

## Postmasters of Jamaica.

### **William Alexander Campbell**

Acting PMG from 9 Aug 1938, PMG from 11 Oct 1938 to 12 May 1945 (on three months leave from 12 Dec 1944)

#### **Source not recorded**

In 1937, a vacancy for the position of Postmaster General occurred in the Jamaica Civil Service. It was customary for positions of this category to be occupied by Europeans. The League felt that this position should now be filled by a Jamaican national. Such a person was W.A. Campbell. A man of integrity, good repute, highly qualified, and able.

The Jamaica Progressive League made representation to the Colonial Secretary in Jamaica, and the Secretary of State for the Colonies in England. Mr. Campbell was appointed. He served with distinction for many years until his retirement. This was a great achievement and the beginning of many such victories for the Jamaican nationals.

#### **11 Jul 1938; WA Campbell appointed Acting Postmaster for Jamaica [Gazette 7 Jul 1938]**

#### **Jamaica Gazette 29 June 1939**

Appointed Postmaster for Jamaica with effect 11 October 1938

#### **Jamaica Philatelist June 1939:**

The Post Office. Since our last edition was published, the Department lost a very valuable officer in Mr. R. H. Fletcher, the Postmaster, who, despite the fact that he shows not the smallest sign of senility or decrepity, was retired on the score of age. Jamaica Welfare Ltd has succeeded to his ability, where we believe he finds agreeable employment of his talents. It is gratifying to observe that he has been succeeded by another efficient, courteous, hard-working Jamaican in the person of Mr. W. A. Campbell, who, after 36 years service in the Department, has earned reward of the highest position it can offer. The Department will be in excellent hands, while he is permitted to guide its affairs. He has an enviable reputation; having passed through all the stages of the mill, he is intimate with all details of operation; he is known to and liked by the public, because of his unfailing courtesy, his helpfulness and obvious desire to smooth the way; and his efficiency has received well deserved official recognition. We congratulate him on his promotion, and hope for him a very successful administration.

## Postmasters of Jamaica.

**Gleaner 26 June 1939**

### New Postmaster for Jamaica Promotion For Mr. W. Campbell

It is officially announce that Mr William Alexander Campbell has been appointed Postmaster for Jamaica in succession to Mr. R. H. Fletcher, I.S.O. who retired on pension in October last year. Mr. Campbell's appointment is a well merited and: popular reward after thirty six years of able service in the postal department.

Mr. Campbell entered the Post Office in 1903 as an Assistant and after nine years was promoted Second Class Clerk. In 1920, that is to say eight years later, he was promoted a First Class Clerk, in the Post Office, and afterwards took charge of the Circulation Department. In this position he remained for many years during which on more than one occasion he acted in the Accounting Office as Chief Clerk and Accountant.

It will be remembered that when a Commission made. inquiry into the -affairs of the Post Office in 1929, following certain untoward events there, they reported in terms of the highest praise on the ability of Mr Campbell, a report which it is believed weighed heavily with .Government later on in considering Mr. Campbell as a candidate for the position of Assistant Postmaster.

After the death of Mr H: C. Savage, the Assistant Postmaster, Mr Campbell was appointed to that post on January 1 1936, and continued in that position until Mr RH Fletcher, Post Master went on leave in July 1938, when he started the long period as Acting Postmaster which his appointment now terminates.

Born fifty four years ago, Mr. Campbell has not only been active as a civil servant but has always been in the .forefront of Jamaica's men of matters. He has written several historical treaties dealing particul;arly with religious matters and his serious work in the literacy field has earned him a place on the Board of Governors of the Institute of Jamaica. He is also a member of the Board of Trustees of Wolmer's Schools.



**MR. W. A. CAMPBELL.**

## Postmasters of Jamaica.

### Gleaner 29 June 1939

#### Appointment Of The Postmaster For Jamaica.

THE EDITOR:

Sir,—The announcement in your issue of the 26th June that Mr. W. A. Campbell has been appointed by the Secretary of State for the Colonies to the post of Postmaster for Jamaica, must come as a source of satisfaction and pleasure to every Jamaican who is interested in the welfare and progress of the native who by perseverance and ability has come to success. This recognition of Mr. Campbell's undoubted ability and fitness for promotion is a high tribute to the impartial character of the Colonial Office's decisions in London. There is always a readiness to appoint the native where outstanding ability is conspicuously shown. That is more than an impression — it is a fact. With reference to Mr. Campbell, he is worthy of our sincere congratulations. His immediate predecessor, Mr. R. H. Fletcher (now retired), must be decidedly pleased to learn of Mr. Campbell's success. It is quite certain that in this 36 years of faithful service laden with achievement, the new Postmaster did not have all plain sailing. The condition known as life would not allow any man to enjoy plain sailing in these later days. With many a trial, many a task, he steered his ship over the tempestuous seas of time and change and decay. His unassuming character, his open and receptive manner his acquaintance with detail and his readiness to serve at the post of duty are indelible traits which must certainly undergo a touch of acceleration in his timely and well-merited promotion. Long may Mr. W. A. Campbell fill the post of Postmaster of Jamaica and thus accumulate further laurels in the arena of creditable achievement.

I am etc., A LEO. RANKIN. Cross Roads, June 27, 1939.

### Gleaner 13 December 1944

Mr. W A. Campbell, Postmaster General for Jamaica, has gone on three months' leave, as from yesterday (12 Dec 1944), prior to his retiring from the Public Service. During the interim Mr. Morris, the Deputy Postmaster

## Postmasters of Jamaica.

**THE DAILY GLEANER. MONDAY, MAY 28, 1945.**

Post And Telegraph Services Honour Retiring Postmaster.

Unique Presentation Made to Mr. Campbell

A fine and representative attendance of employees of the Post and Telegraph Services gave a farewell party on Saturday night in Honour of Mr. A Campbell, who retired from the office of Postmaster General on May 12. A unique presentation of a "special" delivery red label bag - containing the documents appropriate to such a postal delivery, nicely illuminated and containing a special registered letter was made to Mr. Campbell by Mr. Esric L. Morris, the new Postmaster General, on behalf of the staff.

The function was held at the Wembley Athletic Club and there were present: Mr and Mrs Campbell; Mr. and Mrs. Morris, Mr R. H Fletcher, I.S.O.; Retired Postmaster; Mr. Aston Burrowes, Accountant and Mrs. Burrowes; Mr. George White, Superintendent of Mails; Mr. E. :M. Morales, Clerk in Charge, Parcels Post and Mrs. Morales; Mr. H. A. Sowley, acting Engineer-in-Chief; Mr. Oscar Welsh, Superintendent of Telecommunication Traffic; Miss Rose MacGregor, Assistant Superintendent; and a large company of members of the staff.

Opening the proceedings, Mr. Morris gave an Interesting store of reminiscences of the old post office days to illustrate the fine record which Mr. Campbell had set not only in his mastery of post office work but in his interest in all those who served the department. He -expressed gratitude to Mr. Campbell, whom he now Succeeded, for long years of help and guidance, and wished him a happy and long retirement.

Mr. Fletcher joined in the expressions of congratulation to Mr. Campbell on his record in the Post Office, referred to the expansion in scope and services, which had taken place during Mr. Campbell's term of office, and wished him a long and enjoyable retirement.

"STAND AROUND" AND "DELIVER"

Mr. White; who was responsible for organising the Presentation then made a clever speech which using post office terms; he called upon the gathering to 'stand round' and 'deliver.'

Speeches were also made by Mr. Oscar Welsh, Mr. Douglas Barrett, and Mr. T. E. Sealy

In his reply, which was full of feeling, Mr. Campbell expressed his appreciation of the co-operation and faithful service which he had received from the Staff from the assistants, from the Kingston Post Office staff, from the Telegraph Department, from all branches. He referred to the sociological changes which had taken place during his regime and which had affected the relations between employer and employee, the new situation raised by unions; referred to the-tremendous increase in volume of work which the staff had responded to with such good spirit: He finally asked them all to remember while not, in any way undervaluing the financial rewards of their labour, to think service as a contribution to the development of the whole country of which they were a part.

A splendid basket of flowers was presented to Mrs. Campbell by Miss Barbara Morris, and in acknowledging the gesture, Mrs. Campbell thanked the staff of the Post Office for the kind co-operation and support and friendship they had given her husband during his many years at the Post Office.

Mr. and Mrs. Campbell were then merrily paraded round the floor hearty fashion "For They are Jolly good Fellows."

A feature of the evening's programme was a variety entertainment in which Mr. William Spooner sang 'The Sergeant Major's On Parade' and "Mandalay". Miss Louise Bennett entertained with her inimitable and amusing verse. Mr: Toni Ableton gave a comic monologue; Miss Edna Falkon-Foster sang and two charming Post Office daughters: Miss Dora Morales and M iss Barbara Morris danced, the former doing a graceful acrobatic dance and -the latter a delightful interpretational number.

Afterwards the company enjoyed dancing to round out a memorable and happy evening.