



Lord Tweedsmuir



Lady Tweedsmuir

John Buchan was born in Scotland in 1875, and was educated at the Universities of Glasgow and Oxford. He was a novelist, historian and statesman, and the first Commoner ever appointed Governor-General of Canada.

He entered Parliament in 1927, as representative of the Scottish Universities, holding that position until 1935, when he was appointed to the Canadian post, and was created the 1st Baron Tweedsmuir, by King George V.

In his book, "Memory-Hold-the-door", John Buchan tells of his marriage in the following words - "in the autumn of 1906, my unsettled years came happily to an end, for I became engaged to Susan Grosvenor, and we were married in the following July. I had no longer any craving for a solitary life at some extremity of the Empire, for England was once more for me an enchanted land, and London a magical city. I think that, in spite of my many friends and interests, I had been suffering from loneliness, since my family were four hundred miles away. Now, I acquired a vast new relationship - - Grosvenors, Wellesleys, Stuart-Wortleys, Lyttletons, Talbots - - and above all, I found the perfect comrade. I have been happy in many things, but all my other good fortune has been as dust in the balance, compared with the blessing of an incomparable wife".

Lord and Lady Tweedsmuir's family consisted of three sons and one daughter - Hon. John, Hon. William, Hon. Alastair and Hon. Mrs. Fairfax-Lucy. Lord Tweedsmuir passed away in 1940, while still serving as Governor-General of Canada.

Lady Tweedsmuir, who was Susan Charlotte Grosvenor, prior to her marriage, was a granddaughter of Lord Ebury.

While serving with her husband in Canada, she took a special interest in the provision of libraries for our rural areas, and also encouraged Women's Institutes to compile and publish their local histories.

Lady Tweedsmuir wrote several novels, herself.

FOREWORD.

- - - written by Lady Tweedsmuir.

I am so glad to hear that the Women's Institutes of Ontario are going to compile village history books. Events move very fast nowadays; houses are pulled down, new roads are made, and the aspect of the countryside changes completely, sometimes, in a short time.

It is a most useful and satisfying task for Women's Institute members to see that nothing valuable is lost or forgotten, and women should be on the alert always to guard the traditions of their homes, and to see that water colour sketches and prints, poems, and prose legends should find their way into these books. The oldest people in the village will tell us fascinating stories of what they remember, which the younger members can write down, thus making a bridge between them, and events which happened before they were born. After all, it is the history of humanity which is continually interesting and your village histories will be the basis of accurate facts, much valued by historians of the future. I am proud to think that you have called them "The Tweedsmuir Village Histories".