

Name Thomas Edward Bell**Field:** Creative Writing

Assistant Project Supervisor Federal Writers' Project
 Work Projects Administration, Nashville, Tennessee
 820 East State Street, Murfreesboro, Tennessee

Plan of Work

To write a 500-page novel, tentatively titled "Apothecary", about the eroded aristocracy, the poor whites and Negroes of a town in the mid-South. Contemporary scene. Plan to work at my home fifteen months.

Will not return to present position. Prefers to write novels or feature stories for newspapers.

*Bell + Borne about alike - Have some talent
 are probably 2nd rate novelists
 Better than average - has talent at realistic stuff
 stop realistic - Borne local.*

Personal Data

Born Smithville, Tennessee, February, 1909.
 Married, one child. Father partially dependent.

Age: 32**Undergraduate Work**

Middle Tennessee State Teachers College,
 no degree.

Graduate Work**Experience**

Various occupations as farmer, ghost writer, reporter, columnist, editor small paper; at present assistant project supervisor, Federal Writers' Project, Nashville, \$1500.

Accomplishments

Publications: Two novels: Fish on the Steeple, Farrar & Rinehart, 1935; Tommy Lee Fathers, 1938; short stories in several magazines; a number of feature stories and columns in local papers, some of the reprinted by other papers; Negro character sketch reprinted by F.P.A. in Conning Tower, 1934; offered job as feature writer with Associated Press in New York office 1934, but declined to work on novel (later wished I hadn't because of finances).

References

John Farrar, 232 Madison Avenue, New York
 Franklin P. Adams, New York Post
 Carl Carmer, Farrar & Rinehart, New York
 James R. Patterson, Murfreesboro, Tennessee
 John Thompson, Nashville Tennessee
 Malcolm Cowley, New Republic, New York City
 B. E. Hobgood, Murfreesboro, Tennessee

Budget Summary

| | |
|---------------------|----------|
| Total Amount Needed | \$ 1,800 |
| From Applicant | - - - |
| From Fund | \$ 1,800 |

Sent to Committee**AMOUNT GRANTED**

FISK
 UNIVERSITY