GENEALOGY DATABASE ENTRY

©Vera V. Mainz and Gregory S. Girolami 1998

Lewis, Gilbert Newton

1875 - 1946

DEGREE: PhD DATE: 1899 PLACE: Harvard

TEACHER/RESEARCH ADVISOR: Richards

formulated the octet rule (Lewis dot structure), concept of Lewis acid/base, and concept of electron pair and shared electron pair bond; accurately measured electochemical potentials of many elements; studied dyes and colored organic substances in general; discovered (with Calvin) paramagnetism of free radicals and the phosphorescent state of molecules; introduced concepts of activity, fugacity, and ionic strength in thermodynamics; first to obtain macroscopic quantities of D_2 and D_2O and study their properties; obtained first evidence of thermodynamic isotope effects.

- 1. Asimov, I. *Asimov's Biographical Encyclopedia of Science and Technology (2nd Ed.)*; Doubleday: 1982; p656-657.
- 2. A Biographical Dictionary of Scientists; Williams, T. I., Ed.; Wiley: 1969; p326-327.
- 3. Dictionary of Scientific Biography; Charles Scribner's Sons: 1970-1990; vol. 8, p289-294.
- 4. Obit. Not. Fell. Roy. Soc. 1945-8, 5, 491-506.
- 5. Partington, J. R. A History of Chemistry; Macmillan: 1964; vol. 4, p959-962.
- 6. Biog. Mem. Nat. Acad. Sci. 1958, 31, 209-235.
- 7. J. Chem. Ed. 1984, 61, 2-21, 93-116, and 184-215.
- 8. American Chemists and Chemical Engineers; Miles, W. D., Ed.; American Chemical Society: 1976; p296-297.
- 9. Proc. Welch Fdn. Conf. 1977, 20, 116-153.
- 10. Am. Phil. Soc. Yrbk. 1946, 317-322.
- 11. Jolly, W. L. From Retorts to Lasers; University of California Press: 1987; p47-76.
- 12. Lachman, A. Borderland of the Unknown Life Story of G. N. Lewis; Pageant Press: 1955.