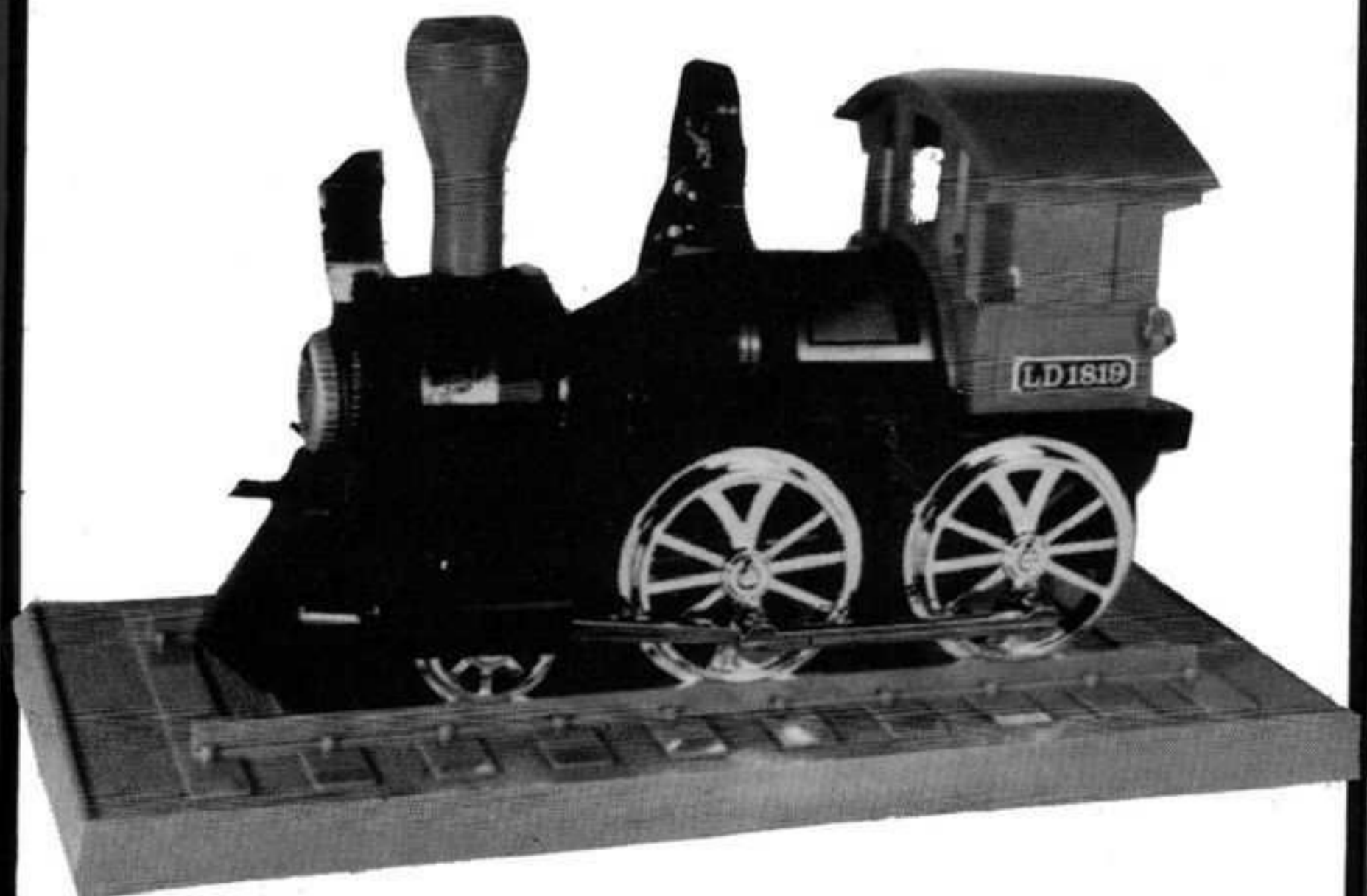


**THE**

VOL. XIII No. 5  
No. 77 1986

**MINIATURE  
BOTTLE  
COLLECTOR**

FROM JAPAN



# BARGAINS FROM JON-SOL ALL PRICES DRASTICALLY REDUCED EMPTY BOTTLES

## SKI COUNTRY

Barrel Racer	F	25
Black Lab w/Milrd.	F	80
Black Lab w/Phant.	F	60
Blue Jay	F	40
Bobcat	F	35
Bob Cratchit	F	30
Buffalo Stampede	F	22
Cave Man	F	15
Chicadee	F	40
Chukar Partridge	F	32
Ducks Unlimited		
Bufflehead D.U.	F	50
Pintail D.U.	F	75
Fox & Butterfly	F	60
Great Spirit	F	65
Gyrfalcon	F	35
Harpy Eagle	F	87
Indian Chief #1	F	85
Kangaroo	F	20
Landlocked Salmon	F	25
Ivry-Blld.Wdpkr.	F	30
Meadowlark	F	22
Male Merganser	F	35
Mountain Sheep	F	35
Osprey	F	125
Osprey Family (2)	F	85
Fghtng. Pheasant	F	68
Polar Bear	F	50
Prairie Falcon	F	42
Red Fox on Log	F	90
Rainbow Dancer	F	35
Red Wngd. Blkbrd.	F	30
River Otter	F	30
Saw Whet Owl	F	35
Scrooge	F	25
Stone Sheep	F	30
Ski Team, U.S.	F	15
White Falcon	F	50
Wild Turkey	F	100
Wolf Dancer	F	45
Wyoming Bronco	F	25
CIRCUS-Tom Thumb	F	10
Ringmaster	F	10
Screech Owl	GAL	200
Peregrine Falcon	GAL	120
Fghtng. Pheasant	H/G	100
Pintail Duck	H/G	100
Red Fox on Log	1.75L	85
Am. Widgeon	1.75L	65
Barred Owl Plaque	M	25
Basset Hound	M	20
Black Lab w/Mallard	M	15
Black Lab w/Phant.	M	15
Bob Cratchit	M	15
Bull Rider	M	15
Cave Man	M	10
Chukar Partridge	M	15
D.U. Bufflehead	M	25
Wood Duck	M	15

Gamecock (Survivor)	M	\$15
Great Spirit	M	15
Gyrfalcon	M	20
Indian Chief #1	M	12
Indian Chief #2	M	12
Kangaroo	M	20
Landlocked Salmon	M	10
Owl, Great Gray	M	20
Lookout Indian	M	15
Ma Cratchit	M	15
Male King Eider	M	20
Male Merganser	M	19
Mt. Goat Family	M	20
Moose	M	25

Osprey Family (2)	M	35
Pelican	M	20
Penguin Family	M	15
Peregrine Falcon	M	15
Pheasant (Original)	M	45
Phoenix Bird	M	20
Polar Bear	M	15
Prairie Falcon	M	15
Red Wngd. Blkbrd.	M	15
Saw Whet Owl	M	20
Scrooge	M	15

Ski Team, U.S.	M	8
White Falcon	M	25
CIRCUS-P.T. Barnum	M	15

## CYRUS NOBLE

Blacksmith	F	37
Burro	F	37
Landlady	F	10
Mine	F	10
Music Man	F	10
California Seal	F	15
Mt. Lion & Cubs	F	50
Oklahoma Dancers	F	15
Olympic Skater	F	20
Carousel Lion	F	20
Carousel Organ	F	20
Carousel Tiger	F	20
Buffalo & Calf	H/G	55
Blacksmith	M	10
Gambler	M	10
Landlady	M	10
Mine	M	10
Snowshoe Thompson	M	10
Walrus Family	M	10

## FAMOUS FIRST

Dino Ferrari	200ML	25
Fireman #1	500ML	20
Baby Panda	750ML	40

## GRENADIER

Kings African	F	15
3rd New York	F	25
Napoleon	F	10
Pancho/Fierro	F	20
Father's Gift	F	10
Frosty Snowman	F	15
Stonewall Jackson	F	25
Teddy Roosevelt	F	22
Texas Ranger	F	22
Pancho on Horse	H/G	75
Jeanne D'Arc	T	60
Pancho Standing	M	10
R. E. Lee	M	10
Stonewall Jackson	M	10
Father Serra	M	10

Frosty Snowman	M	\$10
Father's Gift	M	10
ASSA-1st VA Vlntr.	M	15
Mosby's Rngre.	M	15
6th Misc.Reg.	M	15

## HOFFMAN

Bear & Cub	F	35
Jaguar	F	27
Lion & Armadillo	F	25
Mt. Goat & Puma	F	55
Hooded Merganser	F	22
Swan	F	22
Turkeys(Pr.)	200ML	15
Alfy Afghan, Billy	M	8
Boxer, Fanny Fox	EA.	
Percy Poodle	M	8
Scotty Terrier	M	8
Terry Terrier	M	8
Suzy Siamese	M	8
Tilly Shorthair	M	8
Tom Cat	M	8
Mr. Dentist	F	30
Organ Player	F	12
TN Volunteers	F	17
MO Tigers	F	17
Auburn Tigers	F	17
KS State Wildcats	F	17

## MC CORMICK

Elvis #2 Pink	F	30
Elvis Silver	F	85
Designer Elvis #1	F	150
Bald Eagle	F	67
Stephen Austin	F	20
Alex. C. Bell	F	15
Geo. Wngtn. Carver	F	20
Louis Armstrong	F	20
Tom T. Hail	F	25
J.R. Ewing	F	25
Sir Lancelot	F	15
Huckleberry Finn	F	15
Tom Sawyer	F	15
Calamity Jane	F	25
Ben Franklin	F	12
Patrick Henry	F	12
Jupiter Locmtv.	F	25
U.S. Marshall	F	20
Pony Express	F	20
Gazak Ike	F	20
Packard (Cream)	F	35
John Hancock	M	10
Patrick Henry	M	10
Thomas Jefferson	M	10
Paul Revere	M	30
Betsy Ross	M	30
Geo. Washington	M	30
Ben Franklin	M	15
Jupiter Train Set	M	18
(4 Piece Set)		
Canada Goose, Wood	M	15
Duck, Pheasant & Gambel's Quail	EA.	
Chas. A. Lindbergh	M	10
Pony Express	M	10

## MICHTER'S

Peace Candle	F	20
George Washington	F	15
Goddess Selket	1.75L	50
King Tut	M	10

## JON-SOL

Baby Robin, Blue	M	\$ 5
Jay & B.H. Wdpkr.	EA.	

## BENEAGLES

White Chess King	M	10
White Chess Queen	M	10

## C'S ART

Charolais Bull	F	22
Skunk or Chipmunk	M	15
Afghan or Setter	M	10

## WILLETT

Surface Miner	F	17
Tiger #1	F	25
Wildcat #2	F	25
Trucker	F	20
Ky. Colonel	P	10
Barrel	H/G	10

## POTTER

Goldpanner	F	20
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## DAVISS

'81 HI Am. Legion	F	22
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## W TURKEY

'84 #2 w/Raccoon	F	50
#3 on Wing	M	10
#4 w/Poult	M	10

## JIM BEAM

Coal Tender	F	20
(Not a Bottie)		
Sturgeon	F	15

## BROOKS

1978 Corvette	F	35
(Indy Pace Car)		
'79 Snowy Owl	F	25
Snow Egret	P	18
Whooping Crane		15

## COMMON

Oktoberfest	F	40
w/Music Box		
Yankee Doodle	F	20
w/Music Box		
Fireman #3	F	25
(Valiant Volunt.)		
Modern Fireman #1	F	25
Modern Fireman #4	F	25

## LIONSTONE

#5 Fireman	F	15
(60th Anniv.)		

## A.S.I.

1909 Stanley Star	F	25
(Green)		
1911 Stanley Star	F	32
(Black)		

NOTE!!! These specials do not appear elsewhere on the list, but you will find additional bottles of these brands elsewhere.

## MONTAGUE'S BOTTLE GUIDE

VOL. III	Regular Binding	\$14.95	PLUS \$1.50 UPS.
	Plastic Ring Binding	16.45	" " "

ALL PRICES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT NOTICE.

WHEN QUANTITIES ON "BARGAIN BOTTLES" ARE SUFFICIENTLY REDUCED THEY WILL BE RETURNED TO REGULAR PRICE WITHOUT NOTICE.

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Midwest Mini Bottle Collectors'

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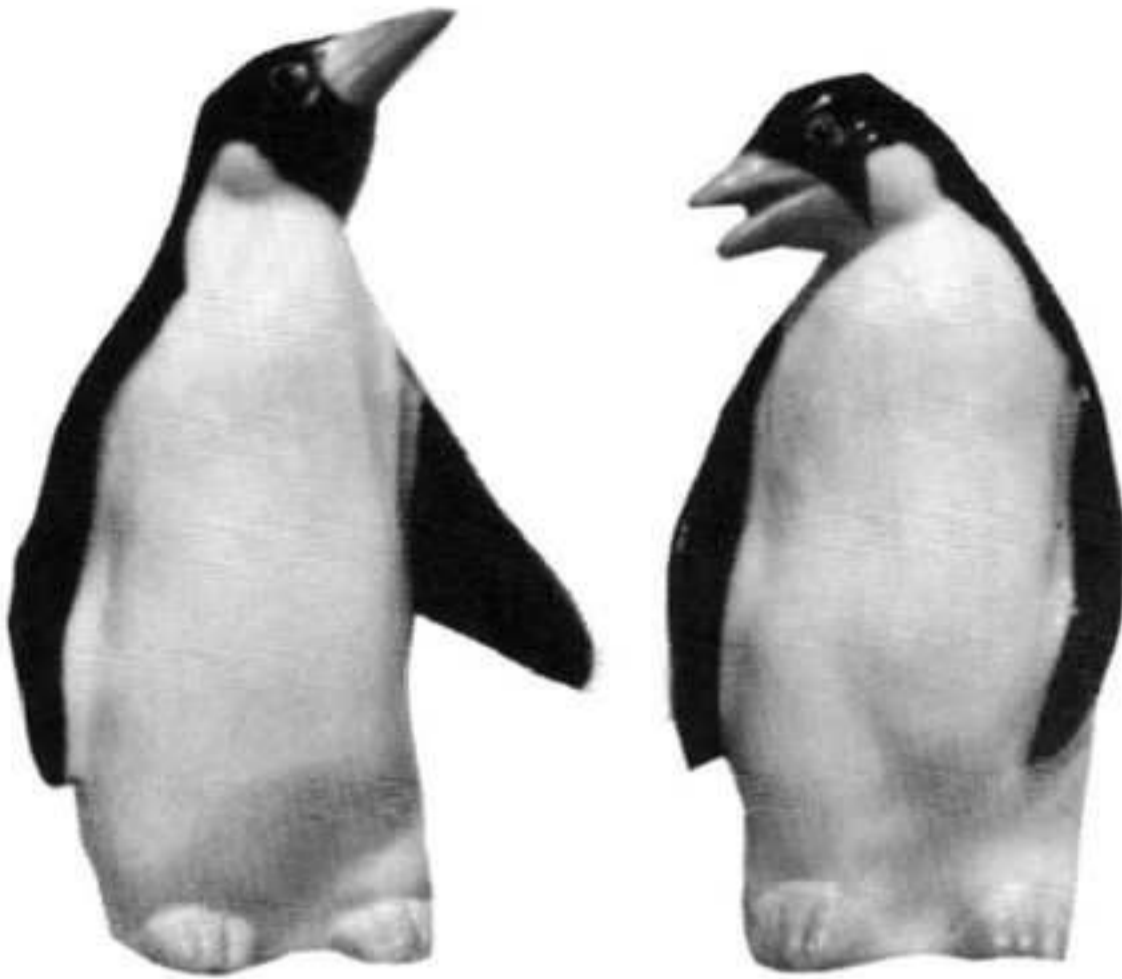
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# CHIISAI BIN

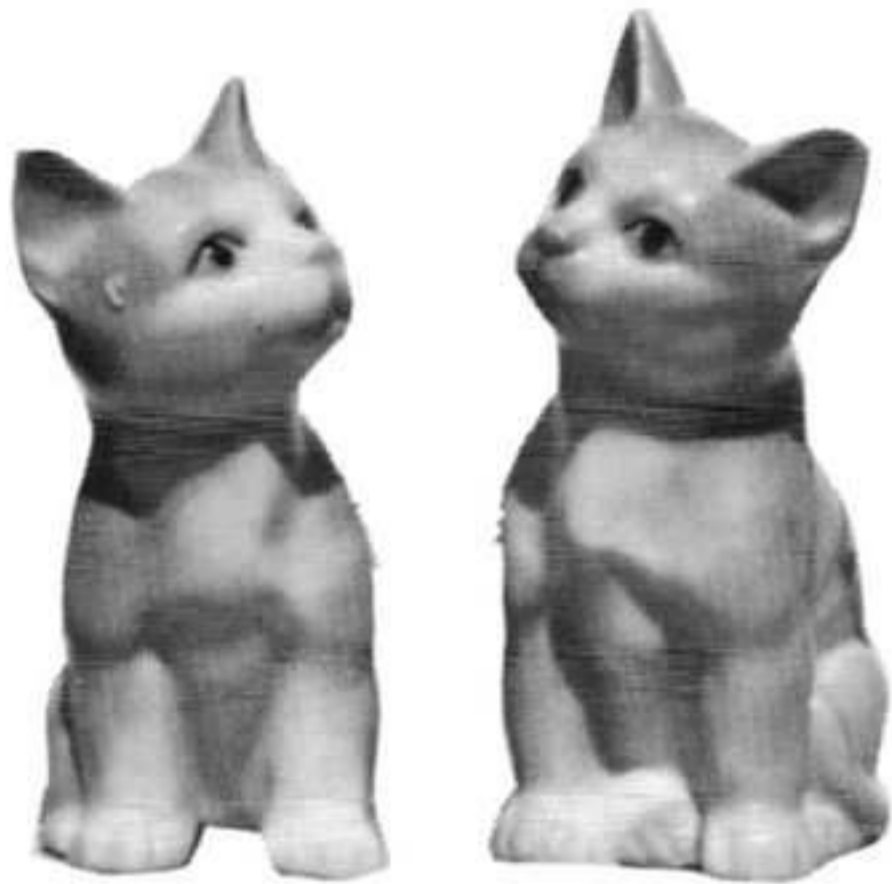


## CATS

\$14.95 per pair

## PENGUINS

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ZIP \_\_\_\_\_ TELEPHONE \_\_\_\_\_

\$1 Postage & handling per bottle

## CHIISAI BIN

P.O. Box 1900

Garden Grove, California 92642

# Let's Talk

It's the end of the year...time for additions and corrections. First we'll do the additions.

Last time I showed four Japanese sake bottles and wondered what the labels represented. Taizo Shiratsuchi wrote so that all of us would know. It seems there is a set of 48 bottles and the labels are Japanese cards. The Japanese syllabary (Japanese Alphabet --- The Iroha) has 48 letters. Each letter is in a circle on the labels. There is a picture and a short sentence about sake which uses this letter as the first letter in its name.

In the corrections, Taizo also wrote me the following which all of you will find quite unbelievable. Suffice it to say, when I have an error, I don't just fiddle around! I'll quote so I don't goof again. "In my article From Japan, there is an error. Royal Brackla's price is six hundred thousand yen (¥ 600,000). That is US \$4,000. It is a 60 year old malt, 60 year commemoration, 60 bottles were made and 60 man-yen (a Japanese unit of money which means six hundred thousand or 60 ten thousands). In short, it is a parade of 60's!" Now, I don't know about the rest of you...but I'll take two...one for my collection and one to keep as a trader. Right?

Just so you don't think we only do articles on whisk(e)y, Jim Triffon is back with the first of three articles on tequila. My personal favorite is next time when he gets to all the worm bottles. We also have a collector from Canada to present to you this time and also a look at the new Usquaebach miniature crystal bottle.

Enjoy the issue, have a wonderful holiday season and we'll see you in '87! --DMS--

THE

Vol. XIII No. 5  
No. 77 1986

# MINIATURE BOTTLE COLLECTOR

Editor/Publisher DAVID M. SPAID

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## Our Cover

The piece on the cover this time is quite a special one which was introduced a few months ago in Japan. This engine is one of a set of six pieces introduced by Kinoshita Shoji, Ltd. to add to the gift market for collectors. The piece cleverly makes use of a bottle of Dorville Brandy which Kinoshita Shoji imports. Some of the other pieces will appear in an article in either issue #78 or #79.

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This unique collection of 11 ceramic miniatures is brought to you by Port Nicholson Miniature Bottle Club. These are the only ceramic miniatures ever produced in New Zealand and were originally given away to passengers flying First Class with Air New Zealand. And First Class they are. Less than a dozen complete sets are known to be in existence. We have ordered 100 sets for sale to discerning collectors.



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SET OF ELEVEN



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The Old Forge  
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- EACH MINIATURE contains 50ml of Port Nicholson Scotch or can be supplied empty on request.
- THE COMPETITION WINNER may fly either Auckland, New Zealand to Los Angeles (or LA/NZ) or London to Los Angeles.
- THE COMPETITION is a simple draw but note that under New Zealand law it is open to members of Port Nicholson Miniature Bottle Club only.
- A CLUB MEMBERSHIP FEE may be forwarded with your order. (NZ\$10 in New Zealand, US\$9 USA/Canada, £7 UK & Europe)
- THE COMPETITION CLOSES 31st March 1987 and the winner will be notified in April.
- A DEPOSIT of NZ\$50 or US\$25 must accompany your order; you will be invoiced for the balance plus postage, packing and insurance in late March prior to despatch of the bottles.
- CHEQUES or bank drafts are to be payable to Port Nicholson Miniature Bottle Club and are to be sent to P.O. Box 384, Wellington, New Zealand.

# WHAT'S NEW

## Old, Odd, or Unusual

by Jim Triffon

Zapata  
El Toro (3)



### THE MEXICAN CONNECTION

#### PART I

Tequila has become fashionable, and from an increasingly steady sales base, it has emerged as one of the industry's hottest sellers. Bourbon and Scotch drinkers and wine-sippers practically all over the world--if not completely changing their drinking habits--are at least enthusiastically welcoming the variety and excitement of Mexico's rousing export.

All tequila is made from the blue agave grown in a legally delimited area, and is much rarer and more expensive than the common agave used

for mezcal. After distillation, "white" or "silver" tequila is bottled without aging. A small percentage of this tequila is put into oak barrels and stays for about six months. This is known as "reposada" and usually has caramel color added to it. This level makes up most of what we call "gold" in America. A very small amount of tequila is aged further for one to four years and is called "anejo".

Many tequila aficionados when asked say that their drink symbolizes a sense of naturalness, an aura of mystery and even disassociation with the establishment. Many tequila drinkers would still define it as fermented cactus juice, or call it, pulque or mezcal, two other



native Mexican drinks. The confusion is understandable; pulque, mezcal and tequila are the products of the same plant, the agave. There are more than 400 known species of the agave, and pulque, mezcal, and tequila are each derived from a different species.

In Mexico the agave plant is often called the maguey, the generic name ascribed by Spanish explorers. Early settlers in the U.S. Southwest termed some species of agave the century plant, in the mistaken idea that the plant bloomed once every 100 years. In truth, most agaves bloom between eight and twenty-five years, depending on the species. Pulque producing agaves take ten to twelve years to flower. The species producing mezcal and te-

quila take between eight and twelve years. Mezcal can be distilled from a number of agave species, but only one produces true tequila.

Most botanists, in some controversy include the agave, characterized by spiny-margined leaves and flowers in tall, spreading panicles, in the Amaryllidaceae family. The single tequila agave plant, specie Tequilana Weber, blue variety, has long narrow, sword-like leaves and a bluish color, thus its name, the blue agave. For the ancient Indian civilizations, and the Spanish explorers, the plant's leaves were a source of food, cloth, needles, thread, paper and implements of torture.

(to be continued in #78)



Jose Cuervo "La Rojena"  
El Caballito  
Cuervos Especial



Cazadores  
Zapata (round)  
El Cuate  
Gallito

Viuda de Martinez  
Santa Cruz  
Eucario Gonzalez  
Sin Rival



# MINI WORLD



USQUAEBACH was the first Scotch Whisky available in Scottish crystal in the 750ml size, and the first spirit available in the 200ml crystal. Now Twelve Stone Flagon, Ltd. is proud to announce that Usquaebach will be available in a 50ml miniature crystal decanter - another first for Usquaebach. The 50ml crystal decanter will be available in a black suede box with silver lettering and a cream satin interior. It will also have a silver chain similar to those of the 750ml and 200ml

crystal. The 50ml crystal decanter was initially designed for the duty-free and, more specifically, the Japanese traveler, who is very interested in unique, specialty gift items. Unfortunately, there will only be 1000 units available annually. The 50ml crystal decanter will also be a unique item for miniature and crystal collectors, as well as for someone looking for that special gift. The approximate cost will be \$40-45.

# A Story Behind Every Label

by Joe Levesque



No alcoholic beverage has been less understood than ABSINTHE. It was the drink par excellence for well over a century (1792-1915). It was used as medicine by the sick, as an inebriant by the drunks, and as the snobbish drink of the elite. The drinking of ABSINTHE developed into a whole ritual and an industry of accessories was built around it. Special glasses, carafes and spoons were designed and a whole plethora of Absinthe paraphenalia came into existence. It would make some of the "Head Shops" of today look sick.

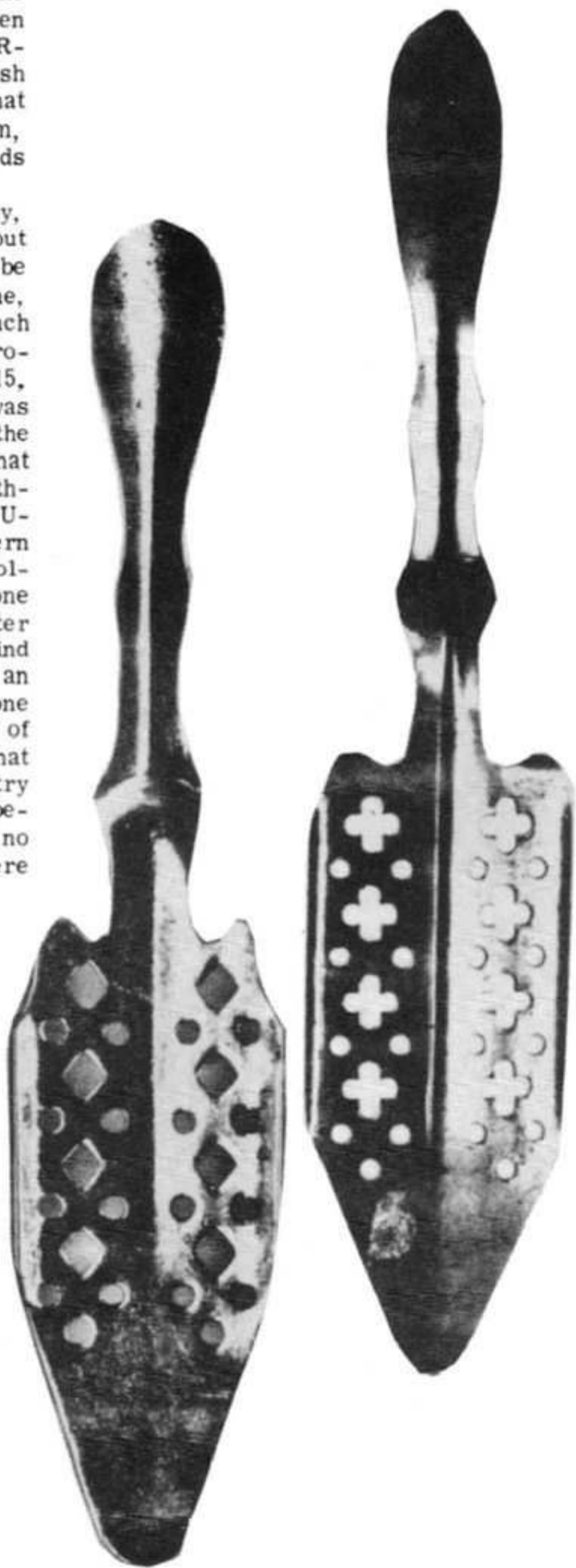
The classic Absinthe drink was the "Absinthe Drip", which required a special two-piece glass. A jigger of Absinthe was poured into the glass,

then a cube of sugar placed over the drip hole of the upper section, which was then packed with cracked ice. Cold water was added to fill the dripper. Some drinkers preferred the "Absinthe Spoon" which had holes in it and served the same purpose as the Glass Drip.

Invented in Switzerland in 1792 by "Docteur Ordinaire", Absinthe was no ordinary drink. It was made from aromatic plants and produced as an elixir for the sick. It was sold only in apothecaries (pharmacies) and registered at 136 proof. However, Docteur Ordinaire died the following year, some say a victim of his medicine. His mistress, undercutting the pharmacies, began selling the liqueur in her neighborhood. One of her best customers,

a certain Major Dubied purchased the recipe and all rights to it, and then with his son-in-law, Henri-Louis PERNOD, turned it into the most snobbish liqueur the world has ever seen. That was the start of the PERNOD firm, still one of the best known liquor brands on the continent.

In the early years of this century, the public had second thoughts about ABSINTHE. It was supposed to be wicked, to drive the drinker insane, and to have killed many. The French government finally prohibited the production and sale of Absinthe in 1915, on the pretext that vital alcohol was needed for making gunpowder in the war effort (WWI) and also for fear that the use of Absinthe decreased the birth-rate by making men impotent. The United States and all the major western countries banned Absinthe in the following decades. Spain was the last one to forbid it a few years ago. After much research and travel, I cannot find one single country which produces an Absinthe miniature today. Only one country still allows the production of Absinthe in full litre bottles, and that is Andorra. This very small country is located high in the Pyrenees, between France and Spain. There are no airports, and the only way to get there



is by car, a three hour drive through dangerous mountain curves. It is unsafe to drive up there after November 1st till May 15th.

I had the good fortune to be invited by an Andorran family one evening last year and Absinthe was served as an aperitif before dinner. About 1/2 inch of Absinthe was poured in a glass, then cold water added and stirred. The ratio was about 5 water to 1 Absinthe. As it was mixed, it changed color, becoming streaked, then milky, and finally

a cloudy opalescent color. It had a licorice taste and it was intriguing to look at and to drink. One drink was enough.

The Absinthe miniatures shown here were all produced in Portugal, Spain or Andorra. They are part of history, and no doubt, there are many stories behind each one of these labels.

--Joseph Levesque--  
The Cognac Newsletter  
& Mail Auction



# Wild Turkey

The last of the twelve miniature Wild Turkey ceramics in the Action Series is now going into release. This is the Wild Turkey and Skunks. Next year there will only be two bottles and those will be issued in May and November. The bottles will stand by themselves but will also fit together to form a complete tableau. You'll see them here first!



"Wild Turkey and Skunks." The last Action Series design.

# Whiskey Heritage

by

GEORGE JINKENS

This time I will start with a mint pre-prohibition, OLD KENTUCKY, which was bottled by the "Old Kentucky Distilling Co. Louisville Kr." As the story was told, two of these bottles were found at an antique show and I was lucky enough to get one of them. The Old Kentucky distillery also made such minis as Kentucky Dew and Woodbury. It's hard enough to find pre-pro whiskeys and a real joy when you get them in this condition.





Next is KING VICTOR, bottled for "Victor Products Co., Milwaukee, Wisconsin." This is one of the many bottles I got out of the Chic Vinu collection I was fortunate enough to purchase this year. The bottle itself is a hip-flask and they seem to be scarce... as are all good whiskeys.

Last we have MEADVILLE Straight Rye Whiskey. This bottle was distilled by The Frankfort Distillery Inc. I have several other bottles from this company. This particular one though is a favorite rye partially because the label is so beautiful in color. At the center of the label is a logo and the word Purvo. If any of you happen to know what this means, I'd certainly appreciate it if you'd write to let me know.

--G. A. J.--



# MEET THE COLLECTOR:



For our collector this issue we leave the United States and travel up to our northern neighbor, Canada. There, in the Province of Quebec and the city of Montreal, we find Mr. Roger Clément. As you can easily see from the photos, Mr. Clément is not a specialized collector but enjoys both straight glass and figurals alike.

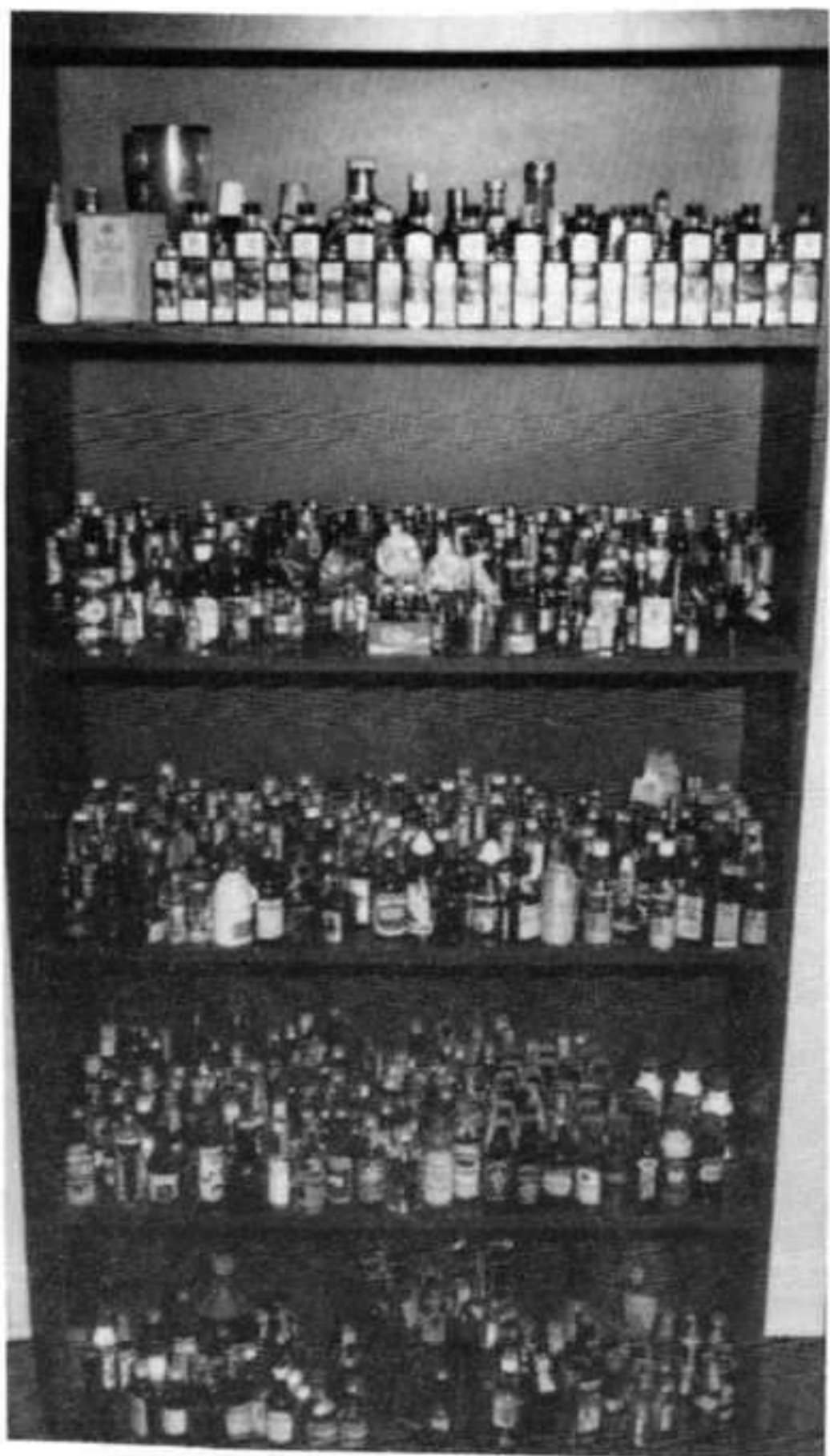
Currently Mr. Clément has over 3,500 bottles in his collection and they are all miniatures. He enjoys belong-

ing to the various organizations which bring us many of the bottles such as the Ski Country Club, Hoffman, Wild Turkey, McCormick, etc. However, as he states in a letter to us, the most important club to him is his local Montreal Mini Barman. It meets four times a year and at the meetings there are often thousands of bottles on display for swap and sale so he has been able to enlarge his collection quarterly! Since as he explains there are some

300 members in the club, he is never at a loss for some bottle-talking companionship.

We thank you Mr. Clement for sharing your collection with us. He would love to hear from other collectors and lists himself as collecting "everything he likes". You can contact him at:

15 Leslie Gault, Apt. 3  
Montreal, Quebec  
Canada H3L 1P6  
(514) 331-1057



# SCOTCH For The Connoisseur

by Roy Holden

In this article I am featuring four miniature scotch from England, and two scotch from Wales, yes, Wales! But...only just.

All these miniatures were "done" by the different firms for their general wine, spirit, and beer promotions so

you could say they are "brewery" bottles again. Our first bottle is one I promised you last time, it's Quellyn Roberts of Chester V. O. L. 20, and like Old Crypt featured in number 75, it is extremely hard to find today.



Quelley Roberts even today have many off-sales shops in the area of Cheshire but the three bottles they had of miniature scotch will not be found at any of them. I will feature their other bottle (The Crypt) some other time for you.

"V" is a group we all like to collect and is a change from the many Vat 69's we all have. The only similarity is the shape. I'll keep in the Chester area for our next two bottles. Just on the Welsh and English border, the town of Wrexham lies some twelve miles from Chester. Browns had a large retail outlet in Wines and Spirits in the center of Wrexham and the bottles featured were two of many of their own brands, not just scotch but rum, gin, etc.

As you can see, they used the full name of their business for our second bottle, G. F. & A. Brown & Son. Their rum miniature was identical except for the word "rum". Priority was produced in the 1960's and is in the brown flask, characteristic of the period. Both bottles are rarely seen today.

We move to my own county of Lancashire for our fourth bottle, a real brewery bottle called Boddingtons. The bottle shape is identical to Addisons and Yates large (to say the least) flask. As with both the above companies, there were gins, rums, brandies, etc. all called Boddingtons. Today Boddingtons still exists and is one of only a few of the independent breweries to still be in business in the U. K.



Our last two bottles are from southern England, the counties of Somerset and Hampshire. Curious Old Monastos is a real beauty and John Burnett & Co. put out many bottles and flagons some twenty years ago. Their flagon of the same name has an identical label to the bottle and both are difficult to track down today. I will feature some of their flagons again in future articles for I was thanked by many collectors for the one and only article I did on flagons last year.

George Peters & Co. of Portsmouth, London and Southampton like our four previous companies also did a full range of wines and spirits in miniature. Crown Seal is just one of their brands of miniature scotch both in bottle form and flagon. Again I will feature others in future articles. All are hard to find today.

Well, the next article will find us in anticipation of the spring again. Hope these six bottles have enlivened your winter night! --R. H. --



# A Visit To Boozeville

by Lloyd McLeod



Halloween has passed but some of the spooks are still around!

Boozeville has plenty of cats prowling the alleys. Some of the merchants set out a bowl of milk for them as they do keep the mice population down.

The cats shown here are Giveaway bottles. The one standing on all four feet is bright orange in color but has white and green eyes with black pupils. His tail is tipped white and the base of the bottle is green. He is 5 1/2 inches tall and has a well stamped crown mark but the numbers are not readable.

The other cat is black with some red trim on his eyes, nose and mouth. He smokes a cigar that is tipped with gold. This one is 4 1/2 inches tall, made in Germany and yet is not a Schaefer and Vater. This particular cat is shown in a 1912 sales catalog with other bottles. It was reprinted in a 1972 issue of The Antique Journal and written up by a Sandra Stout.

Most of the Giveaways have names with double meanings. I wonder if when the saloon keeper handed these out with a shot of whiskey in them if he didn't say, "Here's a nip... a little cat nip."

--L. M. --



# FROM JAPAN

by TAIZO SHIRATSUCHI



There are some 100ml bottles from Suntory Ltd. These bottles show the great efforts of the whisky distillers in Japan, where the consumption of whisky has been going down for the past two years.

The first is a group of three Suntory Old which were seen on the cover of the last issue. It is said that Japanese style dishes originally agree with Japanese Sake; however, the people drink many kinds of liquor in the Japanese restaurant. Whisky, brandy, beer and

shochu (Japanese white spirits) are all popular.

Suntory Ltd., the biggest distiller in Japan, try to increase their market share of whisky in Japanese restaurants, so they have issued Suntory Old with new labels. These are drawn with India ink (Sumi-picture) and show a suitably Japanese style dish. The sliced raw sea bream (sashimi) and broil ayu (Japanese river fish) with salt are the most noted Japanese style dishes.



The next two are only sample bottles, not facsimiles. They, Ageing 15 Blended and Pure Malt 8, form a link in the chain of the market strategy so that they keep a rich assortment of goods in their whisky line. These bottles were distributed to the restaurants for sample directly. The standard size of Ageing 15 is sloping shoulders square bottle and Pure Malt is oval.

By the way, the Suntory Ltd. put ten new brands (or more) of whisky on the market during the last fifteen months. The sales figures of whisky are now being restored with high-grade ones as the strength. --T. S.--



# melo's minis

by Mike Olson



In this article I would like to feature nine bottles by Brown-Forman along with two seldom seen Glenmore Products. Brown-Forman at Louisville, Kentucky, was founded in 1870 and have produced a great variety of miniatures, including pre-prohibition bottles. One of their series, the felt labeled "Railroad" bottles, are among the most sought after bottles in mini collecting.

The first bottle is Old Forester Whiskey, which is the flagship of the line. It is 100 proof, BIB 1931-1935 and has

a label which looks like a medicinal prescription. This label is rare and was probably a carry over from prohibition. The next bottle is Major Paul's Whiskey A Blend. It is 90 proof, has a colorful yellow and red label, was made with straight whiskey distilled in Spring 1928 and bottled about 1935. Bottle number three is Gilded Age Whiskey A Blend. It is 90 proof, has a gold foil label printed in black, was also made with Spring 1928 whiskey and again bottled about 1935.

The next two bottles are from the "Railroad" series, but were not made for the railroads! The first is Bottled Especially for TWA. It is BIB 1947-1951, has a blue colored export revenue stamp and a red printed label. The other one was Bottled Especially for Harolds Club Reno, Nevada. It is BIB 1951-1957, has a brown label and a screw cap.



Bottle number six is King of Kentucky Straight Bourbon Whisky. It is 100 proof, 12 months old, has a black and brown label and was made in 1936. Bottle number seven is King of Kentucky Straight Whisky, but it is 90 proof, 12 months old, has a yellow and brown label and was made in 1935. The next is, what else, the last of the three

King Of Kentucky Straight Bourbon Whisky. This one is 86 proof, 12 mos. old, has a yellow and brown label and was made in 1937. The last of these Brown-Forman bottles is Here's Luck A Blend of Whiskies. It is 90 proof, has an unusually printed brown label and was made about 1934.

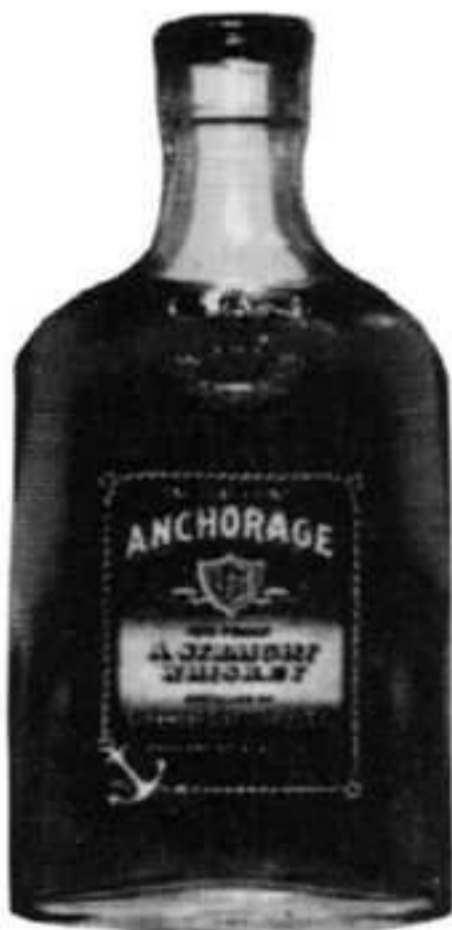


The first of the Glenmore bottles is Anchorage A Straight Whiskey distilled by Glenmore Distilleries Co. Owenboro, Kentucky. It is 100 proof, 9 mos. old, has a black label and was made about 1934. The last bottle this time is Winwood Whiskey A Blend by Glenmore Distilleries Louisville Kentucky. It is 90 proof, 16 months old and has a 1936 Illinois tax stamp.

Finally, I would like to issue a challenge. I like to call myself the King of label variations. I have 18 different Brown-Forman King of Kentuckys, including red and black labels. Does anyone have any more than that?

As always, if anyone would like any further information on any bottle pictured, please feel free to contact me at (507) 454-1499.

Until next time. . . .MELO





Jerry Cohen

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# THE CLUB REPORT

This column hasn't run for some time now because I haven't had too much to say. Oh, there have been things to report on, but they always seem to come at the wrong time for deadlines. Anyway, there does seem to be quite a lot to discuss this time.

First off, let's take a look at the 1986 shows and then into the future at 1987. Working backwards toward the beginning of the year, the Lilliputian Show in Oakland is the first one to discuss. It was a great success and probably the best show yet for both attendees and dealers. If you've been thinking that collector interest is on a downward spiral, you'd have changed your tune quickly in Oakland. Collectors came from as far as New Zealand, Japan, Canada, New York, Florida, etc. This show was definitely a major success.

Taking both of the Del-Valle shows at one time, there also doesn't seem to be any lack of interest there in Pennsylvania. From what I hear there are always bottle surprises in the form of great finds and as always everyone has a great time. No matter what, Del-Valle promises something for both the new collector and the dilettante!

The New York Show this time was just a one day affair in Brooklyn back in the middle of June. There were a few problems but every show has its share of those. Kurt Kentsen can be applauded (as was Al Manual before him) for doing the lion's share of the work.

The big show of the year is, naturally, the Midwest Show in Chicago. This was lucky number seven for the midwest show and it was as excellent (and well-run) as ever! If you can't find the bottles you're looking for here, you just may never find them.

1987 promises to have its share of successes and here's what's known now. We'll (hopefully) have an ad in next time about the first Del-Valle show which I believe is in April. Also in Ap-

ril is the Midwest show which will be the first weekend of the month. (The show is advertised at the beginning of this issue.) The Lilliputian show will continue to be in October but will be back in the Los Angeles area. Plans now call for the show to alternate between northern and southern Cal!

In other club news, I personally met with Mr. Kazue Daimon, leader of the club in Tokyo. This club seems to be progressing well as is the Osaka group under the leadership of Taizo Shiratsuchi who so ably writes those interesting articles for us. We haven't had a word from the Kobe group for ages so possibly they've been disbanded. Hope not! Maybe we'll get a note on the club with some new information.

The Oregon Miniature Bottle Club is now taking out of state members and produces an informative newsletter. Speaking of newsletters, the mantle has been passed on to Tony Dobyns and Stan Dalen for the Midwest group but other old regulars such as Norm Lubber, Don Prorise (how many people really appreciate what an editor who is also a printer does for their club), and, of course, Lee Weiss who has been doing a terrific job for the Lilliputian Club for several years.

There are many other bulletins, such as Joe Levesque's excellent one for the mini cognac collectors (and if you're a history buff, there's nothing like Joe's "Napoleonic" articles), the Great Lakes paper done by Jean Davis, and the one done by "Tibby" in New Orleans. Hats off to all of you and keep up the good work.

Let's have some news about the different clubs if you will. I know the local clubs here just celebrated their 16th and 10th birthdays respectively. These are the Lilliputian and Orange County clubs. What about info from the rest of you out there? This column will only return when we have more to tell you!

--DMS--

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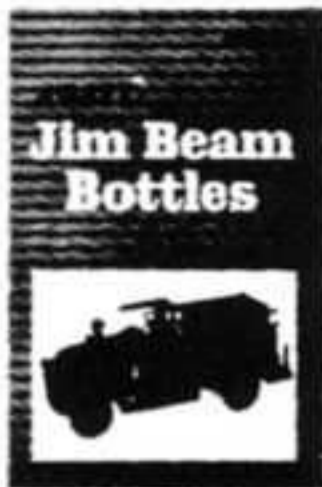
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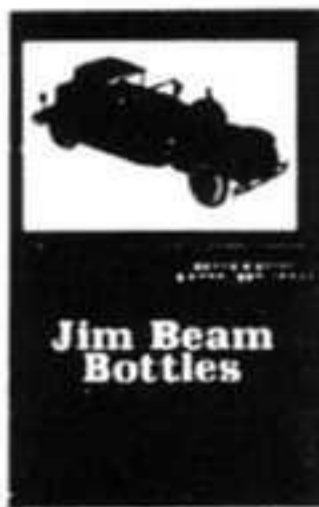
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