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A bibliography of the published writings of  
Professor Jacob Weingreen

compiled by  
E.J.W.McCann

Some twenty years ago, like several generations of students before me, I first climbed to the top floor of East Chapel to begin the study of Hebrew. The scene in the room is easily recalled. In the middle stood a blackboard and easel, beside it a large and sagging armchair, scattered around the room on various tables lay books, papers, and assorted archaeological artefacts, on the wall a cast of (I think) the Moabite Stone, and waiting to greet us, spectacles perched on his forehead, his gown about his shoulders and pipe in hand was Professor Weingreen. He was the first professor I had ever met, and to this day he remains the perfect embodiment of all that that title signifies. With infinite patience and encouragement he began to show us how, in the words of the preface to BDB, we might "unlock the rich treasure-house of the Old Testament". In all the hours spent in that room I cannot recall him once despairing of us however dull our wits or clumsy our work.

Being a small School there was none of the rigid division into year groups as was common elsewhere in the University. Rather, from Junior Freshman to Senior Sophister we mixed freely together, whether in the Oriental Languages Society where we were encouraged to follow our own lines of enquiry and widen our knowledge of the ancient world, or on those occasions when Professor and Mrs Weingreen used royally to entertain us to tea at their home.

In preparing this bibliography of his published writings I am pleased to be able to offer him some small token of the debt I owe him for the example of humanity and scholarship he set.

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Among his many works it is of course his Grammar for which he is best known. First published in 1939 with a second edition in 1958 it has been reprinted thirteen times and no fewer than 103,350 copies have been issued. In almost fifty years it has never been out of print. Similarly its companion, Classical Hebrew Composition, has been used wherever a solid grounding in the structure of the language has been recognised as an essential basis of biblical study.

His other publications embrace a wide range of topics, although one predominates; that of the continuity of tradition from Old Testament to early rabbinic times. In 1976 several of his major papers on this theme were brought together and re-edited in From Bible to Mishna. In the list which follows I have indicated this where appropriate.

In attempting to record almost half a century of work published in many different places I cannot claim to have included everything, and I have made no attempt to list Professor Weingreen's many book reviews. It is my hope that this may nevertheless serve as an interim bibliography and that Professor Weingreen may enjoy many more years of fruitful work.

McCann, Bibliography, IBS 10, January 1988

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