

MATERIALS FOR THE SUMERIAN LEXICON

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After a long period of "wait and see", motivated by the hope of incorporating the new lexical tablets from Sippar into the MSL edition of the series *Diri = atru*, this ambition almost became a reality—only to be thwarted by the latest political developments in Iraq. Since the Sippar materials for *Diri* are not as significant as first thought (or at least so it seems from Civil's preliminary examination of the available tablets), it has been decided to go ahead and publish the final major volume of MSL with the sources at hand. We hope to have the camera ready plates finished before the end of the year. ▼ After the publication of volume XV with the above-mentioned lexical compilation *Diri = atru*, and with volumes XVI and XVII already published, another volume (XVIII) will include the remaining minor lexical texts, and the collection started by Landsberger in 1937 will finally come to completion. A Supplementary Series, the first volume of which appeared in 1986, will be continued to keep the editions up-to-date. ▼ In addition to the Supplementary Series, an electronic edition of the entire MSL, based on the files prepared last year, is reaching its definitive form. It will be published in the format provided by Hyper Writer! (a product of Ntergaid Inc.), which allows the reader to annotate and

update the text.

Most of this year's work on the MSL project has been devoted to the study of the recently recovered lexical tablets from northwestern Mesopotamia. The joins proposed last year among fragments of the Emar tablets were verified last June in the Aleppo Museum and practically all turned out to be correct. The edition of these lexical texts can now proceed with confidence.