

This idea was forwarded to the Provincial Office and branches began to compile "Village Histories". In 1945 they were designated as Tweedsmuir Histories.

The subjects covered are the history of the branch and the part it has played in the community, a general history of the area, including government buildings, settlements, complete histories of farms, families, churches, schools, libraries, industries, and any fact about the community that might be of interest in the future.

In 1947 Lady Tweedsmuir donated 3 silver cups a prizes for national competitions in Tweedsmuir Histories and cultural projects and handicrafts. These awards are presented at the Triannual Conference, last year it was held in Vancouver.

By 1972 there were 1300 Tweedsmuir Histories being kept throughout Ontario and I believe Ontario is the only province to have them.

Whilst visiting the Southern Prairies after a long drought, Lady Tweedsmuir remarked that the only feature of the place that was not depressing, was the fortitude and optimism of the people. She asked some of the women what she could do for them and they asked for books that started the Tweedsmuir Prairie Library schems. Help from Canadians, England and the Carnegie Trustees in New York resulted in 40,000 books being sent from Government House. Queen Mary sent many books which were especially treasured both in Canadian households and Prairie Schools.

Lord Tweedsmuir died in Montreal in 1940 and Lady Tweedsmuir returned to her Oxfordshire home, where she died March 24th 1977, at the age of 94. A well loved and respected Governor's Lady.

*Mrs. Pettifer  
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