

Mr DAVID BAND

IN 1949 Mr Winsbury-White retired from the Editorship of the *British Journal of Urology* with which he had been associated for the first twenty years of its existence. He was succeeded by Mr David Band who had already served on the Editorial Committee for five years and who undertook the duties with Mr J. D. Fergusson and Mr N. M. Matheson as his assistants. After the lean period of the war years the task was a heavy one. The time was ripe for the development of the Journal with emphasis on the quality of its contents as well as the achievement of financial stability. The new Editor approached the problems with enthusiasm; in his first editorial he indicated his policy in the words "Urology demands a lively awareness of those developments in the basic sciences which contribute to the knowledge of the physiology, pharmacology, pathology and bacteriology of the urinary organs." How far he has succeeded is shown by the high repute in which the Journal now stands throughout the world; it is distributed to 75 countries and derives substantial support from overseas contributors. The circulation has increased threefold from his first volume; its size has almost doubled. The addition of thirty-two extra pages in 1956 and the decision in 1965 to publish six numbers a year instead of four threw an added burden on the Editor as well as on the publishers, one which was borne with equanimity.

David Band has been a leader in Urology in the British Isles and his work is well known far afield. He was an original member of the Council of the British Association of Urological Surgeons in 1945, Editorial Secretary for many years and President in 1960. His award of the St Peter's Medal in 1962 was a well deserved appreciation of his merit and delighted all his many friends. He was President of the Section of Urology of the Royal Society of Medicine in 1955 and was twice appointed a reporter at the International Society of Urology, first at the Eighth Congress in Barcelona in 1949 and again at the Eleventh Congress in Stockholm in 1958. Those who have attended meetings in his home city of Edinburgh have been regaled with generous hospitality and have been impressed by the Scottish culture evidenced in the entertainment provided. He is a modest man but forthright in his views; his comments in a discussion are apt, original and important.

He is retiring after eighteen years of unstinted service as Editor of the Journal for which he and the publisher, Mr Charles Macmillan of Livingstones have done so much. He is succeeded by Mr J. D. Fergusson as Editor with Mr Basil Page, Mr Keith Yeates and Mr Selby Tulloch as Assistant Editors; we offer them his example and our best wishes for their future.

He leaves Edinburgh for Argyll with his charming wife Betty who has been our good friend and his constant help in all his duties; we wish them many years of happiness and relaxation in their new home.

Fifty-eight past and present members of the Editorial Committee representing many countries have subscribed to give him a specially bound set of Bannerman's *Birds of the British Isles*. The presentation was made at a dinner in his honour at the Savoy Hotel on 26th October 1966, at which twenty-seven members were present.

We shall have the benefit of his advice in the future as Consulting Editor.

ERIC RICHES.