

Al Dion Transcription

Al: Well let's see I took the examination in June of 1947 and I think it took us 30-60 days to be notified as to what our qualifying scores were

And...I went to work in the post office I think in October of 48.

So that's almost, that's a year and a half or more.

And the fallacy of it all was that I would go to the post office quite frequently and make inquiries as to whether there were openings, you know, available openings.

And of course, no, there never was.

And I would buy this.

And you have to keep updating your eligibility list, eligibility, and they send you a little card to ask if you're still, you know, available for work.

And if you get discussing and you say well no I don't want to bother, take my name off the list, beautiful in my case and then they don't have to deal with me.

But I didn't do this, you know, I kept saying yes I'm available for work because all I was doing was working part time work.

And I waited and waited and waited.

And I think that I would not have pursued it possibly, I was good and ticked off about it.

But I went one time and asked to see the postmaster and I went in and was given an audience with the postmaster, whose name was Dan Driscoll at the time.

And I went in to see him and he sort of threw me a curve, you know, by saying things like: well I don't think you'd want to worker because there's none of you working here.

Well that's an affront to me, you know, and first I don't like being called 'one of you,' you know.

And as I walked out of the building, out of his office, to go out of the building, I had saw fellas who had taken the examination with me.

And I'm wondering, well how the hell are these people hired, you know, if there were no available openings.

And how did these people get here, you know, above me, you know?

So I spoke with Maurice about it. This was the fellow that (*unknown*) admitted the exam, and I spoke with him about it, and he said well I don't know, it sounds like something is going on.

So I came up and gave it some thought, and then I decided that what I would do, I would give it one more shot around.

I had done this several times, I can't tell you the number of times...because I'd say several, meaning more than 4 or 5.

So I went down one more time and was filling out an eligibility slip, availability slip, saying that I was available for work, and I was.

And was informed that there was no openings, and I said, okay.

So I came home and I told my wife what had happened and I says, I think I'm being given the run around, and she said well what are you gonna do about it?

That's when I decided to write the civil service commission.

So I did.

And I sat down and wrote a letter to the civil service commission, mailed it on a Monday.

And in the letter said more or less that, I stated the situation, that my qualifying score on the examination held on January such and such, or June such and such a time in Geneva NY blah blah was and it was a number that they verify.

You know, I mean they've got the record.

And I mentioned that there were people that I knew that had scored less who had been, you know, hired.

And I thought that this was unfair, blah blah and whatever.

So this was on Monday.

On a Thursday of the same week, I received something called a TWX that's like a telegram-thing from the civil service commission saying that my case had been referred to the regional office in New York.

That's on Thursday.

On Friday I received a TWX from the regional office in NY saying that the case has been investigated and no further correspondence is necessary with this office.

Saturday I get a call from the post office, come to work.

And just like that.

And then all over the years that I worked there, I worked there for 28 years and 10 months, there was never any admission on anybody's part that this took place.