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*Agreement to Mr. P. L. ... 8/2*

9th August, 1911.

Mr. George W. Marston, Chairman,  
Buildings & Grounds Committee, Panama-California  
Exposition, San Diego, Cal.

Dear Mr. Marston:

In further reply to your telegram of the 5th instant I will make a few more comments on matters of design.

I am under the impression that it is going to be very difficult to get the estimate of cost reduced to the amount which you and Mr. Wangenheim have agreed is all that can be safely assigned for construction. I confess I had no idea before Mr. Allen made the first of his estimates that it would be necessary to reserve out of the appropriation so much money for maintenance expenses. I think, however, the repeated study of the plan has shown that work could safely be begun on so much of the plan as lies south of Spanish Canyon substantially in accordance with plan 53-C. I think it would be advisable,

however, to delay any actual construction on Plaza Musica and the surrounding buildings until the City shall have actually provided funds for the construction of the dam; because if the City should not build that dam we may not have money enough to do it and if it cannot be built Mr. Goodhue's idea of pushing the permanent buildings over the edge of the canyon might perhaps have to be abandoned in order to provide the drive between those buildings and the Spanish Canyon shown on plan 53-B, for I am satisfied that if there is to be a bridge across Spanish Canyon to be built out of park funds it ought to be substantially as shown on plan 53-B in order to be of adequate use for the development of the park.

As expressed in my telegram of the 8th instant, I think it is very important for the future development of the park to have a bridge across the Spanish Canyon from the northeast end of Cabrillo Bridge. What is even more important I did not mention in my telegram; namely, that a bridge at this point in the case of plan 53-C seems extremely desirable, not to say essential, in order to provide the reasonably direct and nearly level approach from Date Street entrance to the permanent buildings and to the

main group of Exposition buildings during the Exposition. I am confident that nearly every one would feel the route on plan 53-C from Date Street entrance to Plaza Musica to be unreasonably and awkwardly indirect and to anyone thinking of it as a matter of planning it would be sure to appear to be a case of bad planning for which I should be very sorry to be held responsible. I am satisfied that a bridge across the Spanish Canyon is needed in any case. Just where it should be located will depend upon whether or not the dam is built as shown on plan 53-C. But to find the money for it is going to be a somewhat difficult problem. The only easy solution at present appears to be to reduce the park appropriation for permanent buildings sufficiently to provide for the two bridges.

Date Street Entrance. Mr. Dawson has worked up a sketch for a rectangular plaza running north and south at the Date Street entrance which has considerable merit but it struck me that it was the sort of thing which might be foregone in the effort to keep down the cost of construction and that my sketch for the approach to Cabrillo bridge as shown on the plans 53-B and 53-C would better be used for the purpose of a preliminary estimate. A

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minor modification which seems to be desirable is to provide a more adequate space for turning automobiles outside of the Cabrillo bridge gates.

As indicated in my telegram, I think it is very important to have the drive south of the permanent buildings extended to the proposed Spanish Canyon bridge. It should not be blocked as shown on plan 53-0 by a temporary building. There would be no great difficulty I imagine in dividing the building which is in the way into two buildings which might be connected by colonnades or arches if desired.

On plan 53-0 the building marked "Foreign Liberal Arts" is undesirably long along the arcade. As the floor of the arcade is to have a grade of 3.3 per cent a building 380 feet long would be excessively high out of ground at the south end if the floor at the north end is one step above the ground.

As indicated in my telegram, the proper development of park drives which will be required after the Exposition necessitates a cross drive south of the Administration Building to a connection with the existing drive down to 18th Street.

The change made by Mr. Dawson in the drive from 12th Street to the west Circle is an improvement as re-

gards circulation. I did not adopt it on previous sketches because of the considerable expense for filling which would be involved. If we find we can afford to I think it is a good idea, as it is more convenient for through traffic and gives the new buildings near the High School more room. I anticipate that the Electric Railroad Company will prefer to have a loop north of the Children's Hospital in order to save the expense of returning to B Street by way of 18th Street entrance.

As stated in my telegram, I think Mr. Goodhue has carried the idea of having the corners of the permanent buildings descend well down the side of the Spanish Canyon to an excess. If the walls were vertical they would be 45 feet below the floor level at one place and nearly as much at some other places. As the Canyon is only <sup>75</sup>85 feet deep, I feel that this amount of wall building would be all out of proportion to the size of the Canyon and I hardly think that it would satisfy the mind of the observer as having been reasonably necessary. I think if the walls go down 20 or 25 feet, allowing for a batter, which I presume the architect will call for, the picturesque effect which he is aiming at will be adequately secured, while the landscape effect of the Canyon would, I am positive, be very much more dignified. If the Canyon were 150 to 200 feet deep, basement walls 45 feet high would not seem nearly so

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disproportionate.

I think the lake should be extended further along the drive that runs northeast from the southeast end of the dam.

I will proceed at once with a revision of plan 53-C embodying the above and such other suggestions as may occur to me.

Meanwhile it is of great importance that the Committee should negotiate with the City Government as to the idea of a dam to be paid for by the Water Department, because if any considerable opposition appears on the part of the City Government it would very likely be necessary to abandon the idea of a dam and modify the plan considerably as indicated above.

Yours truly,