

January 25 1939

Stamps

Mr Merle Crowell
Rockefeller Center Inc
20 Rockefeller Plaza
New York New York

Dear Merle:

As you know, we are holding down the power on the loudspeaker through which the chimes are heard from behind the clock over the Savings Bank entrance of the International Building. This is to avoid disturbing the clerical force in the bank and surrounding offices. As a result, they are not heard clearly beyond the immediate vicinity of the Plaza, and of course do not begin to compare in volume with the bells from St Patrick's Cathedral or St Thomas' Church.

We have been thinking of ways to increase the range of these chimes without causing the slightest annoyance to nearby office workers, and it has been suggested that, if agreeable to the management of Rockefeller Center, we might achieve this object by mounting a loudspeaker on the roof of the British Empire Building or the French Building, on the side nearest to the Cascades.

The idea would be to have this loudspeaker pointing in the direction of Fifth Avenue, and since it would be synchronized exactly with the chimes now ringing from behind the clock, the effect would be merely to amplify the sound so that it would be audible to passers-by on Fifth Avenue, without greatly increasing the volume of sound in the Plaza or its immediate surroundings.

I believe that we have demonstrated that these chimes add to the features of interest and convenience of Rockefeller Center, without the slightest offense to anyone, and we should be most appreciative of the full approval of the management in our project to extend its effectiveness in the direction of Fifth Avenue.

With best regards, I am

Sincerely yours,