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MARCH 27 1937
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EXBROOK 0118-0119-0120

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111 SUTTER STREET

San Francisco,

OFFICE OF CHIEF ENGINEER
GOLDEN GATE BRIDGE AND HIGHWAY DISTRICT

March 25, 1937

Mr. C. P. Wilber, Chief
Division of Forests and Parks
Department of Conservation and Development
State House Annex
Trenton, New Jersey

My dear Mr. Wilber:

I am terribly sorry that I have been delayed in replying to your letter of February 1. As you can readily understand, with the opening of the bridge only two months off, the task of completing the work and coordinating the contracts on all the various units is a tremendous one, and I find that there are not enough hours in the day to accomplish what I have to do.

I note that you are not in position to guarantee anything in regard to engineering service, which of course I appreciate, and it is sufficient for me to have your assurance personally and speaking for the Department that you will be glad to do all you can in the interest of those who gave their time to the project, when it comes to fruition.

Accordingly, I would be glad to join with you in the enterprise and help all I can to consummate it. The Golden Gate Bridge will be finished and opened to traffic on May 27. I then plan to take a brief rest for a month or so, which I need very badly. After that I will give the matter serious attention, with a view to developing a design, with estimates of cost and pictorial data for promotional use, along the lines that were successful in connection with the Golden Gate Bridge.

Meantime, I will, as opportunity affords, try to formulate my ideas, and the additional data that you sent will be very helpful. If I can arrange it, I will try to take my rest by way of a trip east, in which event I will arrange to see you. If not, Mr. Paine, my associate, or some member of my staff will see you instead. I assume that the delay of two or three months will not be serious and that this program will be satisfactory. I shall be glad to have you so advise.

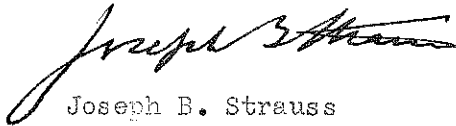
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The Golden Gate Bridge opening will be celebrated by a five day Fiesta from May 27 to June 2. An elaborate program is being planned, and it looks as if it will be attended by great numbers of visitors from all over the country. If it is possible for you to come out here at that time, I am sure you would find it very interesting, and I would be glad to see that you receive an official invitation, if you so desire.

No doubt you have read of the unfortunate accident which broke our splendid record on the bridge of only one death up to that time. But in spite of the accident we are still far ahead of the game, and the safety net has saved fifteen lives. There is an editorial in Collier's of March 27 and also an article in Life of March 1 on this subject, which perhaps you may care to look up.

With best wishes and awaiting your favor, I remain

Very sincerely yours,



Joseph B. Strauss

JBS-m