

JOHN STUART MACKENZIE was born the second son of John Mackenzie and Janet Brown on 29 February, 1860 at Springburn, near Hogganfield, Glasgow. He moved to Tollcross as an infant. Not without success in the clothing trade, and against the advice of his wife and friends, the father decided to take the family to follow in the footsteps of several of their relatives and seek their fortune in Buenos Aires. Shortly after arriving Mrs Mackenzie died from Cholera, and Mr. Mackenzie died soon afterwards, leaving the two boys to be looked after by relatives. They were despatched back to Tollcross, attended the local school, and then Annfield House Academy, Glasgow. Mackenzie's elder brother went into engineering, while John entered Glasgow High School. He became interested in Descartes, Darwin, Huxley, Tyndall and Spencer, and developed doubts about the vocation in theology that had been assumed for him, which were compounded by his association with Edward Caird and Caird's assistant Henry Jones. On completing his degree Mackenzie won the Clarke fellowship and succeeded Jones as Caird's assistant. He then succeeded W. R. Sorley to the Shaw Fellowship at Edinburgh, and in 1886 followed the advice of his predecessor to study in Cambridge as he had done. At Cambridge he became a close friend of J. M. E. McTaggart who he converted from an early enthusiasm for Spencer to an admiration for Hegel. The tenure of the Shaw fellowship required Mackenzie to give a short course of lectures at Edinburgh, on the subject of which he consulted Caird who advised him against lecturing on Hegel. Caird suggested instead the subject of socialism, to which Mackenzie was sympathetic having witnessed the poverty and depravation of the slums of Glasgow. The Shaw lectures were published as Introduction to Social Philosophy in 1890. In that book he anticipated much of the social legislation that was to follow over the next twenty-five years, including the growth of adult education, unemployment insurance, and economic planning with respect to investments and labour. In the same year, after graduating from Cambridge with first class honours in 1889, he became a fellow of Trinity College, and then an assistant to Professor Adamson at Manchester. In 1895 he secured the chair which Sorley vacated to go to Aberdeen and that Andrew Seth had once held, professor of logic and philosophy at Cardiff. It was there that he met his future wife, the head of women's teacher training, Hettie Millicent Hughes from Bristol, who wrote a book

on Hegel and education, and unsuccessfully stood as a Labour Candidate in 1918 for the University of Wales. They had no children. In 1911 he received the honorary degree of LL.D. from Glasgow and was elected a Fellow of the British Academy in 1934. He retired in 1915 at the age of fifty-five in order to devote himself to writing. He was succeeded by H. J. W. Hetherington, who had been a student and colleague of Henry Jones. Both Mackenzie and his wife travelled extensively, and toured India in 1920 and 1922 to lecture. After living in Cambridge, London and Bristol, the Mackenzies returned to their country home at Brockwier, a short distance from the ruins of Tintern Abbey near Chepstow. He died on 6 December, 1935, and was cremated at Bristol.

Biographical: J. W. Scott, 'Mackenzie, John Stuart (1860-1935)' Dictionary of national Biography 1931-41; J. H. Muirhead, 'John Stuart Mackenzie', Proceedings of the British Academy, 21 (1935); J. H. Muirhead, 'J. S. Mackenzie' (1860-1935)', Mind, ns., 45 (1936); M. Mackenzie, ed., John Stuart Mackenzie (London, Williams and Norgate, 1936).

Principal works: An Introduction to Social Philosophy (Glasgow, Maclehose, 1895); Outlines of Metaphysics (London, Allen and Unwin, 1902); Manual of Ethic, 5th edition (London, University Tutorial Press, 1918); Outlines of Social Philosophy (London, Allen and Unwin, 1918);