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Keen Rivalry Among Buckeye Race Leaders for Appointment to Office —Editor of the Gazette, Close Friend of the Governor, in Lead.

(Special to the Chicago Defender.)

Cleveland, O., June 4 .- This city has four men of the race who have filed applications with Governor Willis for fat jobs-Hon. H. C. Smith, editor of the Gazette; Thomas W. Fleming and Major John Fulton of the Ninth battalion, O. N. G. Between Hon. H. C. Smith and Thomas W. Fleming there is a very bitter rivalry, the editor of the Gazette being uncompromisingly opposed to Mr. Fleming being recognized, and vice versa. Governor Willis was a member of the state legislature at the same time Mr. Smith was, and, it is said, entertains a good opinion of the sturdy editor. Just what position Editor Smith seeks has not been learned. Mr. Fleming wants to be deputy state oil inspector, a position that pays from \$1,000 to \$1,200 per azhum. Major Fulton seeks the position he held under the last Republican administration in the adjutant general's office. Nahum D. Brascher, former editor of the defunct Cleveland Journal, is also an applicant for a position under Governor Willis. As yet Governor Willis has not indicated which faction of the race here-the Smith or Fleming-he will recognize, and up to date has made no race appointments. Because of the bitter rivalry here it is rumored this week the governor may pick a neutral man, though many think Editor Smith will land something. Editor Smith was deputy oil inspector when General J. B. Foraker was governor.