comments. Also expected to be published in the fall of 1987 is a complete edition of the myth about the god Kumarbi entitled "the Song of Silver."