

Local (2221)

Inverness, the capital of the Scottish Highlands - celebrates a day of civic ceremony - as Town Councillors and Provost J.M. Grigor arrive at the Playhouse Cinema. The occasion was the ^{confering} ~~presentation~~ of the Freedom of the Burgh upon three distinguished Scots - among them - the Rt. Hon. Tom Johnston, Chairman of the North of Scotland Hydro-electric Board and formerly Secretary-of-State for Scotland.

In the ceremony that followed - the three recipients each took the Freedom Oath and signed the Burgess Roll.

Also honoured by the Freedom ^{was} ~~were~~ Sir Hugh Mackenzie - a former Provost of Inverness - ~~receiving~~ receiving the Gold Ring that symbolises marriage to the Royal Burgh.

And Captain Anthony Miers - a native of Inverness - who won the V.C., in 1942, ~~awarding~~ for a submarine attack on enemy shipping in Corfu harbour.

The ceremony completed - the Provost called for "Three Highland Cheers" for Inverness' ^{the young Burgess} ~~youngest~~ burgesses.

During his reply, Mr Johnston, (who was described as Scotland's elder Statesman) thanked the town for the great honour it had bestowed upon him - a sentiment heartily endorsed by his fellow freemen.