

Gold Medal Award

The Society's Gold Medal for Distinguished Service to Forestry has been awarded to Scott Leathart.

The Deputy President writes:

"Scott Leathart became secretary-designate of the Society in September, 1959, working with the then secretary, Bruce Gardner, before taking office in January, 1960—a position he held until May, 1975. He was appointed editor of *Quarterly Journal of Forestry* in April, 1960 and holds this post until he retires in July, 1984.

"He obtained an M.A. degree in forestry at Oxford in 1940, and served in the Gurkha Rifles of the Indian Army from 1941 to 1949 and in the Gurkha Contingent of the Singapore Police for 10 years until 1959, being awarded the Colonial Police Medal for meritorious service and the M.B.E. during this period.



Scott Leathart receives the Gold Medal from H.R.H. The Prince of Wales.

"From 1960 to 1976 he was secretary of the Central Forestry Examination Board which was responsible for the National Diploma in Forestry examinations.

"As secretary of the R.F.S. he arranged and took part in no less than 13 overseas tours in such diverse locations as Belgium (2), France (2), Germany (2), Denmark, Yugoslavia, South Africa, North America, Austria and Iceland; and with other editors of forestry publications he toured Finland in 1966.

"He is the author of several books and articles on forestry and trees; probably his best known works are *Trees of the World* (1977), *Exploring Woodlands and Forests* (1978) and *The International Book of Forests* (1980) of which latter he is the major part-author.

"During his term of office the Society's membership exceeded 4,000 for the first time in 1963; divisional meetings were greatly increased in number; the armorial ensigns were instituted; Northern Ireland was incorporated in the Society's title; the Society bought its own offices in Tring and moved out of rented accommodation in London.

"Perhaps Scott's greatest contribution to the health and well-being of the Society has been in the consistent high standard of the *Journal* which has never faltered during his many years of office as editor. Of equal merit was the quiet and unobtrusive way he organised and ran whole society meetings and foreign tours, with the loyal assistance of his wife, Betty, ever ready to help out in any situation where the welfare and comfort of