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Strauss Engineering Corporation

Consulting Bridge Engineers

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Department of
Conservation & Development

April 11, 1931

Mr. Charles P. Wilber,
State Forestry Dept.,
Conservation & Development,
State House, Trenton, N. J.

Dear Sir:

I am writing you to ask if any progress has been made in the matter of the proposed Washington Memorial bridge across the Delaware River, in which I understand you have taken a leading part and to suggest that I may perhaps be of some service in outlining both an economical and architecturally suitable design and also a program for financing and constructing this bridge.

I started my career in Trenton and am more or less familiar with the general conditions existing there and feel that there is opportunity for a type of structure which will carry out the memorial significance - not so much in superimposed ornament, but rather in inherent and symbolic artistry - and so achieve both economy and distinctiveness.

I would like by way of introduction, to refer you, with permission, to Mr. Jacob L. Bauer, State Engineer, Trenton, and as a further introduction beg leave to say that I am the Chief Engineer of the Golden Gate bridge at San Francisco, which will be the largest bridge in the world with a 4200 foot main span and a total length of 9112 feet, costing \$35,000,000.00. Bids on this structure will be invited this month. I enclose descriptive rotogravure.

I am also Consulting Engineer to the New York Port Authority on the Hudson River bridge - the next largest bridge - and the Bayonne Arch. I am Consulting Engineer to the United States Government on the Arlington Memorial bridge at Washington - one of the finest bridges in this country.

In addition to these present engagements, I designed and built, during the past two or three years, the Longview bridge, Washington - a \$6,000,000, 1200-foot cantilever - the Independence, Peoria and Quincy bridges, and was codesigner of the Montreal South Shore bridge at Montreal, built under the administration of the Montreal Harbor Commission.

In all, I have designed some 400 bridges built all over the world, during a period of thirty years - some of which have been awarded in international competition and have achieved substantial recognition.

Strauss Engineering Corporation

Mr. Charles P. Wilber


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The Strauss Engineering Corporation is one of the largest in existence specializing in bridge design and is well equipped in view of the above to undertake major projects and especially those where original design leading to structures of economy and beauty are desired.

I would very much appreciate hearing from you in reply. Awaiting your favor, I remain

Very sincerely yours,



Joseph B. Strauss
CHIEF ENGINEER
GOLDEN GATE BRIDGE & HIGHWAY DISTRICT

JBS/CC
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