SPANISH CROWN CONFERS DISTINGUISHED DECORATION

the name of the Order and monogram. On the reverse side, the coat of arms and "la

lealtad Acrisolada," expressive of loyalty and merit. The title conferred is that of Knight Commander, the highest appointive title — the highest title, Knight of the Great Cross, comes through promotion from a lower title. The complimentary title is Ilustrisimo, illustrious. So carefully are the honors of the Order guarded, this Condecoration cross must be returned to the Spanish crown in case of death or promotion to the higher title.

"Appointment to the Order is said to be rare in this country. Lower titles and presentation ~~and~~ by mail are said to have prevailed in other instances. Letters and telegrams paying tribute to the Old Spanish Trail leader were received from all over the United States.

Scene of the Ceremonies

"The home of Mrs. Henry Drought at San Antonio, Texas, has long been noted for its hospitality and helpfulness in the cultural life of San Antonio and South Texas. ~~Itwas~~ Where the international diplomatic ceremony was held. In the official group were the following notables:

"Mayor C.M.Chambers; Judge Perry Robertson; Major-General William Lassiter and his aide; Consul-General Enrique Santibanez of Mexico; Arnold Shanklin, former Consul to Mexico; Col. H.M.Dichmann, President San Antonio Automobile League; Walter Walthall, President Chamber of Commerce; T.H.Etheridge, Jr., President Real Estate Board; Werner N. Beckmann, member Old Spanish Trail Executive Board; Dr. Frederick Combe, Spanish and English speaking director of the ceremonies.

"Señor Porfirio Treviño, Jr., directed the arrangements. David Griffin arranged the Spanish and American music.

"~~Over one hundred guests were present, some from distant points.~~ "The ceremony and reception are described as brilliant, a distinction to San Antonio and a tribute to the southern and western people whose interest in the old Spanish history, architecture and art in this land helped win this distinguished recognition."