Jan. 7, 1922.

Miss Julia Morgan, Architect,
1135 Merchants Exchange Bldg.,
San Francisco, California.

Dear Miss Morgan:

In accordance with your request, I have made a study of the following possibilities of additions to the building for Mr. William Randolph Hearst, Broadway at Eleventh Street, Los Angeles, California: (1) Providing a basement under first floor in the area bounded approximately by Columns 101, 103, 173 and 171; (2) The addition of two stories to the building, excepting the central tower; (3) Providing (2) is not possible, the addition of one story, excepting the central tower.

In making my study, I have necessarily had to follow plans by Mr. J. Martyn Haenke & W. J. Dodd, Architects, and to assume that the building was constructed in accordance with these plans, exepting additional height of the central tower, as pointed out to me by yourself and members of your staff. I will discuss these proposals in the order listed above.

(1). It is entirely possible to add a basement under the first floor of the area bounded by Columns 101, 103, 173 and 171 and to provide new floor framing to support the first floor of this area. This work will, necessarily, be very expensive, involving difficult shoring and underpinning to support the upper part of this part of the building during construction. Additional area under the sidewalk could be provided easily.

(2). The addition of two stories, i.e., changing the roof to third floor and adding a fourth floor and roof over all but the tower area, would render the building absolutely unsafe unless all existing columns be strengthened. To strengthen these columns, they would have to be enlarged, many of them to double their present sections. This would necessarily be a very difficult and troublesome operation, disrupting all of the building, its finish, etc. It is my understanding that such rebuilding of the entrance and business office is not to be considered.

(3) Even the addition of one story will necessitate strengthening most of the existing columns and would also necessitate disrupting the business office and vestibule. This plan would prove even more costly per unit of added space than would (2).

Should further questions concerning this study arise during the period from January 10th to 25th, while I am absent on a trip east, I would be glad if you would call my secretary and have her refer them to Mr. Henry D. Dewell, who will attend to this or similar work during my absence.

Very sincerely,

W. L. Huber

WLH:RH