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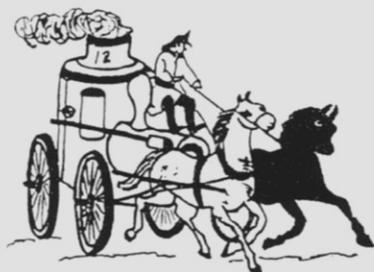
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Let's Talk

Spring has sprung. . .and with it some rejuvenation into our hobby. Must be that collectors are coming out of hibernation as what I've heard locally is that more and more people are buying more and more glass bottles. Of course, when you realize that there are currently some of the best glass bottles available in the last umpteen years maybe it's not surprising.

We've got eleven articles for you this time which feature some great bottles. Unfortunately you figural collectors have only the Boozeville article; however, that's a sign of the times. We do welcome back Terry Kramer from Canada and a new contributor, Holm Hars, from Germany.

Once again I thank all of you who have continued to write with your praise for issue #100. All kudos happily accepted.

Also received letters from two fellow collectors, Bob Snyder (to whom we all owe a great deal for starting the ball rolling back in the late 1960's) and Gene Birdsall. They both commented on the Mini World-Hartwig Kantorowicz article. Both Bob and Gene have bottles not shown so possibly we can do an update on that article soon. I can tell you that there are currently new Hartwig Kantorowicz bottles available in Germany.

That's it for this time. If your local P.O. is worth it's salt, you should receive this issue in April.

— DMS —

THE

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No. 102 1991

MINIATURE BOTTLE COLLECTOR

Editor/Publisher DAVID M. SPAID

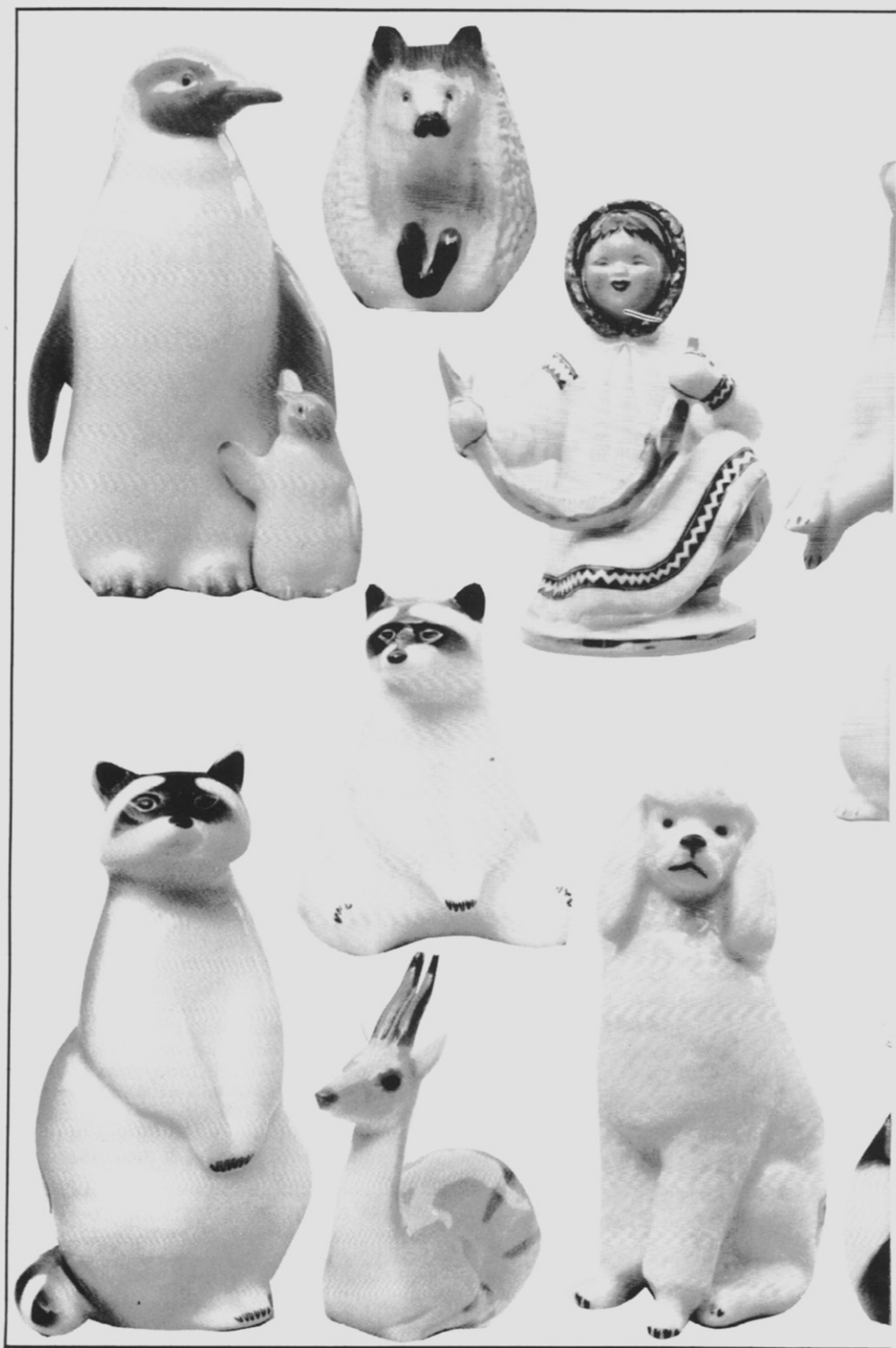
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Our Cover

In what is almost a complete issue devoted to glass bottles, the cover this time shows three old, and beautifully done, glass pieces from Portugal. These three are only a small grouping of the many which were made in this set. In a future issue we'll have others. They are oversized (as you might guess) but possess magnificently done labels on what might be considered triumphs of the glassmaker's art!

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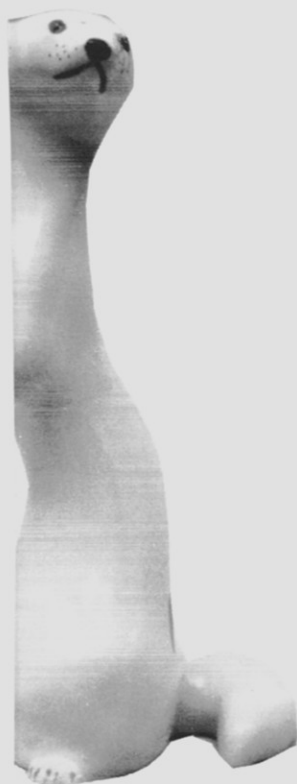
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WHAT'S NEW Old, Odd, or Unusual



As promised last time, pictured for you is the 1990 Blanton Single Barrel Bourbon. These are now available in most states; however, the version you will most likely find is slightly different. Shown here is the first issue which debuted last Sept./Oct. The majority of these bottles were either broken or recalled as the head on the rider had a tendency to break off. Now the rider's head has been done differently and is virtually attached to the horse's mane. But...no matter which bottle you have, this is a magnificent glass piece.

Now that the fancy one is accounted for, let's turn to the regular straight glass...and plastic. The group of four all come from Mexico and are fairly well known brands. All are glass except for the Conquistador Brandy. I thought you would like a selection, hence the tequila, vodka and gin.

The Koskenkorva Vodka was definitely a new one for me and may be for many of you vodka collectors.





And, if you do save vodkas, you'll know that the Oso Negro Ginebra has a vodka counterpart. The Zambrano Tequila is quite plain but at least it is a glass bottle. As noted above, for these items you have to travel south of the border.

The remaining three bottles come from various areas and naturally may be found in more places than just the one mentioned here. The No No Nuit Liqueur with the seductive female eye staring at you was purchased in New York, but originally it's a product of France. The Everclear is certainly a common bottle but this is the first one seen in plastic. It hails from Tennessee.

The last bottle comes from (you've already guessed) Anchorage, Alaska. This Attakiska is a very colorfully labeled vodka which comes in a plastic bottle. But sometimes we just can't have everything, can we!

More new ones next time.

— DMS —

"SPECIAL" COGNACS



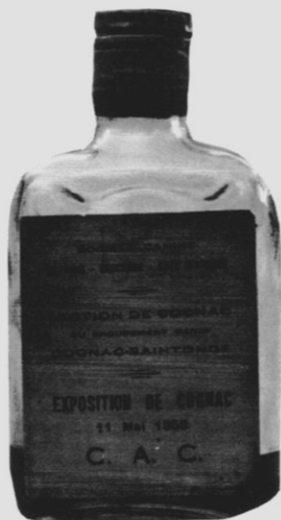
The old. The not so old. And, the new. No, this isn't a take off on the movie title of *The Good, The Bad and The Ugly*. This is a study of four interesting cognacs which represent a variety of interesting characteristics.

The oldest is the tall Trueba Herm. Pellison Cognac. This bottle is either a 3 oz. or 100 ml beauty made especially for Cuba. The cognac was from 1883 but was bottled in 1936. (It's only a 53 year old cognac which is not 55 years a-mellowing in the bottle.) The Herm. is a Spanish abbreviation for



brothers and the Trueba Brothers issued some wonderful bottles in Havana in the 1930's. This one they did exclusively for the King Salomon Store at Prado 458 (phone M-2177 if you must know) in Havana. The back label also advertises their King Salomon Rum Superior aged 33 years, so you rum collectors have another to add to your want list.

The next bottle is the small Verdier Cognac Fine Champagne (two star), it was also produced for one special place. This was the Verdier Cellars in



San Francisco. There the bottles were sold in their City of Paris store on Union Square. Interestingly, both this bottle and the Pellison were bottled at 90 proof.

Coming a little closer to the present, we have the Boucher Cognac. Now, you're scanning the pictures wondering just where this one is hidden, aren't you. Well, this is the special bottle made for the Cognac Exposition in May of 1958. The bottle is actually an ash tray when turned over. And, the real label must be read

through the cognac as it is on the back of the label shown in our picture.

The last bottle is the one which brings us to the present. Some of you may know the Davidoff name from cigars. Well, this cognac was blended by them to be consumed with a cigar. The taste is slightly different and allows for a palate saturated with cigar smoke. The mini has been available slightly less than two years and it's ridiculously expensive (and I do mean ridiculous). It's still a winner though!

A Visit To Boozeville

by Lloyd McLeod



This man walks the street of Boozeville because of one word, Prohibition. Some states adopted prohibition early, such as Maine in 1846. The national or federal law though went into effect on January 6, 1920 and was repealed in December 1933. During this time the illegal sale of booze was increasing with the help of bootleggers. This was a term describing someone who stood selling on a street corner with a bottle of booze hidden in the top of their boots. If you sold a bottle or a barrelful, you were a bootlegger.

Some bars and saloons made more money than before by selling illegal, untaxed liquor. This is when hidden nightclubs called speakeasys were born. Bathtub gin was another new term from the 1920's. This was mixing and bottling gin right in an actual bathtub.

This fellow though seems to have no worries about anything. Maybe he has the local sheriff paid off. Shown here are both a brown and blue version but there is also a smaller multicolored one. In fact, this prohibition man is known in four different sizes!





TREASURES OF THE PAST



Last time you saw the majority of bottles done for the 1981 Royal Wedding. Shown here are the three different styles of Rutherford jugs/flagons. Each style was done in several colors (blue, black, brown, green) and some were done in white (as seen here). If you know of others, please send us the information.

melo's minis

by Mike Olson



In this article I would like to feature six scarce flats from my favorite period of production the 1930's, plus three unusual variations of better known brands. I think I may have stated once or twice my preference for bottles from this era, so o o rather than boring you any further let's get to the pictures.

The first of which is Trenton Kentucky Straight Bourbon Whiskey Bottled by Samuel Kunin and Sons, Inc., Chicago, Ill. It is 90 proof, 2 years old, has a white label printed in blue, red and gold and has a 1936 Illinois

tax stamp. This is the only example I have ever seen of this brand as is the next bottle, Kentucky's Old Penfield Straight Bourbon Whiskey Bottled for The Penfield Distilling Co., Louisville, Ky. It is 100 proof, 2 years old, has a great looking label printed in gold, black, green and white and has a circa 1934 Kentucky tax stamp. Bottle three is Kentucky Rose Brand Straight Bourbon Whiskey Bottled by Crown Spirits Co., Chicago, Ill. It is 90 proof, six months old, has a green label printed in black, white and red and has a 1936 Illinois tax stamp.



Next is Stonybrook Straight Whiskey Bottled by Jas. E. Stuart Co., Inc., Boston, Mass. It is 100 proof, has a white label printed in red and black and was Distilled Spring 1934. This is followed by Schulte's Straight Bourbon Whiskey Bottled for D.A. Schulte, Inc., New York, N.Y. and Bottled by Registered Brands Inc., Lawrenceburg, Ind. It is 100 proof, eighteen months old, has a white label printed in red and gold and has a 1936 Illinois tax stamp. This unique bottle

shape is repeated in Maple Grove Straight Whiskey Bottled for McKesson & Robbins Inc. Bridgeport, Conn., New York, N.Y. It is 100 proof, has a tan label printed in gold, red and black and was Distilled Fall 1933.

The next bottle is a Bourbon from a company which is well known for it's Rye miniatures. K & L Kentucky Straight Bourbon Whiskey is 86 proof, 5 years old, has a white label

melo's minis



printed in black, gold and red and was Bottled by Standard Distillers Products Inc., Baltimore, Maryland circa 1956. Gooderham & Worts Mill Farm Straight Bourbon Whiskey shows us a white label printed in black, gold and brown instead of the more familiar multicolored label used earlier. It is 86 proof, four years old and was probably issued in limited numbers about 1942. The last bottle is Barclay's Gold Label Blended Whiskey which is 90 proof, 6 years

old, has a gold foil label printed in black and red and was made about 1936. Again, Barclay's out of Detroit is noted more for it's numerous variations of Bourbon and Rye miniatures.

Finally, I got around to counting my American Whiskeys. If any one cares, my total (more or less) came to 2344. As always, if anyone would like any further information on any bottled pictured, please feel free to contact me at (507) 454-1499.

Until next time. . .MELO. . .

BEERS

by Bob Kay



I recently found a great mini beer go-with, a ceramic mug. Now the mug isn't exactly a mini—it's eleven inches tall! But it was made by Bill's, one of the major U.S. mini beer makers. Clearly marked on the bottom is: Bill's Specialty Mfg. Co. Souvenirs & Novelties, Milw. WI. The real attraction are the twelve mini beer labels shown on the mug. Ten of the labels are known to mini beers, but the labels on this mug are decals while those on known minis have foil or paper labels. Also the detail and coloring on the mug labels vary slightly from the bottle labels. Of particular interest are the two labels not found on minis—National Premium (from Baltimore, MD) and GB (Griesedieck Brothers from St. Louis, MO). Also,

the red & black version of Black Label Beer is considered a Muth product, not Bill's.

While Bill's minis with these last three labels aren't known, at least we do know they were playing around with these labels. Could it be that they are out there waiting to be discovered? Highly unlikely. This marks the period circa 1955 when Bill's were selling minis through souvenir shops and dime stores in great quantities. It just does not seem possible that we've missed these all through the years. But there are scenarios where this could happen. Now wouldn't it be neat if someone could prove me wrong?

Well, it's not a mini but it sure is a great go-with!

Till next time.

— B.K. —



CANADIAN CONNECTION



by TERRY KRAMER



Hello again. It has been awhile since I've shared some information with you on Canadian minis. Now that I have defrosted enough to write after about a month of minus 30 degree temperatures here in Saskatchewan, I'll get to it.

The newest of the minis is the Silk Tassel Whisky by McGuinness Distillers of Toronto. You may have a Silk Tassel in your collection, with a dark label and either 6 or 8 years old on it, but this is a new version. At this point

it is only available by obtaining a large bottle of McGuinness vodka and having the mini attached to its neck. Hopefully it will be available on its own soon.

A Canadian Rye that has been around for about a year now is the Gibson's Finest Sterling Edition. Again it is very similar to the Gibson's Finest 12 Year Old, a mini with a mostly gold label. Silver is the color used on the label of this new mini.

White Lightning Vodka comes in a



plastic bottle and is produced by Highwood Distillers of High River, Alberta. This mini was also at first only available attached to a large bottle, but now is sold on its own in Alberta. The label is very attractive with the white horse in the foreground of a lightning storm. Probably being on a horse in a lightning storm wouldn't be a smart move, especially in that open field!

The last miniature is of Melchers Distilleries Aristocrat Rye Whisky.



This is not a new product but one of the 1950's or '60's and was available in Quebec at that time. It is in a brown glass bottle and has a tin tear off top. The fine print on the label states that it has been distilled, matured and bottled in Bond under Canadian Government Supervision.

Well, I hope you enjoyed this bit of information on these Canadian minis. There has not been much new here that I am aware of, but I'll certainly keep you informed.

— T.K. —

Glass!

by HOLM HARS



Since this is my first article, I will tell you some information about me. My name is Holm Hars and I'm 37 years old. I'm married and we have a little daughter. I'm a general collector with around 13,000 miniatures. In my articles I will show you bottles of German companies which have produced or have imported a whisk(e)y. Perhaps you will know the whisk(e)ys, but these companies have also produced other fine bottles. This time I will begin with "arko GmbH" from the towns of Wahlstedt and Ham-

burg.

The first bottle is SKELTON Whisky. It is 43% Vol. and is a product of Germany. Next is JOHN PARKERS GOLD LABEL. It is 100% fine old Scotch Whisky, but there is no information on the label about the producer or the percent of alcohol.

The third bottle is ALTE ZUNFT (Old Guild), a VSOP Weinbrand (brandy). It is probably 38%. The fourth in the group is ARKOVIT, an Aquavit at 38%.



Next we'll move on to a HEIDELBEER EDEL LIQUEUR (Blueberry Liqueur). The bottle has a pink label and this is the only one in the group to have a screw cap. The sixth bottle is FRIESENKRUG which is a schnaps made from grain with (again) 38% volume.

Another schnaps is the OLDE LAND (also made from grain), but this one has only 32% volume. And finally, the last bottle is ALTER FLENSBURGER. This Jamaika

Rum Verschnitt has a 40% volume.

All the bottles are made of glass (clear or green or brown) because it's not usual to produce plastic bottles. Since several years ago, arko didn't produce miniatures. They now only make the larger bottles. Their main business is to sell sweets and biscuits. The production and sale of minis was a flop.

Until next time. . .

— H.H. —

BIER BEER BEER

by JOHN WYSS



A variation as related to mini beers may be loosely defined as an "unlisted" bottle closely related to a "listed" bottle that has some subtle but definite difference. "Listed" bottles are those referred to in Bob Kay's Miniature Beer Bottles & Go-Withs or Mini Beer Up-date. The variation will usually represent the same beer and may have the same or similar label as the listed bottle. Some differences which can create a variation include: size of bottle, manufacturer's Markings on the bottom (Muth, Bill's, etc.), glass color, additional tags or commemorative labels, label type (enamel, decal, paper, foil, etc.) or any small change in the main label itself. The list can go on and on ac-

ording to the collector's individual taste in technical differences.

Collecting variations offers the collector the option of many "new" finds. Some of these unlisted prizes can be "ones-of-a-kind" which are highly collectable and quite valuable to most collectors.

Picture #1 shows a 4", 3" and the listed 3 1/4" size Koppitz. Although I can account for about half a dozen of the 4" version, I know of only one 3" bottle in existence. Note that the variation bottles do not include a neck label. This appeared to be a common practice when manufacturers received requests from collectors for free mini bottles.



Picture #2 shows four common mini beers that have additional labels or tags. The Pabst has a tag welcoming you to Peoria and the Pere Marquette while the Blatz has an additional label listing a popular bar from the '30's, Whistle's Place. The Drewry's Ale has an extra label advertising a beer distributor and the Schlitz has the common "souvenir of" decal depicting a city.



MINIATURE BEERS



Picture #3 shows a Tuborg Pilsner on a green glass ale bottle (also see DEN-3), The Superior has a *paper* label but is closely related to the MEX-5, which has an enamel label. And, finally, here is a Klass III, Stark Porter, not to be confused with SWE-4.

While most unlisted variations are legitimate, a hint of caution on purchasing, be wary! There are unscrupulous sellers of any product. Refer to Bob Kay's book for some good pointers on fakes.

In closing, I would love to hear from anyone who has any good variations. Your input is needed for my ongoing research and would be deeply appreciated. (Part II next time.)

— J. W. —

the g-r-r-eatest

by
"BUTCH" JONES



American companies produced some super whiskeys in the 1910-1950 period. Instead of showing some of these though, I thought it would be more interesting to show some foreign whiskeys produced during the same time period.

The first one is Suntory's Rare Old Island Whisky in a brown bottle. There is no age or percentage on this one. It is thought to have been issued during the 1930's.

The second bottle is another Japanese whisky, "45". This is one I had never seen until I came across this one. It is a clear bottle with neck label as you can see. The whisky is distilled

and blended by the Toyo Brewing Co. Ltd. of Shizuoka, Japan. The bottle is also embossed "45" Whisky, Toyo Brewing Co. Ltd. This one was produced during the occupation 1945-1949.

The last bottle is the Spirit of Kentucky, a pre-prohibition bottle from Tijuana, Mexico. The label is in mint condition with black letters on a red background. This is another mini with no proof shown.

Can anyone share any additional information on these minis? If so, please drop me a line.

— B.J. —

MINI WORLD



Several years ago I was given a pair of French armagnacs with most unusual labels. You see each label featured a man and woman sans clothes in what most would describe as compromising positions. So it wasn't terribly surprising when these new German bottles came to light.

There are ten shown here and who knows how many different ones there may be. Thanks to a German translation, you'll actually get to know what these are called. The contents are all liqueurs, except for the one vodka. Each bottle contains only 30 ml. Now, here goes:

Erdnuckel: Earth knuckle, read "bone" for knuckle.

Nippelzwicker: Nipple Flicker...need more be said?

Killerbiene: Killer Bees???

Schlupfer Sturmer: Hole Stormer!!

Busengrapscher: Bosom Grabber

Flotter Rammler: (speaks for itself)

Flotter Dreier: ???

Volltreffer: Direct Hit

Wilde Krote: Wild Oats

Freudenspender: Giver of Joy (and certainly social diseases)

So far those who want to add a bit of spice to their collection, these German bottles are the ones to look for.





Jerry Cohen

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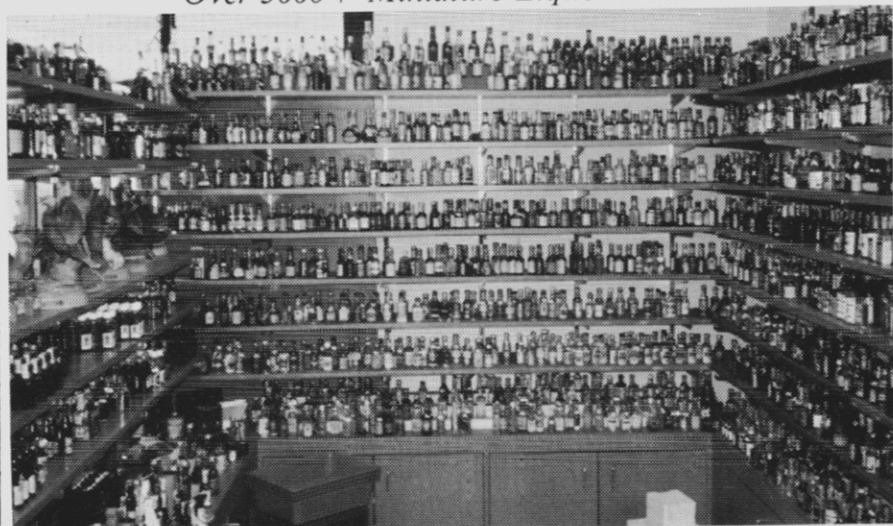
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