



Brigadier Stafford Campbell

The too-late look-alike

SPARE a thought for the editor of Soap, Perfumery & Cosmetics. She has spent years cajoling her father, Brigadier Stafford Campbell, into signing up with an agency as a Lord Carrington look-alike. And now she has got her way at the very time when there is no point in looking like Lord Carrington any more. In a few weeks' time no-one, apart from his closest relatives, will remember who Lord Carrington is, but Alexandra Campbell is not giving up now. She has just entered her father for some competitions where he can learn the ropes.

The brigadier is a retired diplomat, living in Camberwell, who seems bemused by his second career. "She just presented me with the whole thing as a *fait accompli* so I have had to accept it." It could

have been Lord Carrington talking about someone else. It was, however, the brigadier, who served for 20 years in the Gummerys before joining the Foreign Office and rising to be number two in Peru.

I asked if we might take his photograph. "Don't worry," said his ambitious daughter, "he's got nothing better to do. He will come. Just say when and where." The brigadier was duly ordered to appear outside the Foreign Office and was a model of courtesy. "Carrington doesn't wear an overcoat and he certainly doesn't carry a briefcase—other people do that for him. He keeps one hand in his pocket and the other strays round the bottom of his lapel... Alexandra has told me all this."

During his time at Whitehall the brigadier was frequently

mistaken for the former foreign secretary. "Personally I don't see any resemblance, but people do give me second glances. And Alexandra is right. I was mistaken for him at the Sunningdale golf course. Oh, yes, then there was the time when Lord Carrington walked into the Admiralty building just before me and the staff looked rather astonished when I came in."

The brigadier has one or two reservations about his new career. "The Foreign Office might be a bit stuffy about it, me being an ex-diplomat and all." But Alexandra is supremely confident. "I don't think it matters at all that Lord Carrington has resigned. This has opened up a new world for Daddy and he can make lots of money. It's better than sitting at home."