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MR. HENRY R. HOPE, BLOOMINGTON, INDIANA.

Dear Mr. Hope:

Your letter of May 25 arrived this morning and I will try to answer your questions.

We tried to build the house absolutely as designed by Frank Lloyd Wright and have been very satisfied with everything. We like the house better every day and though Mrs. Affleck thought she wanted a "Colonial" with white pillars to the roof of the second story, you would think she designed the house we have to hear her talk about it.

Harold Turner, who built our house, also built houses by WRIGHT in Palo Alto, Long Island, Philadelphia, Okemos, Michigan, Ogden Dunes, Indiana and the house for Carl Wall, Plymouth, Michigan. As he has built so many, Wright has him completely bluffed and there were no difficulties between the Turner and Wright. We could get no general contractor, so I did those things myself.

The house cost approximately \$19,000 and we had no difficulties with priorities because we had it built before the Democrats thought of that one. It would be difficult now as all hardware is solid brass and we used 14 tons of steel to support the the living room and loggia which are held up by two piers. The balconies and carport roof are of cantalever construction and also required steel.

I do not know if you saw our house, but the lot had no level ground. It is the kind of ground Wright

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specified "something no body else can do anything with". We have 2 3/10 acres with a puddle near Woodward Avenue where there formerly was a small lake. There is a total variation in level of about 30 feet.

During construction, I made Kodachrome movies (8mm) from the very start until the house was completed. These show the steel work and the heating in the floor as well as the wall construction which has no vertical studding and slopes outward at the roof. I also have about 10 Kodachrome slides of Taliesen West and a portfolio of pictures of our house which are to be in a coming all-F.L.L.W. issue of Architectural Forum, and a comparatively clean set of our plans. I had these at Michigan State College and they have been shown to classes at University of Michigan, Wayne University and recently to the classes at University Of Minnesota. If these will fit in with the plans you have for that faculty group, you are welcome to them. All that I ask is that you treat them gently and return them promptly.

The enclosed print is one I used to whip up enthusiasm in people who supplied material for our house. This was made from the perspective drawing which we received from Mr. Wright with our preliminary drawings and it looks just like the house.

When in Detroit, come to see us.

Sincerely,

Gregor S. Affleck.

May 27, 1943.

