

LOS ANGELES BILTMORE



May 6, 1929.

Col. Ed Fletcher,
Ed Fletcher Company,
1020 Ninth Street,
San Diego, California.

My dear Col. Fletcher:

Mr. Charles R. Holden of the First National Bank of Chicago, a friend and fellow Rotarian, has given me a letter of introduction to you and suggested that when I am in San Diego I call upon you. I would be very happy to do this, and since I will be in San Diego - or expect to be - Wednesday of this week, I would appreciate a word from you if convenient as to whether I am likely to find you in San Diego.

Thanking you in advance and awaiting your favor, I am

Very sincerely yours,

Joseph B. Strauss
Joseph B. Strauss
Biltmore Hotel.

75M Form MR 1-E 7-28

MACKAY RADIO AND TELEGRAPH CO.

(FEDERAL TELEGRAPH SYSTEM)



RADIOGRAM

The Mackay Radio and Telegraph Company transmits and delivers this message subject to the terms and conditions printed on the back of this blank.

FAST MESSAGE

DAY LETTER

NIGHT MESSAGE

NIGHT LETTER

RECEIVER'S No.	TIME FILED	CHECK	INDICATE BY	x	RATE DESIRED
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Send the following message, subject to the terms and conditions printed on the back hereof, which are hereby agreed to

Filed at San Diego, Calif. May 7th 1929

JOSEPH B. STRAUSS
BILTMORE HOTEL
LOS ANGELES, CALIF.

LETTER SIXTH RECEIVED

GLAD SEE YOU WEDNESDAY

ED FLETCHER

Chg. Ed Fletcher Co.,
1020 Ninth Street
San Diego, Calif.

For Messenger, Telephone Main 4177

New Markets
can be found
by

TELEGRAPH

REQUESTED TO FAVOR THE COMPANY BY CRITICISM AND SUGGESTION CONCERNING ITS SERVICE 1201-S

WESTERN UNION

NEWCOMB CARLTON, PRESIDENT

J. C. WILLEVER, FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT

SIGNS
DL = Day Letter
NM = Night Message
NL = Night Letter
LCO = Deferred Cable
CLT = Cable Letter
WLT = Week-End Letter

The date line on full-rate telegrams and day letters, and the time of receipt at destination as shown on all messages, is STANDARD TIME.
Plaza, San Diego, Calif. Always Telephone Main 2151

FA203 33 DL=SANFRANCISCO CALIF 8 1230P

1929 MAY 8 PM 1 05

COL ED FLETCHER=

ED FLETCHER CO 1020 NINTH ST SANDIEGO CALIF=

THANKS FOR WIRE RECEIVED UNEXPECTED CALL HERE LATE YESTERDAY
AFTERNOON COMPELLING ME ALTER PLANS RETURN LOSANGELES TONIGHT
AND WILL ENDEAVOR BE SANDIEGO SATURDAY PHONING YOU IN
ADVANCE TO ASCERTAIN IF AGREEABLE PLEASE PARDON=
JOSEPH B STRAUSS.

THE QUICKEST, SUREST AND SAFEST WAY TO SEND MONEY IS BY TELEGRAPH OR CABLE

CUYAMACA
SOLANA BEACH
FLETCHER HILLS
PINE HILLS
GROSSMONT
AVOCADO ACRES

Ed Fletcher Co.

1020 NINTH STREET
SAN DIEGO, CALIF.

May Eighth,
1929

Western Union Telegraph Company,
San Diego,
California.

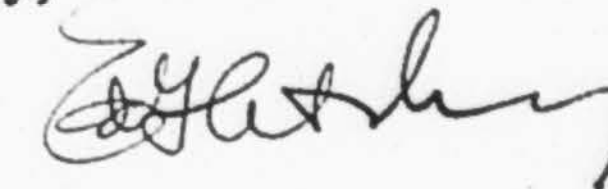
Gentlemen:

Enclosed find telegram from Mr. Joseph B. Strauss
and my answer.

We do not know where he is stopping in San Francisco
but your San Francisco office must have this
information.

Please rush this telegram.

Yours truly,



EF:AK

CLASS OF SERVICE DESIRED	
DOMESTIC	CABLE
TELEGRAM	FULL RATE
DAY LETTER	DEFERRED
NIGHT MESSAGE	CABLE LETTER
NIGHT LETTER	WEEK END LETTER

Patrons should check class of service desired; otherwise message will be transmitted as a full-rate communication.

WESTERN UNION

NEWCOMB CARLTON, PRESIDENT

J. C. WILLEVER, FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT

Form 1207-A

NO.	CASH OR CHG.
CHECK	
TIME FILED	

Send the following message, subject to the terms on back hereof, which are hereby agreed to

FA203 33 DL SANFRANCISCO CALIF 8 1230P 1929 May 8 PM 1 05 19

To Col. ED FLETCHER

ED FLETCHER CO

Street and No. 1020 NINTH ST SANDIEGO CALIF

Place

THANKS FOR WIRE RECEIVED UNEXPECTED CALL HERE LATE YESTERDAY AFTERNOON

COMPELLING ME ALTER PLANS RETURN LOSANGELES TONIGHT AND WILL ENDEAVOR BE SANDIEGO

SATURDAY PHONING YOU IN ADVANCE TO ASCERTAIN IF AGREEABLE PLEASE PARDON

JOSEPH B STRAUSS.

SENDER'S ADDRESS
FOR REFERENCE

SENDER'S TELEPHONE
NUMBER

CLASS OF SERVICE DESIRED	
DOMESTIC	CABLE
TELEGRAM	FULL RATE
DAY LETTER	DEFERRED
NIGHT MESSAGE	CABLE LETTER
NIGHT LETTER	WEEK END LETTER

Patrons should check class of service desired; otherwise message will be transmitted as a full-rate communication.

WESTERN UNION

NEWCOMB CARLTON, PRESIDENT

J. C. WILLEVER, FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT

Form 1207-A

NO.	CASH OR CHG.
CHECK	
TIME FILED	

Send the following message, subject to the terms on back hereof, which are hereby agreed to

To JOSEPH B STRAUSS

Street and No. _____

Place SAN FRANCISCO, CALIF.

TELEGRAM RECEIVED GLAD SEE YOU NEXT FRIDAY AFTERNOON OR ~~SATURDAY~~ *Monday*

MORNING KINDLY TELEPHONE THURSDAY MORNING

ED FLETCHER

Chg. Ed Fletcher Co.,
1020 Ninth Street,
San Diego, Calif.

SENDER'S ADDRESS FOR REFERENCE

SENDER'S TELEPHONE NUMBER

75M Form MR 1-E 7-25

MACKAY RADIO AND TELEGRAPH CO.

(FEDERAL TELEGRAPH SYSTEM)



RADIOGRAM

The Mackay Radio and Telegraph Company transmits and delivers this message subject to the terms and conditions printed on the back of this blank.

RECEIVER'S No.	TIME FILED	CHECK	INDICATE BY	RATE DESIRED
			X	

Send the following message, subject to the terms and conditions printed on the back hereof, which are hereby agreed to

Filed at San Diego, May 18th 1929

MR. J. B. STRAUSS
PALACE HOTEL
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIF

TELEGRAM RECEIVED GLAD TO SEE MR. MEYERS SANDIEGO TUESDAY THURSADY

OR FRIDAY NEXT WEEK

ED FLETCHER

Chg. Ed Fletcher Co.
1020 Ninth Street,
San Diego, Calif.

For Messenger, Telephone Main 4177

THE SENDER OF THIS MESSAGE

authorizes us to say that a TELEGRAPHIC reply is desired

via WESTERN UNION 3936

REQUESTED TO FAVOR THE COMPANY BY CRITICISM AND SUGGESTION CONCERNING ITS SERVICE 1201-S

WESTERN UNION

NEWCOMB CARLTON, PRESIDENT

J. C. WILLEVER, FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT

SIGNS

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Received at 341 Plaza, San Diego, Calif. Always Telephone Main 2151

FA120 32 DL XU=SANFRANCISCO CALIF 18 1030A 1929 MAY 18 AM 10 47

COL ED FLETCHER=

SANDIEGO CALIF=

PLEASE WIRE ME PALACE SANFRANCISCO IF YOU WILL BE SANDIEGO NEXT WEEK AND WHAT DATE STOP DESIRE DOC MEYERS MEET YOU THERE ON AT LOSANGELES SHOULD BE CHANCE BE UP THERE REGARDS= JOSEPH B STRAUSS.

THE QUICKEST, SUREST AND SAFEST WAY TO SEND MONEY IS BY TELEGRAPH OR CABLE



REQUESTED TO FAVOR THE COMPANY BY CRITICISM AND SUGGESTION CONCERNING ITS SERVICE 1201-S

WESTERN UNION

NEWCOMB CARLTON, PRESIDENT

J. C. WILLEVER, FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT

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Plaza, San Diego, Calif. Always Telephone Main 2151 1929 MAY 20 PM 11 24

FA368 20 2 EXTRA NL=SANFRANCISCO CALIF 20

COL ED FLETCHER=

SANDIEGO CALIF=

THANKS YOUR WIRE MR MEYERS WILL BE SANDIEGO END OF WEEK AND WILL WIRE YOU EXACT DATE LATER= JOSEPH B STRAUSS PALACE HOTEL.

THE QUICKEST, SUREST AND SAFEST WAY TO SEND MONEY IS BY TELEGRAPH OR CABLE

Strauss Engineering Corporation

Consulting Bridge Engineers

307 NORTH MICHIGAN AVENUE

Chicago

BASCULE, LIFT, SWING AND
LONG SPAN BRIDGE DESIGNS
INVESTIGATIONS
REPORTS
ESTIMATES
SUPERVISION

CABLE ADDRESS: BASCULE, CHICAGO
A. B. C. CODE, FIFTH EDITION
BENTLEY'S CODE
TELEPHONES
CENTRAL 5860-5861

May 27th, 1929.

Mr. Joseph B. Strauss, President
Strauss Engineering Corporation
307 North Michigan Avenue
Chicago, Ill.

My dear Mr. Strauss:

Enclosed find statement for the last six years showing
number of passengers and freight receipts, with total
revenue for 1928, on Coronado Ferry, as per your
request.

Sincerely yours,

EF:GMF
Encl.

Col. Ed. Fletcher,
Ed Fletcher Co.,
San Diego, California.

My dear Col. Fletcher:

I am in receipt of your letter of May 27 with
enclosed Traffic Statement and Revenue on the Coronado Ferry
for the last six years. I am very glad to have this.

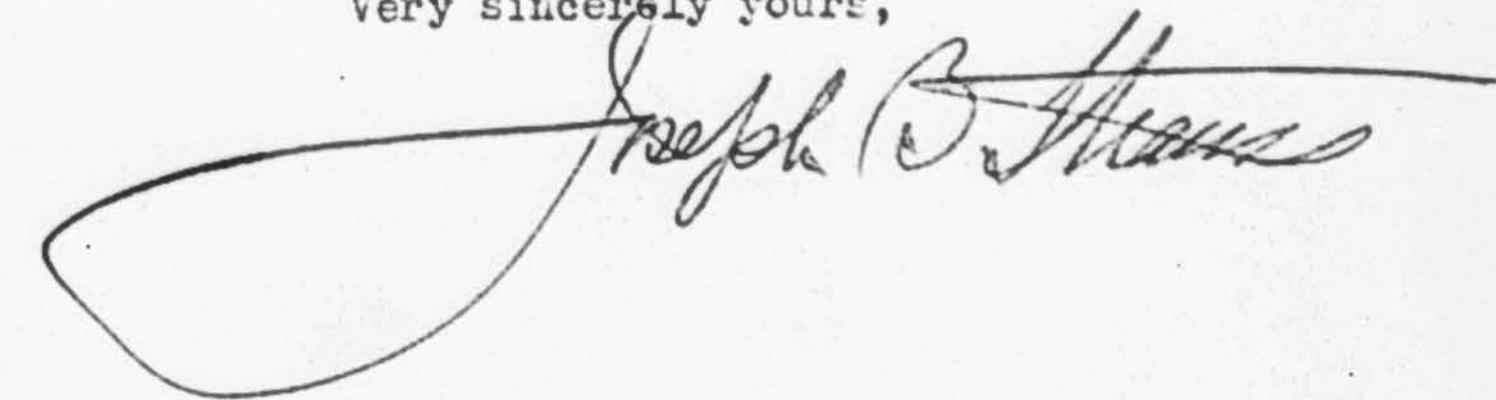
Mr. Meyers advises me that you sent a copy of this
to him and that he has an appointment to meet you in San
Francisco on the 6th to discuss the matter further.

I will be glad if, as a result of this discussion,
matters can be put in shape so that the project can be
organized at the time of my return to California shortly
after the middle of this month.

I met Charley Holden at Rotary today and told him
of my meeting with you and he was very much interested and
pleased and directed me to remember him to you.

With kindest regards, I am,

Very sincerely yours,



JBS:BB

FEDERAL TELEGRAPH COMPANY

ELLERY W. STONE, President

RADIOGRAM

THE FEDERAL TELEGRAPH COMPANY transmits and delivers this message subject to the terms and conditions printed on the back of this blank.



RECEIVER'S No.	TIME FILED	CHECK	INDICATE BY	X	RATE DESIRED
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Send the following message, subject to the terms and conditions printed on the back hereof, which are hereby agreed to

Filed at June 28, 1929 .192

Mr. Joseph E. Strauss,
Biltmore Hotel, Room 7223
Los Angeles, Calif.

Will you Biltmore Hotel one thirty instead of two this afternoon
if agreeable

ED FLETCHER

Chg Fletcher Co

JOHN M. E. BOWMAN
PRESIDENT
JAMES WOODS
VICE-PRESIDENT
CHARLES BAAD
MANAGER

FILE ADDRESS
LOS ANGELES, LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA

LOS ANGELES BILTMORE



July 16, 1929.

Col. Ed. Fletcher,
San Diego, California.

My dear Col. Fletcher:

I understood you to say over the 'phone last Friday or Saturday that you would let me hear from you yesterday. Perhaps nothing of interest developed or you were not able to see the Admiral and, therefore, you felt that there was nothing to report.

I am writing you now to say that I will have only the remainder of this week within which to do whatever has to be done in the matter before I leave, and to suggest that you let me hear from you, therefore, upon receipt of this letter, and also, if agreeable, arrange for a meeting when we can reach a definite understanding as to the program to be followed. Dr. Meyers will be here in a day or so and, therefore, it would be an opportune time to have such a meeting.

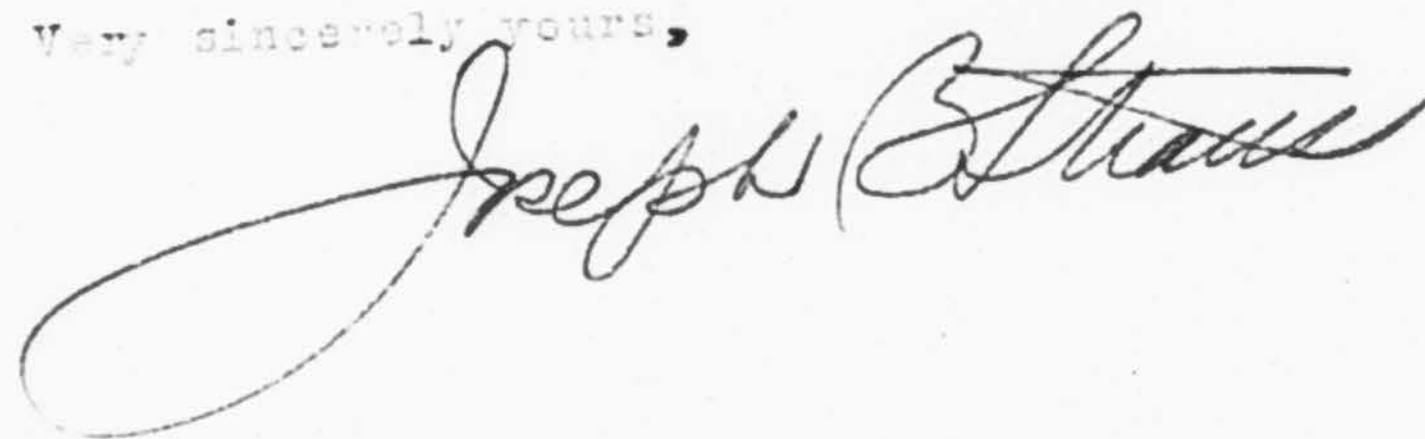
I realize that these matters take time and I have no desire to urge undue haste, but I do feel strongly that the longer we wait to act, the more difficult our situation will be. Every day's delay in getting a bridge program under way strengthens the public confidence in the success of the tub project, and if we let it go too long, we may have difficulty in overcoming the propaganda inspired by the tub proponents. I sensed this even in Washington, but, nevertheless, as I said to you, I obtained there an informal expression of approval of a bridge design which I prepared, and since I have all the other machinery ready to move, I am very anxious not to delay starting it off too long and thus lose the benefit of what we got started.

I am glad to have your assurances that the outlook for obtaining what we want is improving and I am making the above suggestions only in the interest of the cause and because, based upon my experience in matters of this kind, I believe a long lapse of time in the initiation of the preliminary steps such as those Dr. Meyers, yourself and myself have discussed should be avoided.

I would be glad if on receipt of this letter you would call me up on the 'phone and arrange, if convenient, for a meeting in Los Angeles this week. If you will be kind enough at that time to bring back with you the book of bridge photos I loaned you, I would appreciate it.

Waiting your reply, in the meantime, I remain

Very sincerely yours,



July 17th, 1929.

Mr. Joseph B. Strauss
Hotel Biltmore
Los Angeles, California

Dear Mr. Strauss:

Answering yours of the 16th, Admiral Robertson has been under the weather, but I have just had a conference with him this morning.

He is very friendly to us and is favorable to a bridge, but he says the Navy Department is not and it is Commander Hughes who will have to be overcome.

He makes the following suggestions; that you only put the bridge 30 or 40 feet in height, or high enough for the small boats to go under, leaving the opening, of course, 200 feet in width. He says it will cost a great deal less, is not so much an obstruction to sea-planes or airplanes and less objectionable on that account as compared to a high bridge.

He also feels that the stresses should be above and not below the floor of the bridge, giving an absolute uniform clearance instead of curved supporting stresses showing below the floor and between the piers.

I think it imperative that you both come here and have a conference with Admiral Robertson before attempting any program.

The tube, in my opinion, has blown up completely.

I will ring you up by phone today.

Yours very truly,

EF:GMF

MONDAY
re-stock after
Saturday's sale
BY
TELEGRAPH
CLOSE PENDING
BUSINESS TODAY

REQUESTED TO FAVOR THE COMPANY BY CRITICISM AND SUGGESTION CONCERNING ITS SERVICE 1201-8

WESTERN UNION

SIGNS
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NEWCOMB CARLTON, PRESIDENT J. C. WILLEVER, FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT

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San Diego, Calif. Always Telephone Main 2151

SB533 19 DL=LOSANGELES CALIF 22 1148A

JUL 22 AM 11 59

COL ED FLETCHER=
SANDIEGO CALIF=

HAVE BEEN CALLED TO SANFRANCISCO REGRET THEREFORE UNABLE GET
DOWN TO SANDIEGO NOW WILL WRITE YOU FROM SANFRANCISCO REGARDS=
JOSEPH B STRAUSS.

THE QUICKEST, SUREST AND SAFEST WAY TO SEND MONEY IS BY TELEGRAPH OR CABLE

JOSEPH B. STRAUSS
PRESIDENT & CHIEF ENGINEER

CHARLES A. ELLIS
VICE-PRES & CONT. MGR.

CLIFFORD E. PAINE
VICE-PRES. & MANAGING ENGR.

Strauss Engineering Corporation

Consulting Bridge Engineers

BASCULE, LIFT, SWING AND
LONG SPAN BRIDGE DESIGNS
INVESTIGATIONS
REPORTS
ESTIMATES
SUPERVISION

307 NORTH MICHIGAN AVENUE

Chicago

CABLE ADDRESS: BASCULE CHICAGO
A B C CODE, FIFTH EDITION
BENTLEY'S CODE
TELEPHONES
CENTRAL 5860-5861

August 1, 1929.

AIR MAIL

Mr. Ed Fletcher,
% Ed Fletcher Co.,
1020 Ninth Street,
San Diego, California.

My dear Colonel Fletcher:

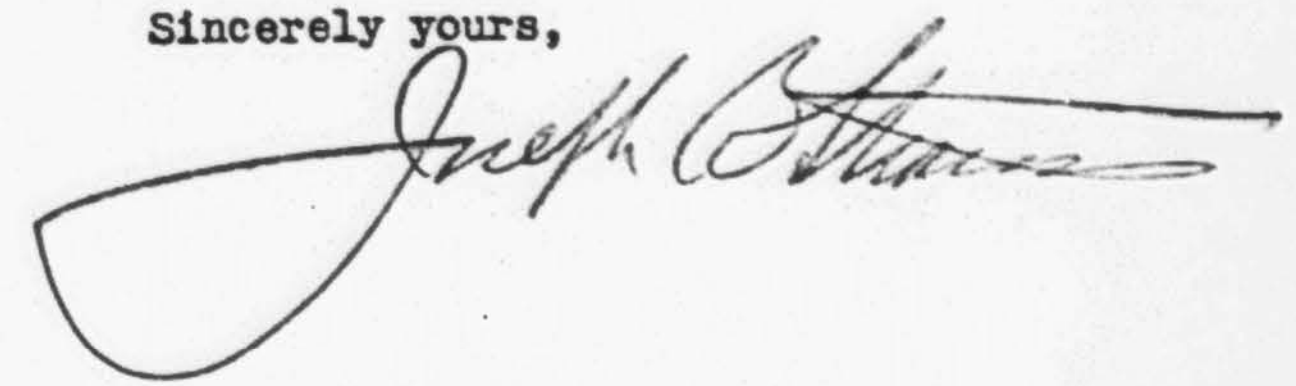
I was sorry that I was unable to get down to San Diego but I was called to San Francisco suddenly and developments since compelled me to make a flying trip back here to Chicago so as to permit me to get back to California again about the middle of this month. This necessarily altered my plans and prevented my seeing you in San Diego before I left.

After the middle of the month Dr. Meyers will also be freer and it is our plan to come down to San Diego together and see whether we cannot get this matter in shape.

In the meantime I am somewhat handicapped by not having my personal booklet of bridge photographs which I loaned you and I would appreciate it very much if you would be kind enough to send this to my Chicago Office, 307 North Michigan Avenue, by registered Parcel Post, at your earliest convenience.

Thanking you in advance, I remain

Sincerely yours,



JBS:HC.

Strauss Engineering Corporation
Consulting Bridge Engineers
307 NORTH MICHIGAN AVENUE
Chicago

BASCULE, LIFT, SWING AND
LONG SPAN BRIDGE DESIGNS
INVESTIGATIONS
REPORTS
ESTIMATES
SUPERVISION

CABLE ADDRESS: BASCULE, CHICAGO
A. B. C. CODE, FIFTH EDITION
BENTLEY'S CODE
TELEPHONES
CENTRAL 5860-5861

August Fifth,
1 9 2 9

Mr. Joseph B. Strauss,
307 North Michigan Avenue,
Chicago, Ill.

My dear Mr. Strauss:

Answering yours of August first, I am sending
your booklet of bridge photos by registered
parcel post.

Will be glad to see you and Dr. Myers down here
at any time.

With kindest regards,

Sincerely yours,

EF:AK

September 6, 1929.

GOLDEN GATE BRIDGE
File 1226.

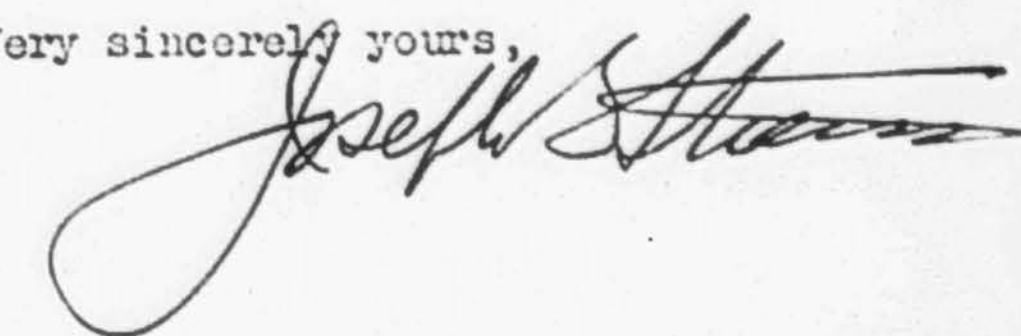
Mr. Ed. Fletcher,
Ed Fletcher Company,
1020 Ninth Street,
San Diego, California.

My dear Mr. Fletcher:

I feel that you will be interested in
knowing the outcome of the long years devoted to the
Golden Gate Bridge project. The enclosed clipping
evidences the consummation of definite steps towards
construction of this bridge. The next step will be
the bond issue election probably early next year.
Should this carry then the work will be proceeded with.

With kindest regards, I remain,

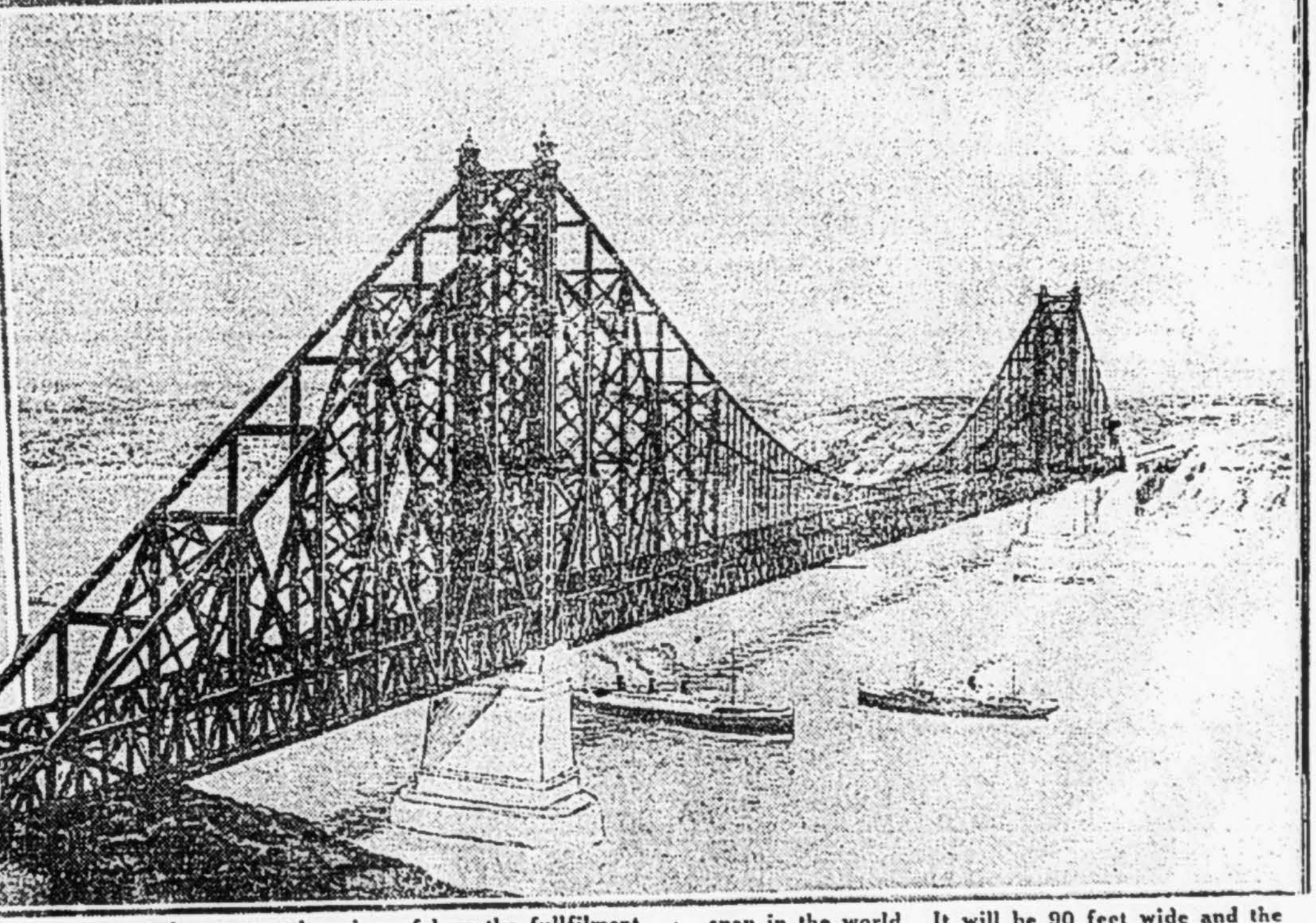
Very sincerely yours,



JBS:P
Encl.

Handwritten notes and scribbles at the bottom of the page.

STRAUSS TELLS OF GOLDEN GATE SPAN



Photographs show Joseph B. Strauss, world famous architect and bridge builder, who has been chosen chief engineer in charge of constructing the gigantic bridge across the Golden Gate at San Fran-

cisco, and a perspective view of how the fulfillment of the dream of 50 years will appear when completed, looking from the Marin county shore towards San Francisco. The bridge will be the largest single

span in the world. It will be 90 feet wide and the height from pier line to water will be 225 feet, the highest point of the structure being 850 feet at the towers.

Project Two and Half Times Greater Than Any Similar Feat Attempted

Joseph B. Strauss, world famous architect and bridge builder, now at the Biltmore hotel and who has just been named chief engineer in charge of construction of the monumental Golden Gate bridge connecting San Francisco and Sausalito, announced today the project would be two and one-half times greater than any similar feat heretofore attempted.

Mr. Strauss has just received formal notice of his appointment by the Golden Gate bridge district which body also named his consultants as O. H. Ammann and Leon Moisseiff of New York.

Comprising the largest single span in the world, the bridge when completed will constitute a \$30,000,000 improvement and will have a total length of 6176 feet, according to Mr. Strauss' plans, approved by the bridge district authorities.

It will have a width of 90 feet and the height from pier line to water will be 225 feet. The highest single joint of the structure will be at the towers which will rise to a height of 850 feet.

The engineer, who constructed the \$75,000,000 Hudson River bridge

and who is in charge of the work on the \$10,000,000 Arlington Memorial bridge, now under construction at Washington, declared the San Francisco project had been the dream of engineers for 50 years. All obstacles to its construction, including the gaining of government consent, have been removed, he said.

HAS PROJECT HERE

Mr. Strauss solved the problem presented by the unprecedented length of the span and other unusual conditions and has given the project his attention for the past eight years. The bridge will be self-sustaining, he declared. Its westerly approach will be at the Presidio on the San Francisco side, and it will span the Golden Gate to

Marin county.

More than 100,000 tons of steel will be required in its construction and 122,000 cubic yards of concrete will be utilized.

Mr. Strauss' trip here is in connection with a local improvement, the nature of which he refused to reveal other than to say it would approximate the San Francisco project, if approved.

September 10th, 1929.

Mr. Joseph B. Strauss
Strauss Engineering Corporation
307 North Michigan Avenue
Chicago, Ill.

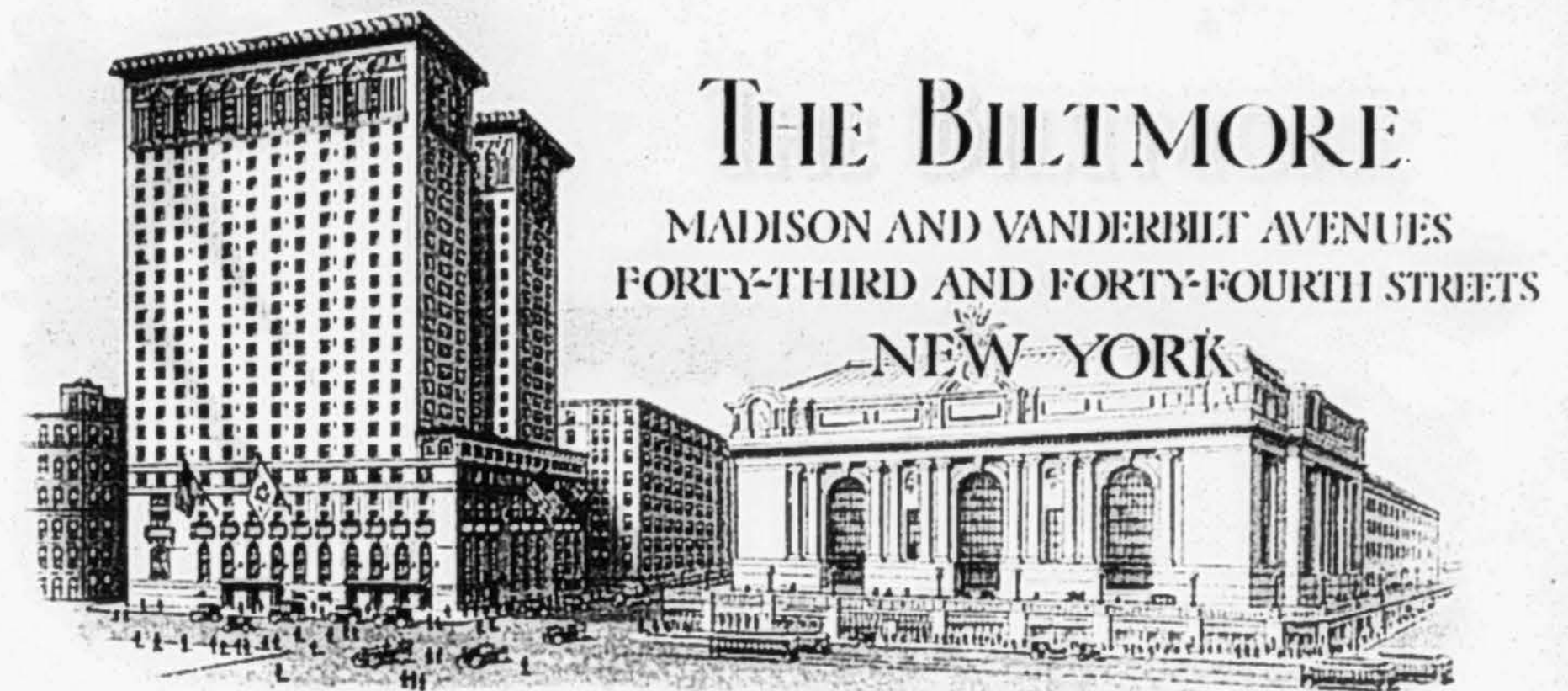
My dear Mr. Strauss:

I was very pleased with the information conveyed in your letter of September 6th regarding the Golden Gate Bridge project. The clipping from the Los Angeles Herald was most interesting.

It looks as tho they are going ahead with the tunnel across San Diego Bay immediately. I will keep you posted.

Yours very truly,

RF:GMF



THE BILTMORE
MADISON AND VANDERBILT AVENUES
FORTY-THIRD AND FORTY-FOURTH STREETS

NEW YORK

JOHN Mc E. BOWMAN, PRESIDENT

September 23, 1929

Colonel Ed Fletcher
c/o Ed Fletcher Company
1020 Ninth Street
San Diego, Calif.

My dear Colonel Fletcher,

Thanks for your letter of September 10th which has been forwarded to me here. I note that it looks as if ~~they~~ are going ahead with the tunnel across San Diego Bay. I understood you to say at one time, in fact the last time I talked to you, that this had been definitely killed. It certainly ought to be, for it would be the very worst thing that could be done, and I think it would be a financial failure.

Dr. Meyers has been tied up in San Francisco ever since I spoke to you last, but I think he will be free any day now and he plans to run down to San Diego as soon as he can get loose. He will see you at that time. In the meantime, if anything should develop in the matter, will you please keep me posted as you so kindly offered to do.

With best wishes, I remain,

Very sincerely yours,

October Third,
1 9 2 9

Mr. Joseph B. Straus,
307 North Michigan Ave.,
Chicago, Ill.

My dear Mr. Straus:

Answering yours of the twenty-eighth will say that the tunnel planned under the bay to Coronado does not look as promising as it did four weeks ago.

Everything is ready excepting the financing so I understand and I question if anything will ever be done.

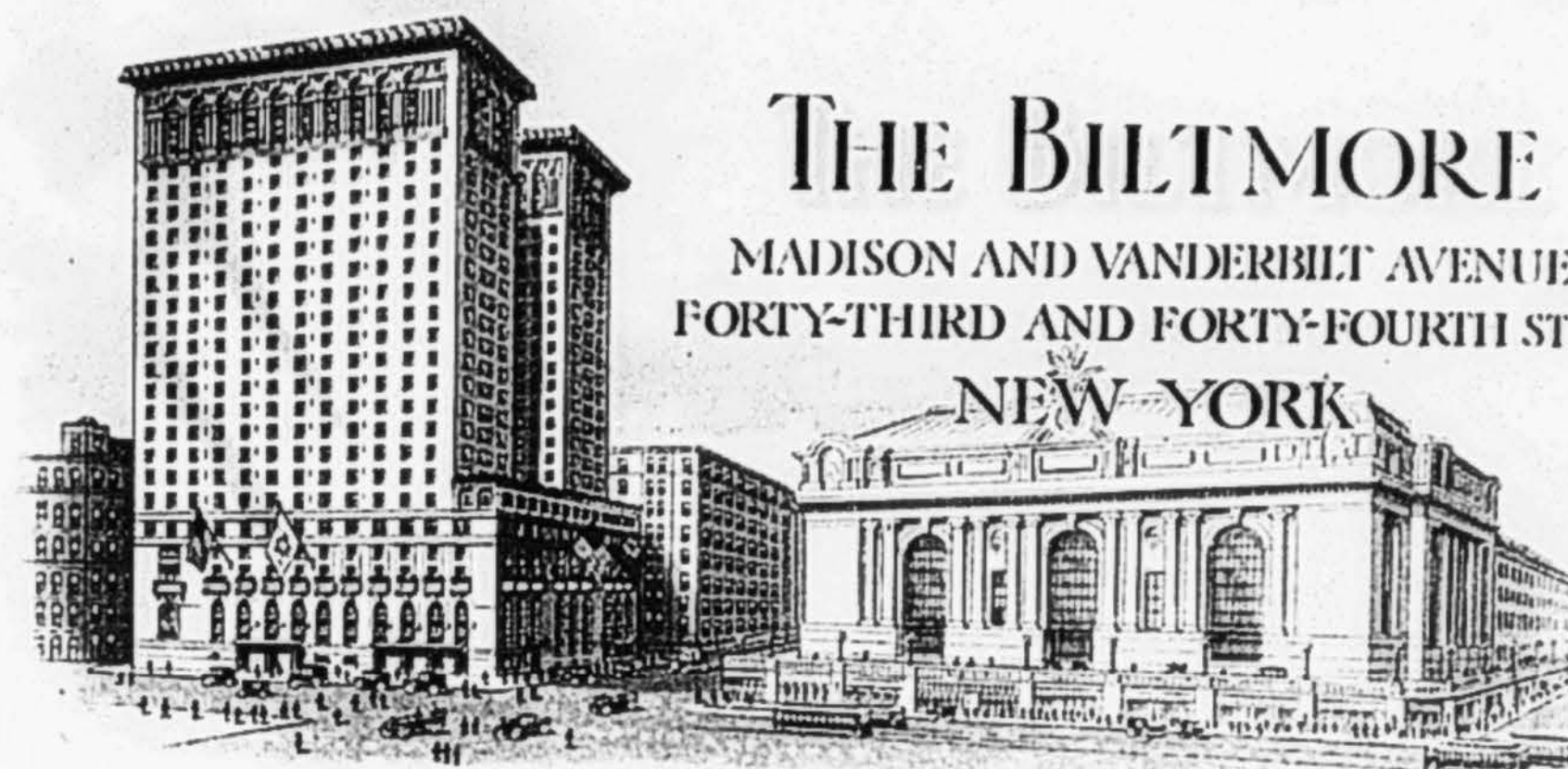
The Coronado City Council cancelled their franchise a few days ago.

I believe there was a law made at the last legislature of California making it necessary for you to get a permit from the state before you build a bridge across a bay. You had better look up the California law on this.

With kind personal regards,

Sincerely yours,

EF:AK



THE BILTMORE
MADISON AND VANDERBILT AVENUES
FORTY-THIRD AND FORTY-FOURTH STREETS
NEW YORK

JOHN Mc E. BOWMAN, PRESIDENT

October 11, 1929

Colonel Ed Fletcher
1020 Ninth Street
San Diego, California

My dear Colonel Fletcher:

I have yours of the third, for which please accept my thanks. I note that the Tunnel does not look as promising as it did a few weeks ago. I am personally convinced that a tunnel cannot be financed at this point. The solution, if there ever is one, must be a Bridge.

I will be in California in November and will run down to San Diego and look the situation over, and at that time I will, of course, look you up. In the mean time, Dr. Meyers may be there and you may hear from him at any time.

Thanking you for your letter, I remain,
with kindest regards,

Very sincerely yours,

Ed Fletcher Papers

1870-1955

MSS.81

Box: 28 Folder: 17

General Correspondence - Strauss, Joseph



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