



George Piranian

This issue of the *Michigan Mathematical Journal* is dedicated to Professor George Piranian on the occasion of his 70th birthday, in view of his long association with the *Journal* as managing editor.

Piranian was born in Switzerland, in Thalwil, Canton Zurich, on May 2, 1914, of a Swiss mother and an Armenian father. His mother came from a poor family and only finished the fifth grade. George's native language was Swiss German.

His father was born in Turkey, but George's grandfather soon moved the family eastward, to avoid persecutions, eventually settling in Samarkand, in the czarist empire. Not long afterward a group of Armenian boys, including George's father, were shipped off to attend an Armenian school in London. Misfortune overtook them in Paris, where all but two of the boys were abducted by persons unknown and never seen again. After attending the London school George's father settled in Switzerland.