

PRESENTATION

ON the handing over of his custodianship of the R.A.M.C. Funds, Lieut.-Colonel J. G. Foster, *O.B.E.*, was presented with an unusual token of the high esteem in which he is held by his brother officers. This was a Silver Salver with the inscription:

Presented
to
Lieut.-Colonel J. G. Foster, *O.B.E.*, R.A.M.C. (Retired)
By some of his brother officers
in gratitude for
The long and loyal service he has rendered
to the
R.A.M.C. Funds.

It has engraved on it the facsimile signatures of fifty-three General officers, serving and retired, of the Army Medical Services, who were the subscribers.

It is a unique gift but a fitting one for an officer who has devoted so much of his time and spent so much of his energy in carrying out his invaluable work. He is beloved by all who know him and we wish him many years of peace and serenity in the evening of his days.

Reviews.

THE NATURAL HISTORY OF DISEASE. Second Edition. By John A. Ryle, M.A., M.D., F.R.C.P. London: Geoffrey Cumberlege, Oxford University Press. Pp. 484. Price 22s. 6d.

The advent of few second editions will be greeted with greater pleasure than this collection of its author's contributions to Medicine. Its prime aim, to foster the attitude of the naturalist in the approach to clinical science, requires sustenance in these times when achievements in the field of chemotherapy and antibiotics threaten to abort the course of many infections so that an intimate knowledge of their potentialities becomes increasingly difficult. The successes gained call for reliable assessments of mortality and morbidity, and cogent arguments are introduced for need of a wider, social interest in many infections.

For those who preoccupation remains more narrowly confined to the clinical aspects of disease, the relevant chapters, some of them now well-nigh classical, remain. The additions include a chapter on Prognosis, and one on Nosophobia. The latter contains a forcible presentation of the present-day "drift towards a more prevalent neurosis." The simple measures recommended to deal with this, "the psychiatric opportunity" of every general physician, surgeon and specialist, embodied as the summary and conclusions, are an embodiment of wisdom which we all might take unto ourselves and practise to the benefit of a "disease-conscious" generation.

J. B.