

Bias In Real Estate Topic At NAREB Meet

Discriminatory practices within the real estate market was one of the major problems examined by the National Association of Real Estate Brokers when it held its 13th Annual Convention in Cleveland beginning Sept. 17.

According to the Association officials, discrimination within their market shows itself in many forms.

William J. Hamilton, who is president of the Cleveland Association of Real Estate Brokers and head of the R & H Realty co. here said, "In many cases there is an open refusal on the part of white brokers to sell property to Negroes, based primarily on the fact that they are Negroes."

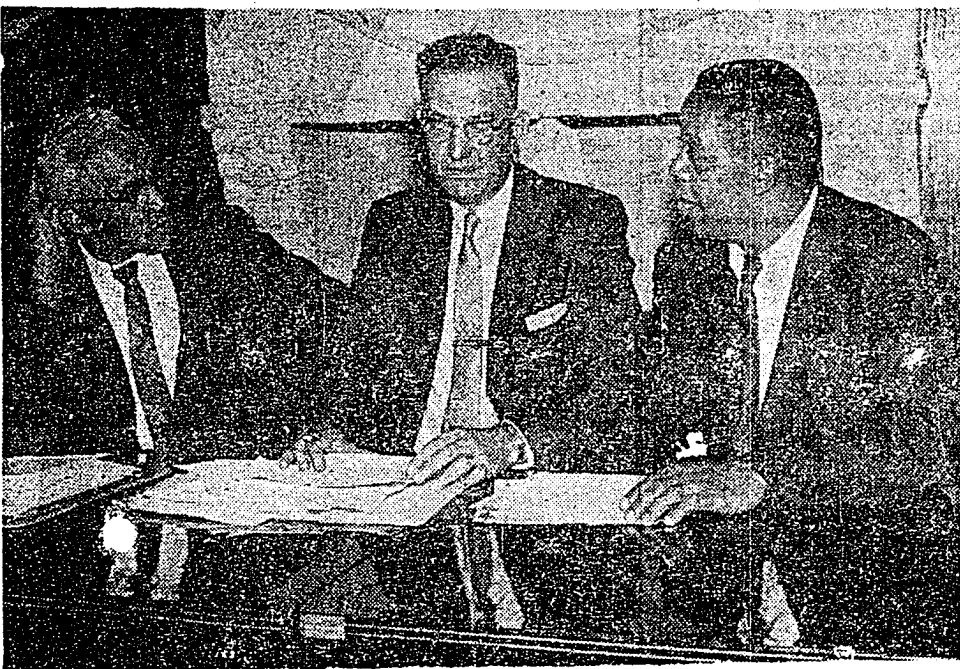
"Or," he added "the brokers employ a 'gentlemen's agreement, which is their unwritten policy of not showing homes to Negroes in certain sections."

George Harris, president of the National Association of Real Estate Brokers said, "The racial barrier, especially in the mortgage institution, limits Negro builders and real estate brokers in construction of high

caliber Negro housing developments."

Hamilton, who has been a broker for 25 years, underlined the role of the banks and other investment firms in the real estate system when he said, "Negro confinement within slum areas and 'ghettoes' has been mostly the result of banking and investment people refusing to release mortgage funds and capital to Negroes in better, less - crowded areas. A Negro is often refused financing even if his credit is excellent."

The convention which lasted through Wednesday, Sept. 21, was held at the Sheraton-Cleveland hotel. It opened with a public meeting on Sunday, at the East Mt. Zion Baptist church, Euclid ave. at East 100th st. A banquet and installation of officers terminated the meeting.



PRECONVENTION CONFERENCE — Officials of the National Association of Real Estate Brokers held a pre-convention meeting in Cleveland to outline the program for the Brokers' 13th Annual Convention. L. B. Jett, national chairman of the Convention, left; George Harris, national president of the Association, center; and William

J. Hamilton, president of the Cleveland Association of Real Estate Brokers are shown here discussing some of the bias practices in the real estate market. The Convention met Sept. 17-21.