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Detroit Michigan  
593 W. Hollywood Ave  
March 29, 1962

To. Commissioner Edwards

From Retired Patr. Pat Welch

A few lines from a man who has retired, and it not looking for any kind of a job-And as a taxpayer I hate to see the tax money thrown away on a group of lazy people.

On tuesday Mar 6, 1962 while eating my lunch looking out the window on fort st. I watched 5-colored men cleaning a catch basin (Sewer) at the corner of central & Fort-One man used a pick to break the Ice then one man shoveled it away-One man working 4-men watching

Thursday Mar. 8th about 11.30 am 5-colored men on an Asphalt truck  $\frac{1}{2}$  loaded with hot asphalt, stopped on Fort St just below the window I was looking out, 3-men were in the open back of the truck and 2 men in the cab-One got out the cab, and was handed down a shovel full of hot asphalt by one of the men in the rear of the truck, then another shovel full, then they handed him down an iron bar flat on the end to tamp and smooth the asphalt. Although there were many more holes this was all they did-He got back in the cab and away they went.

Thurs. Mar 15th 5-Colored men in an Asphalt truck came south on Central stopped at the corner, one man got out and went into the Drug for a bottle, no work done. And the D.P.W. needs \$200,000 to repair the chuck holes in the street. If this stuff goes on all day, you can give them \$4000,000, and the Streets never will be repaired.

During the race riot of 1943, me and my partner was in the Award Picture of the race riot, taken by a Free Press Photo Man at Mack and Woodward As the street cars entered the safety zone coming north on Woodward the trolley was pulled and all negroes were chased off and beaten, 6-Automobiles were turned over in the street, they were driven by colored they were also chased and beaten-The streetcar operators were white or they too would have been chased and beaten-The crowd was estimated at over 3000. We went into the Tasty Barbaque (Still Standing) to get something to eat. We were stationed at Brady and Hastings, and walked over here to get something to eat.

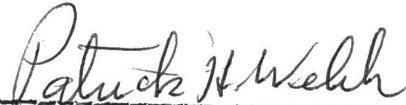
Just had a mouthfull of coffee when a colored man they were chasing came into the restaurant. We had to take him outside, The mob would have broken the door and windows. After we got outside we had to hold this mob off for about 45-minutes while waiting for a Scout car to pick him up. We were glad to get back on Hasting St. In one piece. I would like to show you these pictures of 2-Policemen who were ready to, and all most gave their lives to rescue a Colored Man.

Were was our Colored Policemen during the race riot, And how can you use a large number today. Not in Colored town because the Colored people resent them. And not on a scoutcar, the white people would say bad enough to get a ticket-but who gave it to me.

Veteran Policemen who walked a beat on midnight shift steady for 6-months, they got thier training the hard way. Today he is riding a scoutcar with the threat of get your quoto of violation tickets or go back walking a beat. And then to be shut up in a scoutcar with a Colored rookie policeman who mabe you resent and wont trust.

How can this crew do Policework-Believe me I know what a tough job you have. this is a personal letter of a few of the things, I have heard and seen, and I hope they will be a little help to you.

Respectfully Yours,



Retired Patr. Patrick H. Welch

April 9, 1962

Mr. Patrick H. Welch  
593 W. Hollywood Avenue  
Detroit, Michigan

Dear Mr. Welch:

Thank you for your letter of March 29th. I read it with interest. Perhaps you might like to know that I was born and raised in Dallas, Texas; and, like you, was present in Detroit in the early forties, including 1943 when the race riots of Detroit occurred. It is my sincere hope that we enforce the law with vigor and with fairness and that we can reduce rather than increase race tensions in the process.

Very sincerely yours,

Commissioner

GE:mm