

February 10, 1938.

Mr. Looz:

Nothing on the Hill except the concrete -- and not always that -- is built to resist these winter storms. The stone columns and marble standards in the gardens blow down. They need stronger iron ties and more firmly fixed bases. The lamp globes blow off. They need to screw on to the standards. The ordinary catches simply don't hold.

The windows in the houses all leak. Even the double windows leak -- and leak in rivers. The windows are simply not weather proof. They are not tight. They are summer windows and we have to contend with winter. We will have to completely reconstruct the window protection and on an entirely different basis. Each window of a double window must be heavy enough and strong enough and tight enough and scientifically designed enough to resist these storms. Then the double windows will doubly resist them.

That is the only way. There is no use in trying to compromise. Furthermore every year before winter, the windows -- and doors where exposed -- must be tested by having the fire hose played on them. There is no use trying to live in lath houses -- or bath houses.

Then there is the question of chimney tops -- and chimney places. The rain cascades down the present chimneys. Of course the hurricane just comes down these chimneys and lives with you. We must have chimneys with roofs and slits so that the rain can be kept out and the draft helped by the wind.

I will not go into every detail, but the houses must be made livable in winter -- especially as we spend the summer in Wyntoon and San Simeon is a winter residence.

Lets reconstruct on a winter basis.

Sincerely,

W. R. Hearst

