

"Ten reasons why Negroes comprise one-sixth of the depression relief rolls while they are only one-tenth of the total population are set forth in a report of the Federal Emergency Relief Administration.

"The report is the result of a study made by Alfred Edgar Smith, in charge of Negro labor relations for the Works Progress Administration. The reasons given follows: Negroes are concentrated in those economic groups which have contributed heavily to the relief rolls, such as unskilled labor and domestic service workers.

PAY DIFFERENTIAL

"They are paid lower wages for identical work, the differential being more widespread in the South.

"Racial discrimination in lay-offs and re-employment, the Negro during the depression being the "first man fired and the last man hired."

"Displacement of Negro labor by white workers, crowding him out of the cheap labor field.

"Industrial color bans and color bans among organized labor.

"Small scale of Negro business enterprises.

TENANT SYSTEM UPSET

"Dislocation of the tenant system in southern agriculture.

"Lack of provision for Negro unemployables.

"Relative instability of Negro family life.

"Smith's study disclosed that while Negroes were added to the relief rolls in a proportion twice as great as white thru the loss of private employment, they were removed from the rolls thru re-employment only half as frequently.

"Despite these factors Negroes have shared substantially in the benefits of unemployment relief and quite possibly have received some permanent rehabilitation," he said.

"Negroes with the members of other races, received direct relief benefits in the form of cash, food and rent orders, surplus commodities, clothing, garden seed, and free legal, medical and dental aid.

SAVED FROM EVICTION

"They were saved from eviction and given opportunities to secure better housing at cheaper rentals and to purchase some foodstuffs at less than retail prices. Negroes also shared, as unskilled labor, in the benefits of work relief, altho to a much lesser extent.