

FROM THE EDITOR

In a continuing effort to serve well our readers (and also potential authors), *AUSS* endeavors to incorporate new features that are within its scholarly parameters. For example, in 1975 the "Books Received" section (prepared by our Book Review Editor, Sakae Kubo) was instituted, in the present issue we are adding a "Brief Notes" section, and we plan to present soon the first of a series of helpful bibliographical articles on important ancient Near Eastern archaeological sites (prepared by Dennis Pardee of the Oriental Institute of the University of Chicago). Further new features are also under consideration. The *AUSS* editors are grateful to the colleagues and friends whose suggestions and assistance make possible this kind of expansion of *AUSS* services.

There are several items of importance to which we wish to call attention here:

The "Brief Notes" Section

The "Brief Notes" section will appear whenever appropriate materials are available for it. Normally it will contain short items of scholarly nature—varying in length from a paragraph or two up to five or six pages—in the fields indicated on the inside front cover of this journal. Potential contributors of such items should be alerted to the fact that although a "Brief Note" may not demand the range of discussion and documentation required in a longer article (indeed at times it may even take the form of a very brief statement of scholarly opinion), it must nevertheless be truly scholarly in nature and must in a competent way either speak to some *new discovery* or afford *new insights* on old matters or issues. Reprints of materials already published, mere summarizations of old or well-known data, and "off-the-cuff" undocumented general-type essays are not accepted for publication in *AUSS*, either as articles or as "Brief Notes."

Exigencies Created by the "Financial Crunch"

During the past several years the cost of printing has escalated immensely, and many editors of scholarly journals have been caught in a truly severe "financial crunch." Various approaches have been taken in an effort to reduce costs, including reduction of a journal's contents, particularly along the line of book reviews; merging related journals; publishing separately (at extra charge) certain materials once included in a journal; etc. But even such "economy steps" have not necessarily precluded a rise in subscription price.

Thus far *AUSS*, although it too has been hurt by the "financial crunch," has maintained its services intact (and, as noted above, is

even endeavoring to broaden those services). Moreover, contemplation of any price increase has been postponed, temporarily at least; but a desire to move from a biannual to a triannual publication has also had to be shelved at this time. Meanwhile, a backlog of articles has been accumulating. The editors will do their utmost to get materials into print as rapidly as possible within space available, and especially will an effort be made to keep book reviews timely (we have read of editors who have had to pursue the unfortunate expedient of severe reduction and deferral in publication of book reviews!).

However, one minor change will occur by way of abbreviating our contents: There will be no annual index in 1977; instead, the Autumn number of 1978 will contain an index for 1977-78. And henceforth the plan will be to provide *two-year indexes* in the last issue of even-numbered years.

AUSS Style Sheet

Persons planning to submit articles or brief notes for consideration for *AUSS* should request a copy of the *AUSS Style Sheet*. This is available from our editorial office: 115 Seminary Hall, Andrews University, Berrien Springs, Michigan 49104, U.S.A. Furthermore, the abbreviations for periodicals and reference works indicated on the back cover of this journal should be used in both main text and notes, as should also the abbreviations for Bible books listed below.

In closing, the editors wish to express their sincere gratitude and thanks to both readers and writers for your kind interest and support.

Yours sincerely, in behalf of the Editorial Staff,
Kenneth A. Strand, Editor

ABBREVIATIONS FOR BIBLE BOOKS

Gen	2 Ki	Isa	Nah	Rom	Tit
Ex	1 Chr	Jer	Hab	1 Cor	Phm
Lev	2 Chr	Lam	Zeph	2 Cor	Heb
Num	Ezr	Ezek	Hag	Gal	Jas
Dt	Neh	Dan	Zech	Eph	1 Pet
Josh	Est	Hos	Mal	Php	2 Pet
Judg	Job	Joel	Mt	Col	1 Jn
Ruth	Ps	Amos	Mk	1 Th	2 Jn
1 Sam	Pr	Ob	Lk	2 Th	3 Jn
2 Sam	Eccl	Jon	Jn	1 Tim	Jude
1 Ki	Song	Mic	Acts	2 Tim	Rev

(It should be noted that names of Bible books are abbreviated *only* when specific chapter or chapter-and-verse references are given. Thus:

Parables of Jesus are recorded in Mt 13.

Parables of Jesus are recorded in Matthew.)