

They keep Deer Forest in good heart as well as their friendship



THIRTY-FIVE YEARS service in the Forest of Deer — 6,000 acres which takes in Pitfour, Lenabo, Crimond, Mormond, New Pitsligo and Delgaty — were recognised at a gathering in the Pitfour Arms Hotel, Mintlaw on Thursday night with a presentation foy to Mr James B. Thow is going into retirement at Glenrothes.

Of a family of foresters, Mr Thow was the eldest of six whose interest in this work stemmed from service at Beaufort Cstle, later moving into the Forestry Commission. Five years after starting at Scone in 1906, Mr Thow moved north to Pitfour, almost equalling the 41 years service his father gave to Lord Lovat. Four of his brothers are foresters and another is head gardener at Balmoral.

As a young man Mr Thow was a keen sportsman, earning his place in the combination of shinty, football and rugby, and since then, becoming champion bowler at Maud and Old Deer. Mr and Mrs Thow have one daughter who is a chemist in London.

The Assistant Conservator, Mr R. J. G. Horne, presided over the function, a cheque being handed over to Mr Thow and a box of chocolates to his wife, their thanks being sincerely acknowledged. On Monday Mr and Mrs Thow, all packed after a hectic weekend, left Buchan for the kingdom of Fife.