

LORD TWEEDSMUIR

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Lord Tweedsmuir, first Baron of Elsfield, was born John Buchan, August 26, 1875, in Perth, Scotland. He was the son of the Reverend John Buchan and was educated at Glasgow University and Oxford, and called to the bar in 1901.

During World War I he was London Times correspondent, then a Major in the Intelligence Corps, and later Director in the Department of Information. He was a member of the British House of Commons from 1927 until 1935.

He was made Baron Tweedsmuir of Elsfield when he became Governor General of Canada in 1935. During his term of office he visited all parts of Canada, including the far North. He was the author of biographies, historical works, historical novels and adventure novels. Among his writings were:

A History of the Great War, Sir Walter Raleigh, Julius Caesar,
The Massacre of Glencoe, Sir Walter Scott, and Oliver Cromwell.

Among his many adventure stories, the best known are:

The Thirty-Nine Steps, Greenmantle, Salute to Adventurers,
The Three Hostages.

His last novel, SICK HEART RIVER, has a Canadian setting, and his autobiography, MEMORY HOLD-the-DOOR, one of his latest works, was published after his death. He died in Montreal on February 11, 1940, and was the first Governor General since Confederation to die in office. His private library was bequeathed to Queen's University.

LADY TWEEDSMUIR

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Lady Tweedsmuir was Susan Charlotte Grosvenor, grand-daughter of Lord Ebury. In 1907, she and John Buchan, later Lord Tweedsmuir, were married. Their family consisted of three sons and one daughter.

Writing under the name O. Douglas, she is the author of several novels, plays, children's books and reminiscences. Among her writings are, UNFORGETTABLE; UNFORGOTTEN, London, 1945; JOHN BUCHAN, by his wife and friends, London, 1947.

Lady Tweedsmuir was an active Women's Institute member in England, and was made an Honorary Life Member of F.W.I.O. When she was in Rideau Hall, she took a special interest in the provision of libraries for rural areas in Canada and encouraged Women's Institutes to compile local histories. The Tweedsmuir History of each Institute is a tribute to her interest in small communities and villages.

After the death of her husband she returned to England to carry on her literary career, and is still residing there.