

SPEECH BY MR. A.S. GAMMON, POSTMASTER GENERAL, AT  
THE OPENING OF THE THOMSON ROAD POST OFFICE ON  
WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 27, 1958

Having been stationed in Singapore a few years ago I am always pleased to be able to revisit your City and Island. It is all the more pleasant to be able to take part in a ceremony such as this, which marks a further stage in the plans of the Ministry of Communications and Works and the Post Office, for the development and improvement of the Postal Service in Singapore.

In the area around this Post Office we have a population of some thirty thousand - the equivalent of a fair-sized town - and it has been evident for some time that provision of a full scale Post Office was very necessary for the population of the district, which includes industrial undertakings as well as many private residences and a considerable rural community. The development plan for the Post Office in Singapore includes provision of new offices in other areas wherever there is a similar public need.

This building, designed by the Chief Architects Division of the Singapore Public Works Department, is very similar to others recently built at Jalan Kayu, Bukit Panjang and Pasir Panjang which have demonstrated the value of the design from the points of view both of departmental efficiency and of public convenience. This office was built by Messrs Hup Hoe & Company of Pekin Street, Singapore, under the supervision of Mr. F.D. Craddock.

Initially it will be staffed by a Postmaster, Mr. Arokia Raj, with one clerical assistant and four postmen. I feel confident that all these officers are proud to be able to put their services at your disposal and will give courteous and efficient service.

The preparations for this pleasant ceremony have been made under the guidance of Mr. H.M. Rose, Singapore's Director of Posts. We are much indebted to the Director of Public Works, and to the Director of the Botanic Gardens, for contributing to the decoration of the office; and to the Director of Information Services for the loan of the public address system.

We are gratified by the presence of many distinguished guests, including the Hon. Mr. M.P.D. Nair, the Assistant Minister to the Chief Secretary; and we are honoured by the fact that the Hon. Mr. Francis Thomas, Minister for Communications and Works, has found it possible to perform this opening ceremony.

AUGUST 27, 1958.

(Time issued 1200 hours.)