

Job Bias Hit At Postal Alliance Meet In Mobile

By JOHN LeFLORE

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MOBILE, Ala.—Job discrimination in the postal service was assailed at the public meeting opening the two-day sixth biennial convention of District Four, National Alliance of Postal Employees, here last Sunday at the Metropolitan A.M.E. church.

Several of the speakers urged the organization not to indulge policies of racial proscription, for fear that complacency may lead to further disregard of equitable employment and promotion advantages for Negroes in post offices throughout the South and nation.

In business sessions Monday at the Elks club, the convention, representing about 1,000 colored postal workers in the states of Louisiana, Mississippi, and Alabama, which comprise District Four, adopted resolutions and established an office pledged to look into the discrimination situation. Proper action toward protecting the Negro citizen's right to a job and promotion in post offices and the railway mail service was promised.

Ashby Carter Keynotes

Nationally-known persons here for the meeting included Sidney M. Jackson, of Washington, chief clerk at-large of the Railway Mail Division, who brought greetings from the Post Office Department, and Ashby Carter of Chicago, militant and outstanding civic worker and president of the Seventh District of the Postal Alliance. Among the others listed as speakers last Sunday were William B. Taylor, Mobile postmaster, who was present during the initial part of the program; Phillip W. Holland, of Birmingham, national treasurer of the Postal Alliance; Enuf Mathieu, courageous president of the organization's Fourth District; Rev. A. E. Williams, pastor of the Metropolitan A.M.E. church, and J. L. LeFlore, also of Mobile, regional and branch official of the N.A.A.C.P.

Carter told the postal workers that the Alliance must step-up its efforts to provide a better day for Negroes in the postal service. He also urged that members integrate themselves in all other organiza-

tions working for betterment of the Negro group.

Mathieu, who was one of the leaders in the successful movement which led to the appointment of five Negro clerks in the New Orleans post office several years ago, asked the cooperation of all for the task which lies ahead in the postal service.

Other speakers also exhorted the Postal Alliance delegates to do their utmost to not only hold the line but break down barriers denying the Negro rightful employment and promotion in post offices everywhere.

The convention went on record to combat discrimination against Negroes in the postal service. It also created an office to promote an educational program which would urge and encourage Negroes to take competitive civil service examinations for post office and all other government jobs; and afford information to returning men and women who have served in the armed forces about employment opportunities to which they are entitled as American citizens. The educational director will also investigate post offices where qualified Negroes are denied appointments.