

educated at Nizhni Novgorod (Gorki) and studied history, German, and economics at Breslau, where he received a Dr.phil. in 1931 for *Studien zur Wirtschaftsgeschichte der Juden in Rußland und Polen*. Since 1950 he was a professor of history at Dropsie College, Philadelphia, Pa. His writings include *Der Kampf um die Berufsumschichtung; ein Ausschnitt aus der Geschichte der Juden in Deutschland* (1936), and *The Jews of Poland* (1973). DrAS, 1974 H, 1978 H, 1982 H; ConAu 45-48, new rev. 25; WhoWorJ, 1965, 1972, 1978

Weinryb, Sucher Berek, 1897- see Weinryb, Bernard Dov

Weinstein, Brian G., born 10 October 1937 at Jamestown, N.Y., he graduated in 1959 from Yale and received a Ph.D. in 1963 from Harvard for his thesis entitled *Building the Gabonese nation*. In 1966 he was appointed a professor in the Department of Political Science, Howard University, Washington, D.C., a post which he still held in 1995. His writings include *Gabon; nation-building on the Ogooué* (1966); he was joint author of *Introduction to African politics* (1974); and he edited *Language policy and political development* (1990). AmM&WS, 1973 S, 1978 S; ConAu 21-24; LC; NatFacDr, 1995

Weinstein, Myron M., born 20th cent., she was a sometime reference librarian, Hebraic Section, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C. She edited *The Washington Haggadah; a facsimile edition* (1991). LC

Weinstock, Nathan, born 20th cent., he wrote *Le Sionisme contre Israël* (1969), its translation, *Das Ende Israels?* (1975), *Le Mouvement révolutionnaire arabe* (1970), *Zionism; false Messiah* (1979), and *Le Pain de misère* (1984-86). LC

Weintritt, Otfried, born about 1950, he received his Dr.phil. in 1988 at Freiburg im Breisgau. He was the editor of *Das biographische Lexikon*, of Khalīl ibn Aybak, vol. 27 (1997). ZKO

Weipert, Reinhard, born 12 September 1950 at Haunstetten, Swabia, he received a Dr.phil. in 1977 from the Universität München for *Studien zum Diwan des Ra'i*. After gaining a Dr.habil. in 1987 he became a professor of Semitic languages at München. Kürschner, 1992-2003

Weir, Shelagh G., born 20th cent., she was a curator at the Ethnography Department of the British Library, London. Her writings include *Palestinian embroidery* (1970), *Spinning and weaving in Palestine* (1970), *The Bedouin; aspects of the material culture of the Bedouin of Jordan* (1976), *Qat in Yemen; consumption and social change* (1985), and *Palestinian costume* (1989). DrBSMES, 1993; EURAMES, 1993; MESA Roster of members, 1982; Note

Weir, Thomas Hunter, born 28 June 1865 at Glasgow, he graduated from the University M.A. in 1885 and B.D. in 1888. His dominant interest was Semitic languages. He was never ordained, but as a licentiate took charge of the mission station at Kingairloch from 1889 to 1891. In 1893 he was offered an assistantship in Semitic languages at Glasgow. He spent six months in the Lebanon and also visited Palestine and Egypt. In 1896 and subsequent years he made prolonged visits to Germany. Since 1902 he was a lecturer in Hebrew and Arabic. In addition, he also read Persian and Turkish, and for two years towards the end of his life conducted a class in Persian. His writings include *A Short history of the Hebrew text of the Old Testament* (1899), *Arabic prose composition* (1910), *Omar Khayyám, the poet* (1926), and the revised editions of Sir William Muir's *The Life of Mohammed* (1912), and *The Caliphate* (1924). He died in Glasgow, 5 May 1928. *Transactions of the Glasgow University Oriental Society*, vol. 20, 1963-64 (1965), pp. 1-9

Weis, Hans, born 10 May 1911 at Wien, he studied history, geography and English at Wien, where he also obtained a Dr.phil. Since 1935 he taught at various schools in Wien. In 1967 he became a lecturer in geography at Geographisches Institut, Wien. In 1972 he gained a Dr.habil. He made several research visits to the Middle East and conducted no less than four expeditions to the Sahara. His writings include *Im Banne der Sahara* (1956), *Die Piste ins Tibesti* (1971), and he was joint author of *Libyen, brennende Wüste - glühender Sand* (1975). In 1991 he was honoured by *Im Bann der Wüsten dieser Erde; dem Geographen und Orientexperten Hans Weis zum 80. Geburtstag* (1991). Note; *Who is who in Österreich*, 1983

Weis, Paul, born 19 March 1907 at Wien, he emigrated in 1939 to the U.K., where he worked with British counter intelligence at Richborough Camp, Kent, during the war. In 1954 he gained a Ph.D. in law at L.S.E. He later was a consultant in refugee affairs to international organizations in Genève. He was joint author of *The Problem of statelessness* (London, 1944). DtBE; WhoWorJ, 1965, 1972

Weisbach, Augustin, born 17 July 1837 at Komotau, Bohemia, he studied at Josefsakademie, Wien, where he gained a medical doctorate in 1861, and subsequently entered the army. After three years as a medical assistant at various medical institutes, he was appointed a physician at the Austro-Hungarian hospital in Constantinople, advancing to the post of director in 1871. When he resigned from active service he was a physician with the general staff. His writings include *Körpermessungen*

WOLFGANG BEHN, CONCISE BIOGRAPHICAL COMPANION TO INDEX ISLAMICUS: AN INTERNATIONAL WHO'S WHO IN ISLAMIC STUDIES FROM ITS BEGINNINGS DOWN TO THE TWENTIETH CENTURY : BIO-BIBLIOGRAPHICAL SUPPLEMENT TO INDEX ISLAMICUS, 1665-1980, VOL. III(N-Z), LEIDEN 2004.

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PREFATORY NOTE

THE SOCIETY again puts on record its profound thanks to the Carnegie Trust for the Universities of Scotland for a large and generous subsidy towards the cost of publication of another volume of Transactions. This twentieth volume is published in commemoration of one of our very early members, the distinguished and much beloved scholar, the Reverend Dr. T. H. Weir, who was for twenty-one years Lecturer in Arabic in the University of Glasgow, and the centenary of whose birth occurs this year. He died in 1928 and the Society founded in his honour a Memorial Prize in the University. On the invitation of the Society, Dr. A. S. Fulton, who was a former student of Dr. Weir's, has incorporated in an appreciation some recollections of other former students.

During the period treated in this volume the Society lost by death three notable and honoured members, Emeritus-Principal S. F. Hunter of the Presbyterian Theological Hall, Dunedin, Emeritus-Professor Edward Robertson of Manchester University (afterwards John Rylands Librarian), and Dr. John Walker, former Keeper of Coins and Medals in the British Museum. Several members of the Society received high academic and other honours.

The editor takes this opportunity of expressing his sincere thanks to Principal Mauchline, Emeritus-Professor Robson and Dr. John Kennedy, members of the editorial sub-committee, for helpful collaboration in the preparation of the volume.

Glasgow University Oriental Society

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THOMAS HUNTER WEIR

By A. S. FULTON, C.B.E., D. LITT.

BORN ON JUNE 28TH, 1865, at No. 6, the Old College, Glasgow, Thomas Hunter Weir was the fourth son of Duncan Harkness Weir, D.D., Professor of Oriental Languages in the University from 1850 to 1876. (The title of the chair was altered in 1893 to "Hebrew and Semitic Languages".) The Professor, whose forbears are traceable into the late 17th century in the district of Kilmun, was himself born in Greenock, the birth-place incidentally of two of his close friends, both eminent figures in the University's annals, John and Edward Caird. T. H. Weir received his early education at the High School of Glasgow. On the death of his father in 1876 the family removed to Manchester where his mother had family connections and where his father had been minister of the Scots Church until receiving his Glasgow professorship. Here he attended Manchester Grammar School until he reached university age when he returned to Glasgow and matriculated at Gilmorehill in 1881. He graduated M. A. in 1885 and B. D. in 1888. In the Divinity Hall his dominant interest both by heredity and inclination was Semitic languages. Besides gaining first prize in both Junior and Senior Hebrew classes and a special prize for Hebrew composition, he also devoted himself to the study of Arabic and Syriac. He was placed second in Senior Divinity and Biblical Criticism. He was never ordained, but as a licentiate took charge of the mission station at Kingairloch for two years from 1889 to 1891. Besides conducting the weekly church service and a flourishing Sunday-school, he entered with special zest into the daily labours of the community, taking part in such tasks as the erection of fences, digging trenches and repairing the church belfry. His diary at this period tells of hay-harvesting, sheep-marking, solitary sea-fishing, long journeys on foot over the hills, and one grim incident when his lug-sail came close to disaster on his way home from a preaching appointment in Appin.