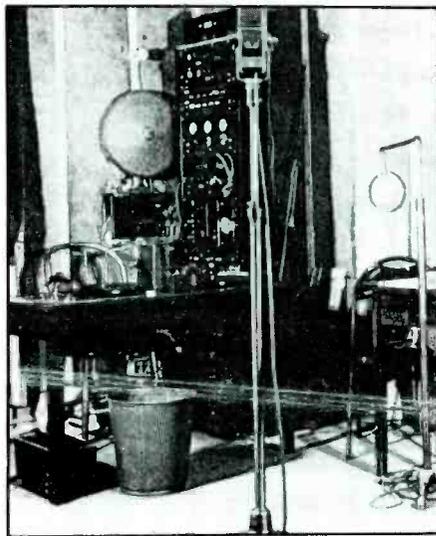


A combo QSL card from CMTC stations 2XBB/2CXL.



An old photo of the WHA studios, probably mid-to-late 1930's.

Today, WHA operates with 5 kW on 970 kHz. Since 1958, a historical marker has been in place on the University of Wisconsin's Madison campus that proclaims WHA as "The Oldest Station in the Nation." Many historians agree with this claim, and we thank Ernie Brown, of Luck, WI for bringing this to our attention.

### You Can't Wynn

Harold Winard, KB2M, of Wharton, NJ wrote to ask if I could shed any light on the derivation of the callsign of station WNEW (1130 kHz) in New York City. He says that on a recent WNEW program, a listener who was interviewed had said that WNEW stood for "Network Ed Wynn," since comedian Ed Wynn was a major factor in first putting WNEW on the air in 1934.

WNEW, itself, claims that they believe the callsign was used because it was the first new station to come on the air in New York since 1928. Winard suspects that the truth may lie elsewhere. WNEW, he notes, grew out of the merging of two Newark, NJ stations, WODA (Paterson) and WAAM (Newark). He feels that the new may, in fact, relate to Newark.

It's true that WNEW was the outcome of WODA and WAAM, two time-share stations. Both used 1250 kHz, and when they became WNEW (on 1250 kHz), the station's city of license was Newark. There may

well be something to this theory, although the Ed Wynn tie-in story has been popular for a long time.

Interestingly, at the time WODA and WAAM were in the process of formalizing their merger, the word was that the newly formed station would be in New York City and using the callsign WBO. If readers have any thought on the derivation of WNEW's callsign, please step forward.

### Vox Populi

Norman P. Maine, Bristol, NH wrote to say that unless I have an identical double, he spotted me at the Bristol Diner recently. Must have been my double. And, thanks for those antique CB QSL cards, Norman. I've passed them along to the magazine's CB column.

From Norfolk, VA we heard from Charles R. Foxx, Jr., of the Old Dominion DX Association, who says that he's the "Southern Regional Coordinator of the Alice Brannigan Fan Club of North America, Inc." He sent along a diamond-shaped window sign being distributed to members of his group. It reads, "We Want To See The Real Alice Brannigan!" I tried to hang it in the window of my little imported car and I couldn't see the real road—but I do appreciate the sentiment, anyway.

Many readers wrote in to chide me for not having ever heard of the song *One Meat Ball*, which I mentioned a few months ago in connection with the NBC chimes. It came out during the early 1940's and was recorded by Josh White. What can I say? Josh



This bright yellow car-window sign arrived from a reader in Virginia.

White's touching music will live for a long time in the hearts of all who hear it, and I'm sure that if I ever hear *One Meat Ball*, it will stick with me.

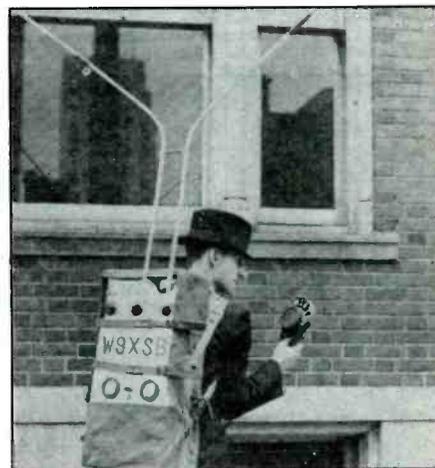
Additional information on John Kluge, whom I mentioned last November as being one of the ex-GI founders of station WGAY, right after WWII. I might have pointed out that John Kluge parlayed his WGAY expertise to the point where he became the head of Metromedia. *Forbes* magazine lists him as a billionaire! Thanks to H.S. Killgore, of station KMPG in Hollister, CA for pointing this out. Reader Killgore recalls when, as a Collins Radio Co. employee just after WWII, he sold Kluge and his partner their first broadcast equipment for WGAY after they couldn't get credit anywhere else. Killgore had to go to bat with Collins in order to get them to finally go ahead and let WGAY have the transmitter. Now that Kluge is the second richest man in America, it looks as if Collins Radio made a good bet in extending WGAY credit. WGAY is now called WNTR.

### A Remote Idea

As frequencies above 30 MHz began to come into their own for two-way radio in the



First announcements of WNEW, New York. The station's 424-ft. tower was in Wayne, NJ. Although WNEW now runs 50 kW on 1130 kHz, in 1934, it operated on 1250 kHz with 2.5 kW (1 kW nights). Station trivia: two of the best known WNEW personalities of the 1940's and 1950's were hams. Martin ("Make Believe Ballroom") Block was W2MGE, and "Dee" Finch (of "Klavan and Finch") was W2SJH.



W9XSB was portable, it was true. But you had to be built like Hulk Hogan to walk more than ten paces with it on your back.