

(Münster, Heidelberg, Würzburg, and Munich). In his talks there, he concentrated on several aspects of Old Babylonian incantations with regard to folk poetry, oral traditions, and the Mesopotamian concept of magic. Quite unexpectedly, a press release by the West German press agency, DPA, led to wide (and in a few cases hilariously distorted) media coverage of his lectures.

Back in Chicago, he attended the annual meeting of the American Oriental Society in March, joined some friends in a performance of R. Fuchs' clarinet quintet in the University's Goodspeed Hall, and finally saw his book on baby incantations through the last stages of printing.



During the past year, **WALTER FARBER** finished and sent to press several articles, one dealing with incantations against *Wardat-lilim* (another one of the infamous Babylonian demons), a second elaborating on some Sumero-Akkadian bilingual matters, and a third editing omens derived from bathing practices and the resulting dirty water. In addition, a lengthy review discusses some cultic texts with mythological background.

In summer 1987, he attended the XXXIV Rencontre Assyriologique Internationale in Istanbul and took this opportunity to make a brief visit to Bogazköy. In September, he was invited by the University of Helsinki to teach a seminar and give a public lecture on Lamaštu. In December, he accepted still another invitation to lecture at four German universities