

Mr O B Hanson - Hollywood

September 9th 1938

C. A. Rackey - *CR*

Memo - E P H James to O B Hanson  
Re NEC Chimes on Loudspeakers

As you know, I have given considerable thought lately to the subject of NBC chimes, particularly from a broadcasting or network standpoint. However, various things which I have learned about the general subject, enable me to make definite suggestions in connection with Mr James' requirements.

In the first place, an outdoor chimes system should be entirely separate from any broadcasting apparatus. Secondly, a multiple reed type of chime such as the Kangertons should not be considered. We should use instead, the single reed chime arrangements as developed by RCA, which are superior in every way except in the matter of rapid damping of the sustained tones. However, that is no disadvantage in our case since I agree with Mr James that the sustained notes in the case of outdoor chimes will be more pleasing.

The single reed chimes, various reliable striker mechanisms, amplifiers, and loudspeakers are all available as standard factory made equipment. They can be ordered as such and installed with a minimum of confusion and delay and will not involve our broadcasting circuits in any way. An average complete installation giving the same sound power output as the one in the Plaza can be installed almost anywhere for between \$700 and \$800. (Equipment space rental if necessary is not included). For locations atop buildings or any other cases where greater sound power is required, it can be obtained by additional amplification and larger loudspeakers, involving an extra expenditure varying according to the amount of power required.

Within a few weeks, RCA have promised to provide me with a sample of their chimes reeds which I will arrange for demonstration. In the meantime, I am answering all inquiries about this matter by requesting that they wait until we obtain your decision in this matter.

cc - Mr G McElrath ✓  
Mr E P H James

C. A. Rackey