

Most Negro newspapers gave prominent display to the three news releases sent out from Washington last week. Mr. Smith's announcement about the possibility of new projects for Negro white-collar workers drew 8-col. heads in several papers, including the Washington, Baltimore and New York Afro-American. The release on the Negro art project in Harlem drew smaller play, but for the most part was carried in full and word-for-word as released. Details of the new NYA program particularly that paragraph dealing with the special fund for Negro graduate students, were given a prominent place in most papers."

EDITORIAL COMMENTS ON WPA

FIGURE THIS OUT

The Philadelphia Tribune, generally favorable to the New Deal and to WPA, carries the following editorial:

"The Democrats desire to take credit for the employment of colored women on certain WPA projects where there is a small semblance of justice.

"But they throw up their hands and disclaim responsibility for the gross discrimination against colored workers at Hog Island, where thousands of WPA workers are employed at the Philadelphia airport.

"That is a vain attempt to blow hot and cold. If the Democratic party wants glory for the employment of women they must accept the condemnation for the discrimination against the men. The Hog Island situation stinks to high heaven and the Democrats are responsible."

Fallacies Under WPA

The Washington Tribune, arrying Mr. Smith's announcement on the possibilities of new WPA white-collar projects for colored workers, comments in part:

"In another column of todays Tribune we are printing a statement issued by A. E. Smith of the works division of the WPA. He quotes a letter which was sent out by Mrs. Ellen S. Woodward regarding employment for Negro white-collar workers.

"The fallacy in the statement is found in this sentence: 'That Negroes be given a fair chance to work at tasks for which they are suited in the WPA'. Have you ever heard anything more fallacious coming from a government official?

"The loop-hole through which so many Negroes are sent out to join the army of the unemployed is in that phrase: 'Tasks for which they are suited'. The chief clerk having the say in employing various persons in WPA conveniently finds the job or task he has open 'unsuited' for the Negro applicant. Therefore, Negro white-collar workers remain unemployed while hundreds, yea thousands, of white workers are put on white-collar employment...."