

DETROIT PUBLIC SCHOOLS
COLLEGE OF THE CITY OF DETROIT
4841 CASS AVENUE
DETROIT, MICHIGAN

DEPARTMENT OF
PSYCHOLOGY

June 10, 1932.

Board of Education,
City of Detroit,
Detroit, Michigan.

Gentlemen,

Greatly to my surprise I have just had my pay-check, number 212451, dated May 14, 1932, for the sum of \$137.72, returned to me by the First National Bank in Detroit. Regardless of the legality of such an action, I am surprised.

I cannot believe that the Borad of Education has sanctioned such a procedure as that carried out by the City Treasurer. I refused to accept the statement on the back of the check, not because I am not in favor of such a statement, but because of a principle, a principle which any Americal citizen would object to. I object to having to sign a contract when a man points a pistol at my head and says, "Sign".

I wrote, on the check, the statement that I would be glad to sign a similar statement if it were sent me in any other way than on my pay-check. I believe that I express the thoughts of every teacher in Detroit when I protest against duress in the obvious form in which it was used.

Let me not be misunderstood. I stand willing to sign any statement, such as the one on the back of the pay-check, if it is sent to me privately. I have no intention of ever bringing suit against the city for not fulfilling its salary contract with me. Under the serious financial conditions of the city the pay cuts have been moderate and necessary, in my opinion.

So I await your advice on the matter, trusting that you appreciate my point of view.

Truly yours,

E. B. Skaggs

E. B. Skaggs
Professor of Experimental Psychology
and Department Head.