

Individual Research Projects

Robert McC. Adams visited Baghdad for several weeks in February and March, 1973, both to complete research on ceramics from an earlier sounding of the medieval site of 'Aberta and to discuss the resumption of his long-term reconnaissance program. Agreement has been reached to proceed with complete, systematic study of all arid, uncultivated steppelands between the lower Tigris and Euphrates rivers that have not yet been inspected and mapped, and it is hoped that the survey program will resume in the autumn of 1973.

Klaus Baer has continued work on two research projects: a Coptic

grammar and the epigraphic work at Hieraconpolis and its historical implications. He has also been preparing the *Journal of the American Research Center in Egypt*, Vols. IX and X, for the printer.

Robert Biggs spent some time last summer working in museums in Istanbul, Ankara, and Baghdad. Besides editing Babylonian literary fragments found in the Hittite capital of Boghazköy, he prepared the cuneiform inscriptions to be published in *Nippur II*, the volume recording the discoveries at the North Temple of Nippur.

John A. Brinkman has paid brief visits to the British Museum and to Leiden to collate the Kassite texts from Ur and the Peiser Archive. He has also continued cataloguing the Nippur Kassite tablets in the University Museum, Philadelphia. Articles he has submitted to various journals for publication include "Additional Texts from the Reigns of Shalmaneser III and Shamshi-Adad V" (*Journal of Near Eastern Studies*), "Comments on the Nassouhi Kinglist and the Assyrian Kinglist Tradition" (*Orientalia*), and "Sennacherib's Babylonian Problem" (*Journal of Cuneiform Studies*). For the forthcoming revised edition of the *Cambridge Ancient History*, Vol. III, Mr. Brinkman has been asked to contribute the chapters on Babylonia from 1000 to 539 B.C. and on the fall of the Neo-Assyrian Empire. He has been awarded a National Endowment for the Humanities Senior Fellowship to study the role of foreign population groups in Babylonia during the Middle Babylonian period, concentrating especially on the phase from 1400 to 1225 B.C.

Miguel Civil has finished compiling a lengthy "Index to a Corpus of Sumerian Literary Texts." This exhaustive list classifies compositions by genre, numbers them decimally, gives basic information (incipit, number of lines, sources, and editions), and suggests standard abbreviations. His completed manuscript on Sumerian writing and phonology (including a list of all syllabic and logographic values) will be published in *Analecta Orientalia* after *Materials for the Sumerian Lexicon XIV* has gone to press. The theoretical chapters of this book are summarized in an article to appear in *Orientalia* in 1973. Three other articles are in press, and several more are in advanced states of preparation. Finally, Mr. Civil is currently working on the edition of all the texts found in the last Nippur campaign.

Three research projects are currently occupying Gene Gragg's time. He is preparing a grammatical index to a 10,000-line core corpus of Sumerian literary texts, preliminary to writing a grammar of these texts. He is gathering lexical material on Galla, a language of the Cushitic branch of Afro-Asiatic, which will probably result in a small

dictionary. He is also writing chapters on Tigrinya and Tigre (two Ethiopic Semitic languages) and Galla for a volume surveying the languages of Ethiopia.

Hans G. Güterbock's most recent papers are on Hittite hieroglyphic seal impressions. The Keith Seele Memorial Issue of the *Journal of Near Eastern Studies* includes Mr. Güterbock's publication of those found in the Oriental Institute excavations at Korucutepe, eastern Turkey; and those from Boghazköy are discussed in K. Bittel *et al.*, *Boğazköy V*. In progress is a chapter on hieroglyphic inscriptions in the Hittite rock sanctuary of Yazilikaya near Boghazköy. This will appear in a new edition of K. Bittel *et al.*, *Yazilikaya*.

Richard T. Hallock has been engaged chiefly in transliterating Persepolis fortification tablets and entering word occurrences in a glossary. His files so far include provisional transliterations of 2,372 texts.

This year George R. Hughes has finished G. Mattha's publication of the Hermopolis Legal Code, a task which he assumed on the death of Professor Mattha. He is about to complete a catalogue of the Demotic holdings of the Brooklyn Museum and will then publish a group of early Ptolemaic Demotic contracts which have been owned by the Oriental Institute for many years. These texts have already been read and annotated—except for one which has yet to be unrolled in the laboratory.

Hermann Hunger will continue to collect cuneiform commentaries for a study on ancient Mesopotamian scribes. He is also working on astronomical texts and intends to publish several of these from the collection of the Oriental Institute.

Janet Johnson has two projects under way. First is a retranslation of and historical commentary on the so-called Demotic Chronicle, an early Ptolemaic presentation in oracle form of the history of Egypt under the Twenty-eighth through Thirtieth Dynasties. Second is a study of the texts on the verso of the Mythus, which appear to be (on the basis of a very poor handcopy published in the last century) magical texts very similar in content and script to the texts of the Demotic Magical Papyrus. Miss Johnson hopes to study the original while she is in Europe this summer in order to include a translation and analysis of these texts with the publication of her dissertation.

Helene J. Kantor has been involved in field work and preparation of the preliminary report on the Chogha Mish excavations. Additionally she has been preparing articles on the prehistoric art of Egypt (for the

Propyläen Kunstgeschichte) and on a plaque from Haft Tepe depicting a goddess on a lion.

Wilferd Madelung has been studying several aspects of Persian history. His primary research project concerns the doctrinal and political history of Twelver Shiism from its beginnings (8th century A.D.) till the rise of the Safavid Dynasty (16th century), which adopted Twelver Shiism as the official religion of Iran. He is also editing Zaydi texts from the Yemen relevant to the history of the Zaydi community in the Caspian provinces of Iran (9th-13th centuries). Another edition in preparation by Mr. Madelung is a Zaydi refutation of a theological treatise of the 8th century, one of the earliest extant theological (*ka-lām*) texts in Islam.

Charles F. Nims is working on the publication of the Tomb of Khe-ruef. He will present a proposal for a Demotic Dictionary Project to the Congress of Orientalists in Paris (July, 1973) and hopes for the support of other scholars in the field.

A. Leo Oppenheim is working on two books, *Man and Nature in Mesopotamian Civilization*, and *Reports of Assyrian and Babylonian Scholars on the Interpretation of Omens*. He hopes that his retirement will enable him to continue a large-scale investigation of the temple administration of Sippar during the middle third of the first millennium B.C. on the basis of about 2000 unpublished documents.

Erica Reiner has completed the preparation of the manuscript for *Materials for the Sumerian Lexicon XI*, which is scheduled to be published in 1973. While continuing her work on the edition of planetary omens from Babylonia, she has also been involved in the identification and publication of Elamite tablets from Tall-i Malyān, the site of ancient Anšan. The article giving the evidence for the identification of this site will be published in *Revue d'assyriologie* in 1973. Further finds from this site will be published by Miss Reiner herself or with her advice.

Johannes Renger's manuscript of an edition of the inscriptions of Sargon II of Assyria, on which he has worked for the last three and a half years, is scheduled to go to press in the fall. Apart from preparing some shorter articles of philological interest, he will concentrate in the coming years on problems of the economic history of the Old Babylonian period (*ca.* 2000-1594 B.C.). This project is related to his involvement with the forthcoming volumes, *Economic and Social History of the Orient* (see last year's report). Initially the project will require in-

vestigation of such topics as prices, hired labor, economic management of crown enterprises, and some aspects of trade and market. Two of Mr. Renger's recently published articles are part of this project: the first deals with land tenure in the ancient Near East; the second investigates the problem of the fugitives in Mesopotamia in the early second millennium B.C. and the underlying social causes of this phenomenon. At the invitation of the Freie Universität Berlin, Mr. Renger gave a lecture on "The Sacred Marriage and Coronation of the King," an expanded version of which is being prepared for publication. He has also been asked to submit an article on "The Royal Entourage" in ancient Mesopotamia for publication in the *Reallexikon der Assyriologie*.

During the past year, Michael B. Rowton has completed three articles on the subject of ancient nomadism: "Urban Autonomy in a Nomadic Environment" (*Journal of Near Eastern Studies*), and "Autonomy and Nomadism in Western Asia" (*Orientalia*), and "Enclosed Nomadism" (*Journal of the Social and Economic History of the Orient*). He is preparing several more articles on related topics and promises a fuller discussion in one of the future annual reports.

Edward F. Wente is participating in a series of volumes of translations of and commentaries on historical texts from the ancient Near East being prepared by specialists in the various phases of the cultures of the area. (The overall editor of this series is Hans Goedicke of Johns Hopkins University.) Mr. Wente has been assigned the historical texts of the Ramesside period and is currently engaged in translating the hieroglyphic royal inscriptions of the Nineteenth Dynasty. Also, he is providing a translation of the "Myth of the Destruction of Mankind" and of a Late Egyptian satirical letter for a second expanded edition of Simpson, Faulkner, and Wente, *The Literature of Ancient Egypt*.