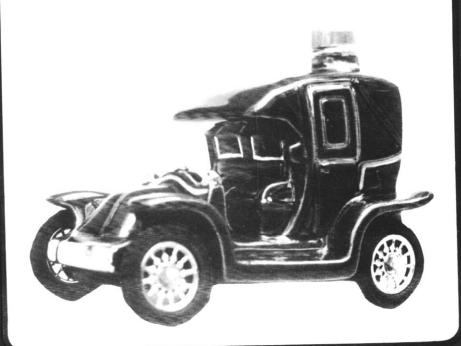
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#### Let's Talk

Well, did it knock your socks off? I know I was delightfully surprised when I first even heard about these little French taxis. Now the problem is just finding a set! Renault is only doing very limited marketing.

Okay, next...how many of you caught the mistakes last time? The whopper was the gins from Shanghai became the gins of Singapore in the table of contents. And, the issue previous to that had Vic Visalli's Treasurers From the Past as Treasures From the Past. We have no idea when that change was made.

Moving on. Lots of familiar names again this time. Butch Jones, David Maund, and Lloyd McLeod are all back after hiatus. Vic has a most interesting story on how he came up with these two oldies while John Wyss gives Bud a plug.

We welcome this time the new voice of Jack Sullivan. He promises to do some great research for all of us from time to time. You'll see that his efforts paid off handsomely in the Mini World article. Jack also writes for other publications, and you can see more bottles in Bottles and Extras.

Finally, I think we could almost put a black band around this column. A major player is passing from the scene. The James B. Beam company will no longer issue ceramic decanters after June 30th. Beam brought a great many people into the bottle collecting hobby and many of them are now hard core mini collectors. We'll miss you, Jim Beam.

We'll be back in practically no time at all.

--DMS--

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VOL. XIX No. 109 No.1

## BOTTLAR COLLECTIONS

Editor/Publisher DAVID M. SPAID

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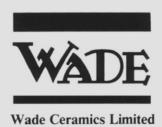
Our cover this time features the blue version of the Renault Antique French Taxi. The larger versions of these bottles first appeared in the late 1980's while 1992 seems to be the release year for all three of these marvelous decanters. Read Tony Natelli's article on p. 13 and you'll know all about these Renault bottles.

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## FINE POR ELEGANT HAND PAINTED VICTORIAN DESI



KATE





The first two releases in the new MY FAIR LADIES series from Wade Porcelain. Wade has approved the filling of these bottles with 30 ml. Hebrides Scotch Whisky. Only a very limited amount of bottles will be available in the U.S.A. and the U.K.

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#### WHAT'S NEW







We have one of my favorite types of potpourris this time. A bit of this and bit of that. We jump from Scotland to France/Poland to Mexico to the U.S. And that's some jumping around.

Taking the closest to home we'll begin with the two new American whiskeys. These are the Jim Beam Eight Star Blend and the Ezra Brooks Kentucky Straight. Nice labels on both bottles, but they are plastics. The Eight Star has been found in Nevada and Tennessee while the Ezra Brooks was in Illinois and Tennessee.

Remaining in the U.S. but only because the bottle is imported, we have the Dos Santos Licor de Cafe from Mexico. Another plastic with a good label, this one was found in good old Anaheim.

The other two Mexican bottles are exports, but not to the U.S. These two Mezcals go to Europe. They are

glass with interesting labels and naturally contain Senor Gusano. (That's the worm, man!) They are Bronco and Ultramarine.

Now we can skip over to the European continent for our three Glen Fiona jugs (flagons). These three, along with an unseen fourth, were issued within the last few months. They contain scotch and continue the Glen Fiona series of ceramics quite nicely.

Our last bottle is the one designated France/Poland up above. That's because this Petrossian Vodka is made by Polmos in Poland for the French firm of Petrossian which is most famous for its caviar (and maybe even smoked salmon). As far as I know at the present, this vodka is only sold at the one Petrossian store in Paris!

So, quite a melange this time. We'll try for more of the same in the next issue!











#### A TALE OF THREE MINIS

By Jack Sullivan

(Special to THE MINIATURE BOTTLE COLLECTOR)

The three miniature whiskies shown here tell of an American Horatio Alger story of rags to riches. In 1867 a German immigrant came to Paducah, Kentucky, with \$4 in his pocket; when he died 55 years later he was worth millions and had founded a business that bears his name even today.

He was Isaac Wolfe (I.W.) Bernheim, founder of the Kentucky distillery that gained fame for producing "I.W. Harper", even today one of the nation's leading brands of whiskey.

Bernheim settled in Paducah, Kentucky, as a bookkeeper and later a salesman for a liquor wholesale firm. Joined by his brother Bernard in 1870, the brothers opened their own whiskey wholesale business in 1872. In 1875 they added N. M. Uri, I. W. Bernheim's brother-in-law as a partner (he left in 1892 to start his own Whiskey business).

The Bernheim brothers began actual distilling operations in Louisville in 1897. Their most famous brand has an identity that merges the elder Bernheim's initials

with the name that some think was derived from Harper's Ferry, W.V., and others from the Harper and Delaney Distillery located near Paducah, Kentucky.

The I.W. Harper brand was an instant success. It was awarded a Gold Medal for excellence at the New Orleans Exposition in 1885 and in other international competitions. In addition, the Bernheim's produced Harper and Old Continental brands.

The Bernheims made whiskey until Prohibition and sold the I.W. Harper brand in 1933. Ultimately the name was bought by Schenley who continue to market it worldwide. The contribution of the Bernheims is memorialized by a plaque at a distillery named in their honor by Schenley, which today produces I.W. Harper, Old Charter and J.W. Dant.

I.W. Bernheim is remembered today as a philanthropist and a highly enlightened civic-minded citizen. His family also proved to be high achievers. His son Bertram Bernheim was a well-known doctor who



pioneered the use of blood transfusions during the World War I era. A grandson was a founder of Drexel, Burnham. (anglicized), Lambert.

Characteristic of Bernheim brothers was their penchant for giving things away. "Compliments of I.W. Harper" appears on a wide range of miniature whiskies. They and others produced by their distillery are cherished reminders of a bygone era. They remind us of a day when a man could come to the U.S. with \$4 in his pocket and die a multi-millionare, and do it while remaining beloved by his friends and neighbors.

#1: Compliments of I.W. Harper. This white miniature whiskey jug is just one manifestation of the distillers' "give-aways" down through the years.

#2: This Old Continental Whiskey features a picture of an acorn which was the symbol of the Bernheim Brothers. Old Continental miniatures are seen frequently at bottle shows and retain significant interest for collectors.

#3: Parker Rye is part of the Bernheim family through I.W.'s wife, Amanda. Her brother N.M. Uri at first joined with the Bernheim Brothers in their firm but later broke away to start his own whiskey business. Parker Rye was his most famous brand.

## SCOTCH

#### **David Maund**



Sorry about that, just had to take an issue's hiatus. Just too busy. But naturally I had to continue thinking about my duty here, so haven't been resting on my laurels!

I decided you'd enjoy a variety this time, so that's what I've had photographed for you. The ten bottles here are possibly as varied as you can get.

Let me begin with the Old St. Andrews barrels. These made their initial appearance before Christmas last year and cause a bit of a problem in that three were reported, then six were said to be available. Well, six is the true number. Shown here are the 3 and 12 year old blends with the 6 year old malt. Missing are the 5, 8 and 17 year old blends. The barrels are all the same though and unfortunately they're plastic. I guess you can't have everything.







Now we'll examine the remaining seven glass bottles and there are some nice ones here as well as some that may best be called controversial. Previously I've shown you bottles from the Scottish Collection. Those are bottles issued just for collectors and thus do not have a specific brand of whisky. The Macleod of Macleod is this type of bottle. Highly collectable, but just exactly whose 15 year old malt is in this bottle? A controversy I'm not going to worry about...I'll just put the bottle on my shelf!

The Benveg is a very colourful label and it comes in a tube. It like the Scotland - Uisge Beathe is a Signatory bottle. While the latter is a malt, the former is a blend.

Glen Appin has series of bottles available but I've chosen just the 20 year old malt for you. This is a







Fusilier. This is an older bottle (when compared with all the recent issues) which was produced to honor the 25th Anniversary of the Amalgamation of the Highland Light Infantry with the Royal Scots Fusiliers. The dates are 1959 and 1984. A plain bottle but with the definite attraction of being a commemorative.

Next time I'll have more new bottles for you...or maybe I'll dust off some older ones.

--D.L.M.--

bottle done for a French firm but it was produced and bottled in Scotland, not bulk whisky exported to be bottled somewhere else.

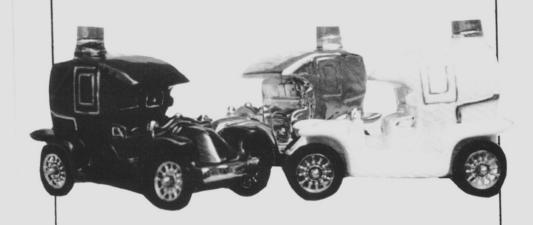
Glen Fraser is an 8 year old Highland Malt which is currently available. Not a great beauty but a nice addition. The great beauty status must be accorded to the Spey Cast 12 year old. This label will put you in mind of a more old style label with its design and colours.

Finally we come to the Highland



#### FIGURATIVELY SPEAKING

By Tony Natelli



In following up my story (issue #106) on "duty free" French miniatures, I have some new gems from one more company.

All these bottles contain cognac and are, as with those previously discussed, extremely attractive and desirable.

RENAULT has recently released three cars in blue (Carte Noir Extra), white (Napoleon) and gold (X.O.) containing the premium cognacs listed. These bottles can't miss! They are exact miniatures of

Renault's larger versions and will be found in duty free shops in various parts of the world.

Renault also has on the market two full size porcelain lions (blue and gold) that would be sensational miniatures, if they ever choose to produce them as such.

Whole collections can be put together just containing these shown today and those shown and discussed in issue #106. Hopefully, there are more bottles to come.

--T.N.--

## melo's minis

by Mike Olson







Well, here I go again. In this article I would like to return to one of my favorite themes, namely variations. I am especially partial to brands which produced both Rye and Bourbon minis during the same period. Accordingly, I get a certain amount of satisfaction in acquiring these examples for my collection. Anyway, I would like to show you a double dose of this along with a couple of Kings and a great Canadian pre-pro.



#### **MELO'S**



The first two bottles are OLD QUAKER Special Reserve Straight Bourbon Whiskey Distilled and Bottled by the Old Quaker Co. Lawrenceburg, Ind. The "small" label is 5 years old and is dated 3 '41. The two matching Old Quaker Whiskeys have the same dates and ages. All are 86 proof and the bourbons are clear glass flats, while the Ryes are amber glass flats.

Next we have a pair of HIRAM WALKER KING OF CLUBS Blended Whiskey from the 1930's. Both are 90 proof, 5 years and 6 months old and the clear glass bottle was also made in a pull-off cap

variation.

The last bottle is the original IM-PERIAL WHISKY Distilled by Hiram Walker & Sons Ltd. Walker-ville, Canada. It is a clear glass pumpkin see bottle circa 1900. It still retains its original box and corkscrew.

Finally, Hiram Walker produced a Ten High Rye Whiskey prior to World War II. I have never seen a miniature Ten High Rye and wonder if one was ever made. If anyone has any information on this, please feel free to contact me.

Until next time...

--MELO--



About a year ago, I received a phone call from an elderly woman who asked if I was interested in buying a collection of miniature liquor bottles. My first question, as always, is "How old are the bottles?" The answer I usually hear, to my disappointment, is "They very old...probably from the '60's or 70's. This time it was different.

The woman said that her husband, who had passed away, collected the bottles in the '30's. He was somehow involved in the Pennsylvania Alcohol Commission or the like. Needless to say, I went to see the collection immediately.

The collection consisted of about 300 bottles of which 75° were just about destroyed. The left uncovered, probably in the attic or cellar, and the labels were barely distinguishable for one reason or another. Of the 25° that I purchased, two are pictured here. I would

consider them to be a plus in anyone's collection. I have never seen them before.

The first bottle, OLD MANOR Brand Pennsylvania Straight Rye Whiskey from Monongahela Rye Liquors, Inc., Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, sports a red, black, white and gold label with an elaborately detailed estate pictured in the center.

The second bottle is OLD BRIDGEPORT Brand Monongahela Straight Rye Whiskey, also from Monongahela Rye Liquors, Inc., Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. The label is predominantly cream colored with a gold border. The lettering is red and blue. In the center of the label is a red seal which states: "You've tried the rest, Now buy the best." The blue ribbon on either side of the seal says: "Pleasant - Palatable - and Perfect."





## FRORR

by TAIZO SHIRATSUCHI

The Glenfiddich Fifty Years Old

#### Certificate

This is to certify that the whisky contained in this special bottle has matured undisturbed in oak casks at the Glenfiddich Distillery for over fifty years.

Sany Green

A. Grant Gordon Chairman of the Company and a great grandson of William Grant

William Grant & Sonofed



This time I would like to present to you two GLENFIDDICH Single Malt miniatures. The first is GLENFIDDICH CLASSIC which appeared in November 1991. This familiar triangular bottle, slightly roundish as a whole, is 13.5 cm tall in black glass and contains 50 ml at 43% alcohol.

The other bottle is a very, very special miniature jug, the GLEN-FIDDICH 50 year old. It as a planned miniature issue from Mercian Co. Ltd. and Hill and Knowlton Japan Ltd. to commemorate the new release of the GLENFIDDICH 50 year old (700 ml, Yen 750,000 -

\$5,700+) in Japan. The jug was made and bottled in Scotland, only for Japan and only 105 jugs were produced. This was the same number as those regular bottles which are available in the Japan market.

105 miniature jugs were made available on February 10th of this year at Yen 55,000 (\$420.00). It is 10 cm tall in black ceramic and contained 50 ml at 43% alcohol. The jug has the certificate (seen here) in a small black carton which was designed in Japan.

Until next time...

--T.S.--

#### WHISKEY HERITAGE

by

"BUTCH" JONES







#### CALIFORNIA WHISKEYS

Many articles have been written on California whiskeys. In looking at my collection, I found that I have very few of them. Opportunities have not arisen where I could obtain them and when those opportunities did come along, I couldn't afford the bottles.

However, there are three California Whiskeys pictured in this article. Bottle number one is a SQUARE RIGGER Straight Whiskey with 100

proof contents. The second is the OLD 3-G Brand. It contains a 90 proof straight bourbon whiskey. And, the last mini is the Old Royalty Brand. This 80 proof bourbon was bottled by the Quality Distillers Inc. of Los Angeles.

As you can see, the dealer unfortunately put the tax stamp on the label. Oh well, I guess I'll keep it anyway! 'Til next time...

--B.J.--

## Tiess!

#### WALDEMAR BEHN CO.

By Holms Hars









This time I shall show you some bottles of the Waldemar Behn Co. from the little town of Eckernforde. The company was founded in 1892 and over the years produced and imported all kinds of different brands. In my collection I now have 137 different minis from this firm.

1. COUNTRY GENTLEMAN,

straight bourbon whiskey. This 8 year old bourbon was distilled by J.A. Dougherty & Sons of Philadelphia, PA and has 40% alcohol.

2. FOR BETTER TIMES Scotch Whisky. This fine old Special Blend is 43% alcohol. Both this and number one were very unpopular on the German market and were





removed after only six months.

3. WHISKY LIME. This cocktail (scotch and wild limes) has 18% alcohol and is a product of France.

4. WHISKY PECHE. This French cocktail (scotch and peach) has also 18%. Both bottles are samples and very rare minis.

5. & 6. KIRSCH MIT WHISKY. and WHISKY-KIRSCH. These bottles are the brand new version and the very old bottle of this cherry liqueur with malt whisky. They are 30% and 40% respectively.

7. OWL mad of ceramic with JAGD-KORN (hunt grain) contents. This figure contains 0.1 l and this brand has 34% alcohol.

8. SEAL made of ceramic with KORN. This speciality of northern Germany has 32% alcohol and the seal contains 0.051.









9 & 10. BLUE CURACAO, the new and old versions of this orange-curacao liqueur. They have 30% and 34% alcohol.

11 & 12. PFEFFI and EDELPFEFFEMINZ. The brand new bottle and the old peppermint liqueur. Both liqueurs have 30% alcohol.

Accepting the ceramics of course, all bottles are glass (clear and brown) and contain 0.021 or 0.041. The company is using all types of bottles.

Until next time...



## Boozeville

By Lloyd McLeod

#### HAVE A NIGHTCAP







Boozeville has its share of drinkers and some of them get on the rowdy side when they drink. The saloon keeper will usually leave them alone until they start getting down right mean. Then they settle them down to try to get them out of the place with the help of a "Giveaway bottle".

In those days they didn't worry about them driving drunk because they drove a horse and buggy or just a horse. The saloon keeper would say to the drunk, "Say, Joe -- Joe -- look over this way. See what I've got for you." Then he would pour a shot of whiskey in the small bottle

and say, "Take this home with you and have it in the morning." Sometimes it worked and sometimes it didn't!

The three milk glass bottles shown were used for just this situation. They are 4 and 5 inches high with painted faces and red lettering debossed into the glass. NIGHT CAP, MORNING NIP, and GOOD NIGHT are all in the rare category and usually sell for in the \$100 to \$200 range.

"No! No! No! Bartender, I don't want to take this home. I want to drink it right here!" See, sometimes it didn't work!

#### BEER, BEER, BEER

by JOHN WYSS

#### THIS BUD'S FOR YOU

Today we have three Budweiser beer bottles to share with you. Now, obviously these bottles aren't going to set the world of mini beers on fire, but I felt it was time to "shift gears" and show a few beers which are unlisted - yet very obtainable. While it is quite entertaining to feature rare and elusive bottles, updating collectors on more recent bottles is just as important in my book.

The first two beers were actually used as checker pieces in a set first produced in 1990 and still available today from Anheuser-Busch, Inc. of St. Louis. The bottles are quality products produced in the good old U.S. of A. They are a proportinate 4 1/8" tall and the scale is compatible with the earlier mini beers. The paper labels are identical to their full-sized counterparts. The only drawback on these new bottles is that they are made of plastic, but in their defense, many other new minis are also done in plastic AND this plastic is rigid and full of sheen. From a foot away you just can't visually tell the difference. The

brown bottles have a sold white plastic cap and there is no identifying embossment on the bottom.

Our third Budweiser pictured is turned to one side in order to show a new variation. The "Bud" shown and "listed" as MO-16 may have an obscure difference... The two small squares containing the ever famous A/Eagle logo in each upper corner may come in a white or gold background. Now this subtle difference may seem a little too scrutinizing for some collector's taste, but it actually does represent a specific change in label design which occurred approximately around 1956. Neither variation of MO-16 is any more difficult to obtain than the other, so keep a look out and you can pick up a "new" bottle at a reasonable price!

In closing, if anyone else has noticed any other similarly subtle variations in "listed" bottles, please drop me a line and I'll pass it on so others may share in the knowledge game.

--J.W.--



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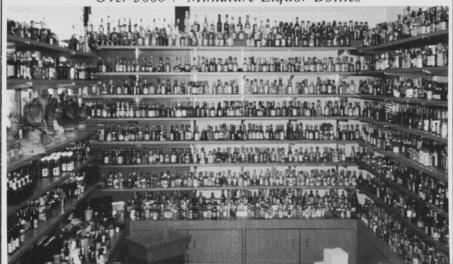
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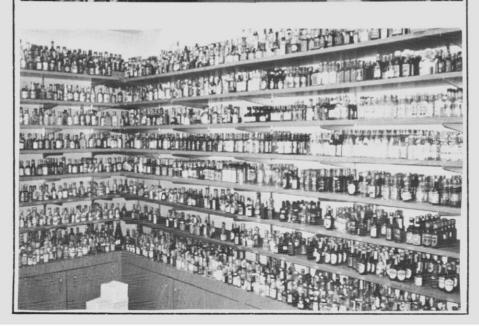
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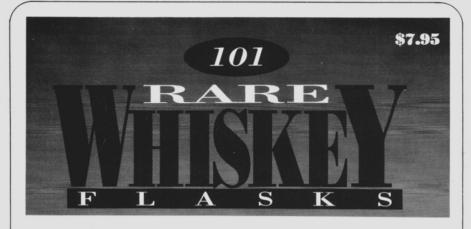
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