

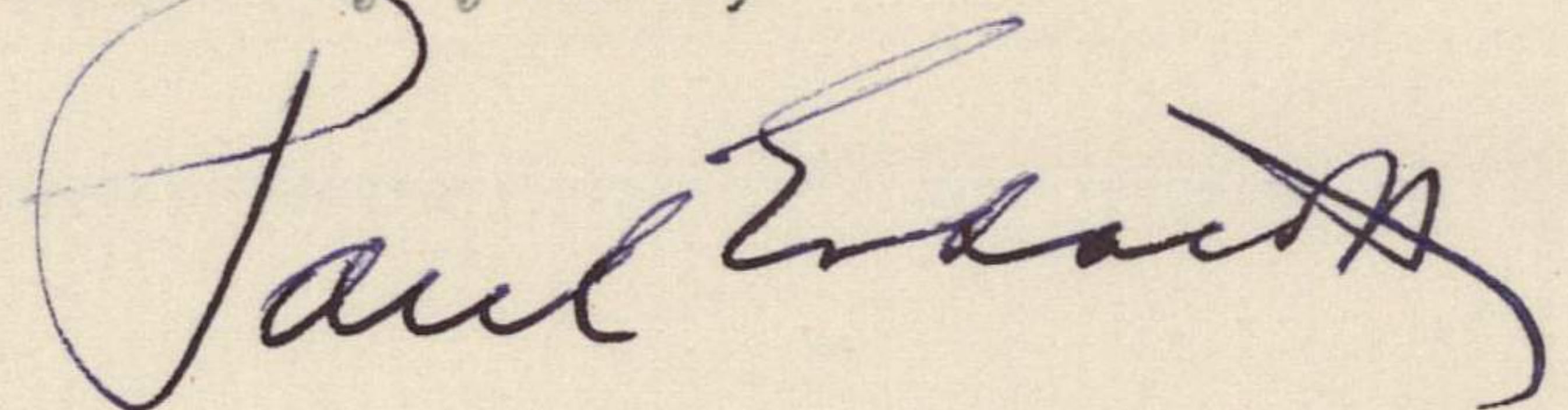
the Construction Department has violent ups and downs and it is practically impossible for them to make any commitments as to guaranteeing the employee a job upon his return to the department after an absence of several months. In practically every instance the employee group would have moved to another location.

In some of the operating departments, where the employee is training himself for a special technical service such as petroleum engineer, research, etc., a tentative arrangement is made with the employee so that he works during the summer within a department and if everything proves out satisfactorily he is employed as an apprentice engineer upon graduation.

Unfortunately, when an employee is working in the field forces, which are all covered by collective bargaining contracts, the management does not have much leeway in giving assurance that the employee may re-enter service as the provisions of the contract have to apply at that time. However, it would seem from Darrow's ability to keep on during the past few months that he would not be running too great a risk if he were to obtain a leave of absence from his department. At the most, he has only a year's seniority built up so the only gamble would be on whether or not there was any work going on at the time of his return.

If I can find anything more about Darrow, I will be on the look-out to do so but trust that the above information may enable you to discuss with him more clearly the questions which he has presented to you.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Paul E. Smith". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned to the right of the typed name "Paul E. Smith".

PE.RB