

Highest St. John Honor

The Governor (Sir Dallas Brooks) yesterday invested Colonel Alexander Christie with the highest honor of the Order of St. John—Knight of Grace.

• Picture shows the ceremony.

Colonel Christie is chief staff officer of the St. John Ambulance Brigade in Australia.

He was admitted to the Order of St. John in 1939 and took up brigade work in 1947, following his retirement from the regular army.

He saw service overseas in both world wars and was Assistant Director-General of Medical Services in the second war.

The awards made by the Governor yesterday were for outstanding service to the Order of St. John.

Cr. E. C. Mitty, former mayor of St. Kilda and president of the St. Kilda division of the St. John Ambulance Brigade since its inception nearly 25 years ago, was admitted as a serving brother.

Cr. Mitty praised his wife for the whole-hearted support he received during his long association with ambulance work.

When divisional superintendent of Altona, Allan Crerar was admitted as a serving brother he and his wife became the first and only serving brother and sister in Victoria.

Mrs. Crerar has been a serving sister for five years and both have been with the brigade for 12 years.

Miss Mildred Sample, of East Bentleigh, received an award for admission as a serving sister on behalf of her late aunt, Miss Ada Lily Sample, of Laurieston, who died earlier this year, aged 78.

Miss Sample was well known in ambulance work for many years in Launceston.

The full list of awards was:—

Knight of Grace: Colonel Alexander Christie.

Serving Brother: Divisional Surgeon Douglas Ian Hart, Corps Superintendent William Ernest Morris, Division Superin-

tendent Richard James Moy, Divisional Superintendent Allan Crerar, Divisional Superintendent Frank H. A. Peebles, Cr. Edward Charles Mitty.

Serving Sister: Divisional Superintendent Joyce Constance Robinson, Miss Mary Elsie Adams.

