

To the Members and Friends of the Oriental Institute

In the following pages, you will read the chronicle of events that have marked the history of the Institute for the past year. In general, we have tried to avoid needless repetition so that subjects already treated at length in the monthly *News & Notes* are not necessarily touched on here.

The past year has seen the death of two of our emeritus faculty: A. Leo Oppenheim on July 21 and P. P. Delougaz on March 29. We have also lost one of our oldest and most generous benefactors, Chester D. Tripp (1882-1974), an appreciation of whom—written by one of his long-time friends—appears below.

We have welcomed as a new member of the faculty Harry A. Hoffner, Jr., formerly of Yale, who has come to teach Hittite and brought with him many years of preparation of a Hittite dictionary project. Kaspar K. Riemschneider of Munich was appointed our third James Henry Breasted Research Associate to work on the *Assyrian Dictionary*. Frank Yurco joined the Epigraphic Survey in Luxor as epigrapher.

June 30, 1975 marked the retirement of two well-known faculty members. George R. Hughes, Professor of Egyptology, began work for the Institute in 1934 and, besides his many years of teaching and research, capably and generously served the Institute in administrative capacities: as Director of the Epigraphic Survey in Egypt (1949-64) and as Director of the Institute (1968-72). Michael B. Rowton, Professor of Assyriology, since he first came to the Institute in 1952



Professor Robert J. Braidwood receiving an honorary doctorate from M. F. Luchaire, president of the Sorbonne, on March 7, 1975. Ernst Bloch is seated at the right.

had worked for many years on the Assyrian dictionary and taught and done research in Akkadian and in Mesopotamian history. We are happy to report that both Messrs. Hughes and Rowton plan to continue working on research projects in the Institute so that formal retirement will not mean a leave-taking from their colleagues and friends.

June 30, 1975 was also the final day in office of Klaus Baer, who has served so energetically as chairman of the Department of Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations over the past three years. To him we owe an immense debt of gratitude for the close cooperation between the Institute and the Department over this time. To his successor as chairman, Edward Wente, we wish every success in his new responsibilities.

Before closing these introductory remarks, I would like to express special thanks to Rebecca Hurwich, chairman of the Suq, and to her capable collaborator, Edna Manes, whose long and dedicated hours of labor have been the decisive factor in making this by far the most suc-

cessful year in the shop's history. I would also like to thank Jill Maher for her care and planning in managing the ever-expanding docent program. Likewise no report could be complete without a word of gratitude to Ethel Schenk, who left us in September after two periods of service in the administrative offices which amounted to more than thirty years. I am particularly grateful to Elena Druskis, Mary Ellen Cowan, and Bernard Lalor, who have kept the administrative and membership offices functioning so smoothly.

Finally, we thank you, members of the Institute, for your continued generous support. To your help and interest, we owe much that will be narrated in this report.

July 19, 1975

JOHN A. BRINKMAN
Director