

THE

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No. 131 1995

MINIATURE BOTTLE COLLECTOR



Federation of Historical Bottle Collectors, Inc.

Bottles & Extras

% J. Carl Sturm, 88 Sweetbriar Branch, Longwood, FL 32750-2783
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A Monthly Magazine for Collectors of OLD BOTTLES AND RELATED ANTIQUES

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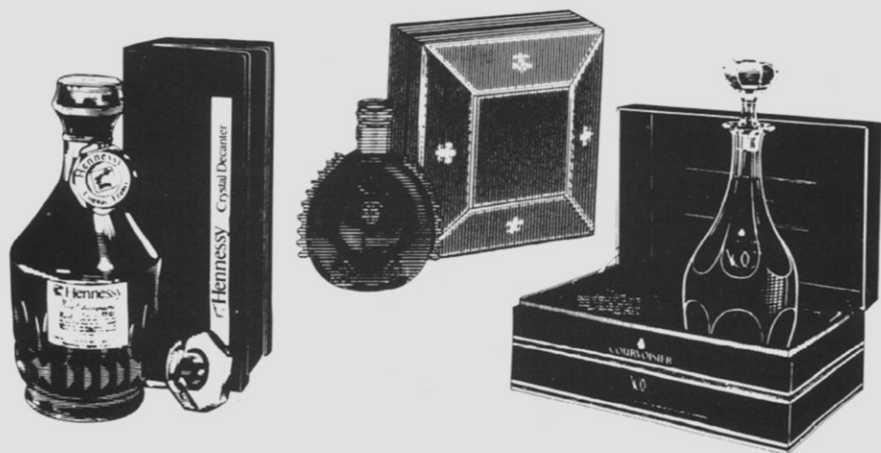


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Let's Talk

Well, the cover bottles last time certainly have brought out some interest. No, they haven't been brought in the U.S. yet, but there is a chance for the Meukow with the jaguar. (Those purportedly in the know have proclaimed it a jaguar...not a panther!) The large version of the bottle is sold here, so...

How many of you out there are on the Internet? How about the World Wide Web? Know what I'm even talking about? Well, there is a plan afoot to get the magazine on the Internet. It wouldn't be the same as the printed version but would have some different articles, possibly some of the older articles. In any case, how does this affect you? The answer is that it should help increase the subscription base and then everyone benefits.

Do we need a larger subscription base you ask. Yup. Costs have gone up and up at the post office and paper and printing costs have also increased. We've had to increase the subscription cost with this issue since (as anyone can easily tell) the ads don't pay the bills. So, if you've ever thought of giving anyone a gift subscription, this holiday season is the time to do it.

The articles this time are a mixture of old and new in both glass and ceramic. Hopefully in the next issue we can have a report on the two October shows. See you during the holidays.

—DMS—

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MINIATURE BOTTLE COLLECTOR

Editor/Publisher DAVID M. SPAID

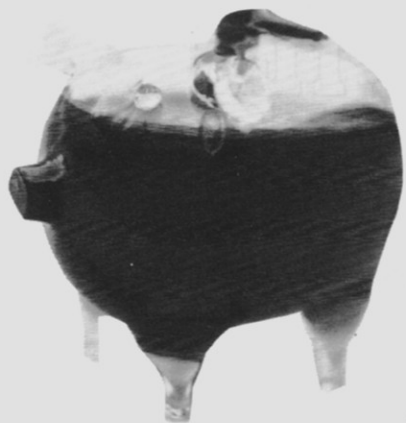
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Our Cover

Ever seen this one before? You can bet that you're not alone if you answered "no" to that question. This may be one of the best kept secrets in the world of ceramic mini bottles. As noted, this is from the Pride of Baltimore company in Maryland and contains bourbon. It was issued in 1984...11 years ago. How many of these have you ever seen at a show or on the shelves?

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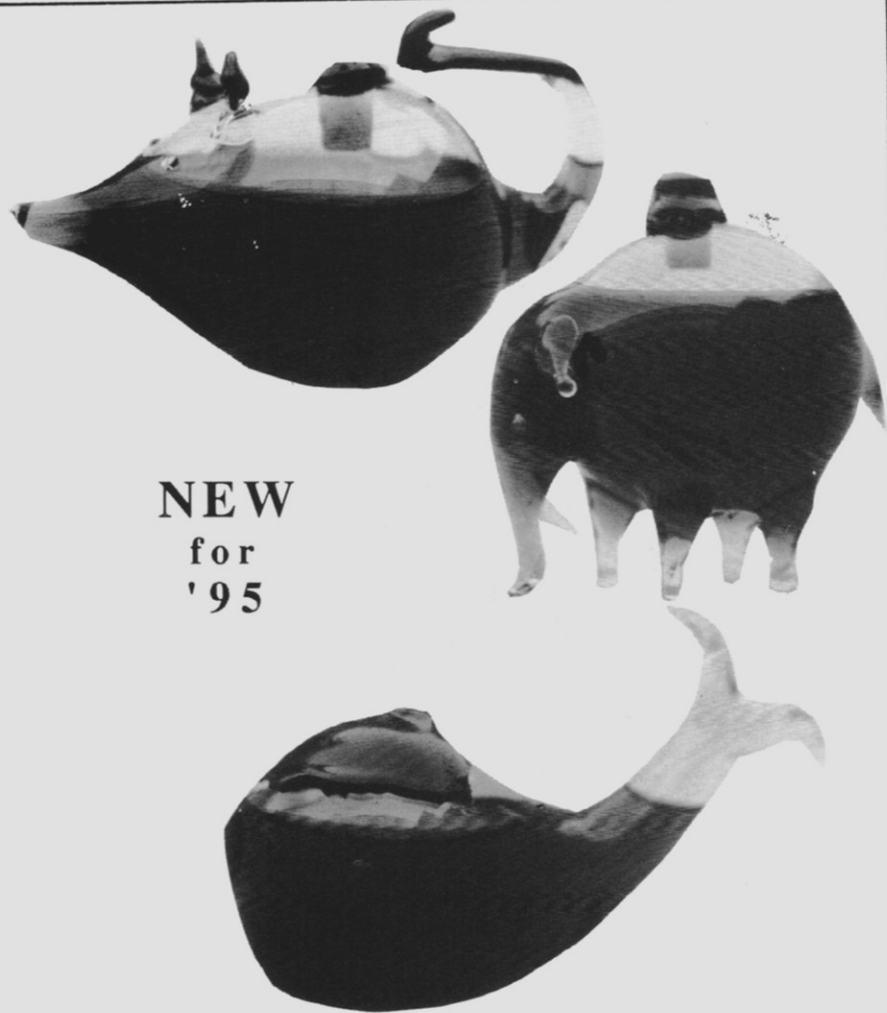


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WHAT'S NEW



Wow, fourteen bottles this time. That just might be a record. AND all (except one) are currently being sold in the U.S.

Let's deal with that one foreign bottle first. It's DITA, a litchi flavored drink from France. However, this one didn't come from France, but from Japan where it was a sample given to liquor stores. The product met with approval so Dita is now being sold in Japan but in a flask/flat bottle with the same label.

Next on the agenda is the new Keglevich (Italy) set of five flavored vodkas. They are pineapple, melon, lemon, coconut, and peach. This particular set was donated by Steve and Donna Fortuna to the Lilliputian Club for their October bottle show/sale.

While we're at it, we'll finish off the glass bottles with the Bacardi Limón and the Stolichnaya Cristal. Both of these bottles were found in Kentucky but at least the Bacardi is now available in a variety of areas.

IMPORTED
KEGLEVICH *Vodka & Liqueur*





Watch for that 49¢ introductory offer!

Now we're into the plastics... can't live with 'em, can't live without 'em. The two from Gordon's (Citrus Vodka and Grapefruit Gin) are cashing in on the "light" spirits craze. The Lemon Blitzur or Zitronenschapps has to be from Germany, right? Nope it hails from Lewiston, Maine, and is produced by the Blitzur

Company.

The last three are all whisk(e)y products. They are all well known and these are just the new label variations. There are enough purists among us who like all the different variations so now you've got something to go after.

More next time as the new variety of bottles increases.

--DMS--

SCOTCH

David Maund

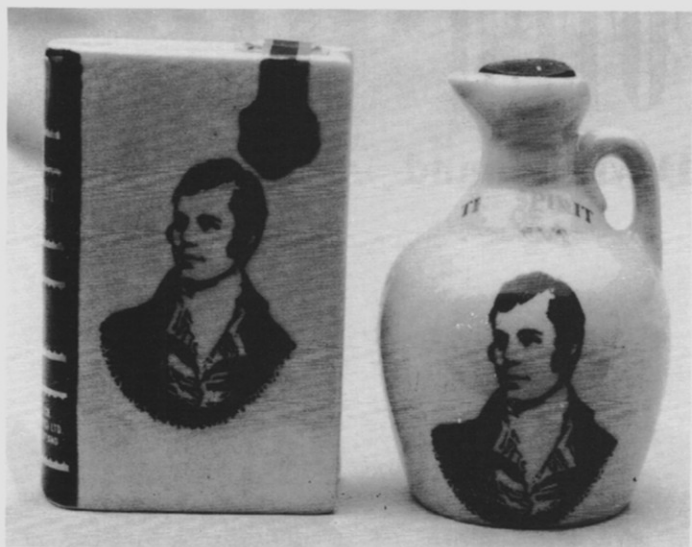


Last time it was all glass, this time it's all ceramics. I was certain you'd be interested in seeing a group that are just a bit more difficult to add to your collection. After all, part of the fun is in the hunt!

Let's begin with the set which has been around the longest. This is a group of thirteen bottles made to commemorate the Manchester Football Club. This group won the Euro-

pean Champions Cup in 1968 and in 1983 was honored with this set which pictures all of the team members along with the manager. George Best (far left, fourth row from top) was one of the stand-outs in this group. We won't discuss the unfortunate fate that befell this team.

Next we'll look at the Gordon Highlander. This may look familiar to you, but it's only the



shape. This is the Fly Fishing Decanter and it's the last in the series. All told there were twelve in the series (if we don't count a mistake or two along the way).

The Baxter's flagon celebrates their 125 years of operation. This flagon was produced in quite limited numbers and is a quite nice addition to any collection featuring ceramics.

Finally we come to two of the latest offerings from Rutherford

of Glasgow. Of course, you're looking at Robbie Burns who is commemorated with these pieces. I like them both...what I don't like is that there were a number of flagons and books produced and the only difference from piece to piece is the Burns' quote on the back.

Next time it's back to glass and I think I'll give you a look at what Cadenhead's has been producing. --D.L.M.--



"SPECIAL" COGNACS

By Tony Natelli



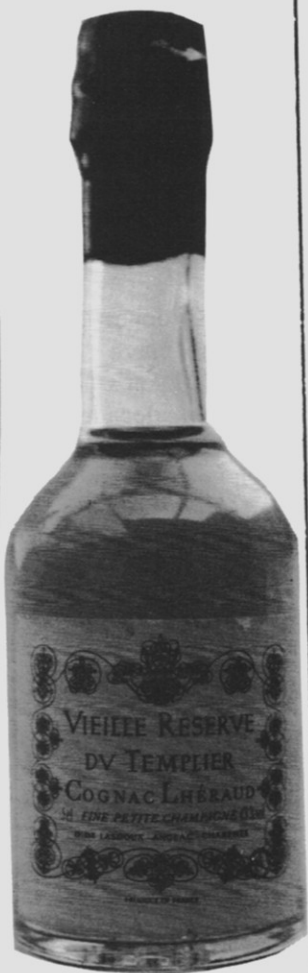
Nothing terribly fancy this issue, but I do have some labels you may not have seen before. Last time I featured two of the Lhéraud bottles so it's only fitting to present the *Vieille Reserve du Templier* this time.

The little Hennessy you say you've seen before but don't be too sure. Take a magnifying glass to the bottom of the label and you'll see that this one is

all in Spanish. It was produced for Mexico.

The Hine bottle is the same beautifully done piece of glass that has been used for some time now; however, the label is now *Rare & Delicate* instead of *V.S.O.P.* Now that's not a small variation.

The Jean Niel Riviere I know absolutely nothing of. I also want you to know that I don't



often admit to something like that!

The last bottle is from the Menuet Company. This is very seldom seen as almost all of the cognac they produce goes into large bottles for Germany or (mostly) private French customers. If you have a Menuet, you have quite a find.

Hope you enjoyed seeing these five --T.N.--

MAKER'S MARK

You know the name, you have at least one of the bottles in your collection. However, very few have either the original Black Label International or the new Black Label introduced this year in Japan. The pair is pictured here for you with the International on the left.

No doubt a good many collectors have seen the ads which Maker's Mark has run in the last decade or so. These ads rightfully point out the high quality of Maker's Mark and how this small distillery is interested in providing only the best.

The distillery is located in Loretto, Kentucky, a few miles from Bardstown. The bourbon was first bottled and sold by T. W. Samuels in 1959; however, the Samuels' family has been involved with bourbon heritage for well over two hundred years now.

Today the company is presided over by Bill Samuels, Jr. who takes great pride in the



bourbon he markets and family tradition that has helped produce it. The distillery is now a National Historic Landmark and the bourbon continues to be made at the same pace it has for thirty-six years now. That "pace" produces a mere 38 barrels of bourbon a day. And with a production that small, we're fortunate that any is bottled in miniature form.



If you're wondering why this new black label is available in Japan, it's because the foreign markets are extremely important. The following is taken from an article in the February 1994 issue of *Kentucky Living* and the speaker is Bill Samuels, Jr.

"The need for marketing bourbon outside the United States stems from the time of Prohibition, when only a few distillers were allowed to produce whiskey for medicinal purposes. When Prohibition ended, American distilleries had no stock of aged whiskey on hand to sell.

"It's taken almost 60 years to overcome the way FDR handled the repeal of prohibition. I'm not saying he could have done it differently, but we were far enough behind (in U.S. sales) to where the doors were closed.

"In 1934, the first day you could make whiskey was the first day you could sell whiskey. It takes longer than one day to make whiskey!

"There was no control over the Scots and Canadians who made whiskey. By the time American distillers could get up and running, the only segment of the market available was as a commodity."

So, a short bit of interesting history as well as reason for selling overseas. Possibly, if we're very lucky, we just might get some good Black Label Maker's Mark here in the U.S.

FROM JAPAN

by TAIZO SHIRATSUCHI

This time I would like to present to you some Japanese Whisky miniatures which were issued in the first half of 1995.

The first is SUNTORY ROYAL 12 year old. It has a higher quality than the Suntory Royal Whisky which has been familiar to you for a long time; however, the bottle shape is the same as you can see. The label is blue with a golden frame and has a golden 'Emblem', 'ROYAL' and '12'. The round neck seal is also gold. It is 9.5cm tall in a brown glass which contains 50ml at 43% alcohol.

SUPER NIKKA Whisky also appeared with new labels. The new one has white labels with the golden letters 'Super'. The Emblem has been changed from a main label to a shoulder label which makes it look much neater. The bottle is 11cm tall in a clear glass and contains 50ml at 43% alcohol.

The next one is NIKKA MALT CLUB, a tasting sample in a plastic bottle. The MALT CLUB was launched as a sister product of ALL MALT. There are some Japanese letters which mean "tasting sample" in a rectangle on the white label. It is

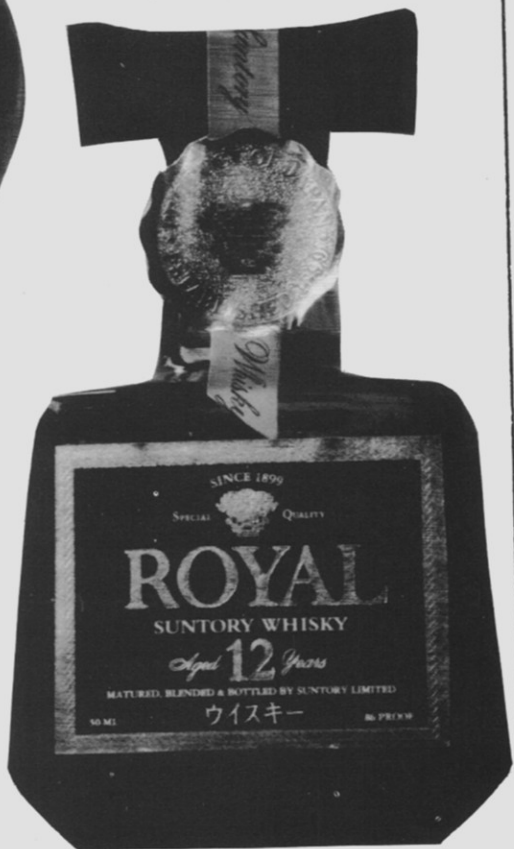




9cm tall in a clear plastic bottle and contains 50ml at 40% alcohol.

The last bottle is NIKKA KITA-GENSHU Pure Malt Whisky 15 year old. This miniature was issued by the Nikka Distillery only for the Osaka Miniature Bottle Club as a commemorative bottle of its 15 Anniversary. The KITA-GENSHU miniature was never available in the stores. The name means the "Malt distilled at northern Distillery." It has a tan label on clear cylindrical glass and is 8.5 cm tall with 50ml and 43% alcohol.

Until next time. . . --T.S.--



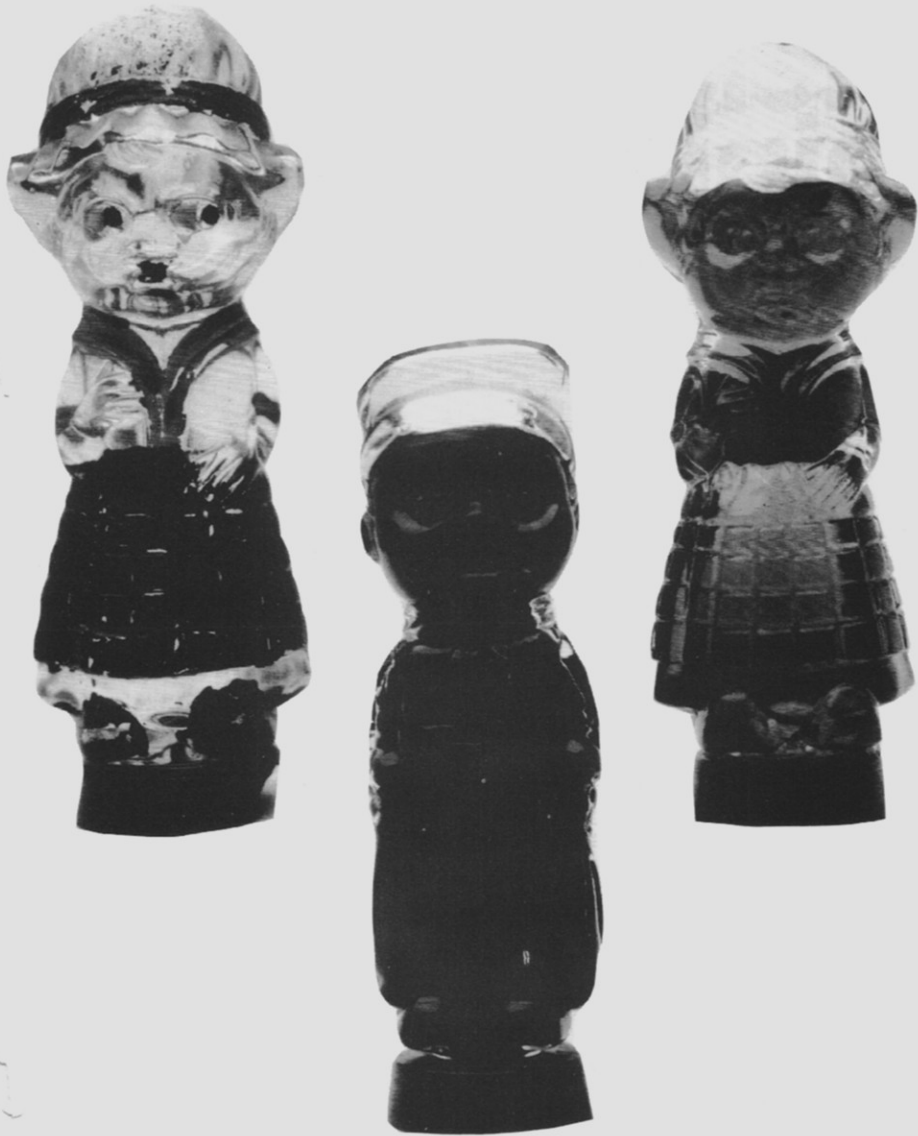
MOLDED GLASS



A good many articles recently have shown straight glass bottles. So, thought it was time to present some figural glass bottles.

These pieces may seem somewhat familiar to some collectors. The reason is that all of these characters have been

shown here previously...but in their ceramic representations. It appears that the Mexican company Destileria Francesca produced a set of twelve characters in ceramic and probably the same twelve in molded glass. The word "probably" is used because these five would



seem to be the only known ones.

Presented here are the dog, the Dutch boy and girl, the bride and groom, and a painted variation of the Dutch girl. These all contain(ed) a liqueur: cherry, peppermint, etc. They were issued in the 1930's, undoubtedly about sixty years ago.

melo's minis

by Mike Olson

In this article I would like to feature an unusual blend, plus we'll look at five of the elusive California whiskeys. All of the bottles are from the mid 1930's and should be viewed in color to be fully appreciated. I like the smaller 1/10 pint bottles that are featured here and two of the three bottles from Bohemian have nice embossing.

We lead off with Dickel's Murray Hill Club Blended Whiskey Blended and Bottled by the famous Geo. A. Dickel Distilling Co. It is 90 proof, 4 or more years old and has a black label printed in gold.

Bottle number two is Four Bits Straight Bourbon Whiskey Bottled by San Angelo Wine & Spirit Corp. Los Angeles. It is 80 proof, seven months old and has a brown label printed in white and silver.

Next is Billie Taylor Kentucky Straight Bourbon Whiskey Bottled by Westco Liquor Products Co. San Francisco. It

is 93 proof, one year old and has a yellow label printed in red and black.

The last three were all bottled by Bohemian Distributing Co. Los Angeles. The Old Artisan Rye Whiskey is 100 proof, 2 years old and has a multi-colored label on a light green background. The Royal Taste Straight Bourbon Whiskey is 90 proof, 5 months old and has a white label printed in orange and yellow. The Golden Oak Straight Bourbon Whiskey is 100 proof, 15 months old and has a multi-colored yellow label.

Finally, a long distant relative of mine worked in the liquor business after prohibition was repealed. When he first saw the wares produced by Bohemian he was heard to mumble, "Boy, it does not get any better than this.", thus originating one of the most over used phrases in advertising history.

Until next time.....M E L O. .



A POTPOURRI OF DOULTON MINIS

by JACK SULLIVAN



Shown here are a potpourri, a mixed group, of antique Royal Doulton minis from England, demonstrating once again the versatility and imagination that always has characterized that famous pottery house.

The first is a miniature version of a whisky ceramic called the "Galley of Lorne" which held scotch under the brand name "Special Highland". Featuring a typical Doulton honey-brown glaze,

the transfer depicts a sailing galley of Scottish folklore with a boar's head rampant on its sail. The design of the transfer combined with the color and shape of the mini make it attractive and desirable almost a century after Doulton created it.

The second is a mini of a Dewar's Whisky water jug, again an artifact that can be found in a full-sized version by Doulton. Dewar's was



perhaps the best customer Doulton had for its whisky ceramics, willing to commission the firm to design and produce a wide range of sizes, shapes and glazes to surround its potables. Doulton responded with many of its most interesting items. Notice here the white "sprigging" that adds a third color and additional decoration to the sides of this tiny pub jug.

Number three advertises "Wilks' Maraschino" in mini size. It features a royal coat of arms and boasts of "a special appointment" to the Throne of England. Maraschino is not a brand name but a flavor type named after the dark Marasca cherries used to make it. These are distilled several times, then the crushed stones and

added. The resulting liqueur is either dark red or clear.

Minis like these were given away free as advertising gimmicks. But bearing the Doulton mark on the base, this item like the others here can command many dollars today.

Our last item is known as the Watchman, the precursor in Old London of the policeman. A watchman patrolled the streets of the city at night, carrying a lantern and a staff, while calling out the hour and the state of the weather. This miniature features a modeled head of the Watchman with a transfer on its body of a Watchman figure with lantern and pike.

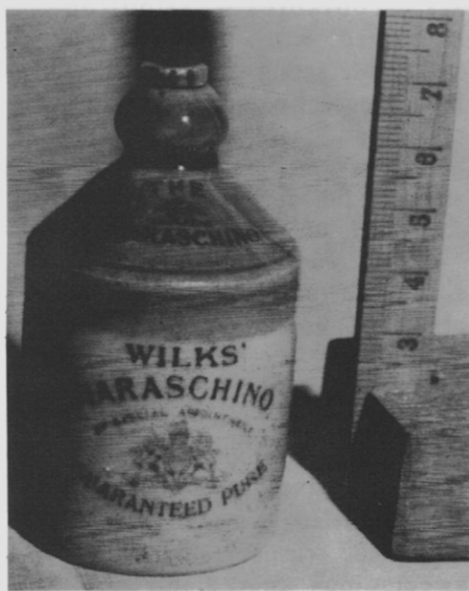
It is a 3 and 3/4 inch exact replica of a full-sized Doulton Kingsware jug issued in 1904 and, says author Joycelyn Lu-



kins, bears the same number in Doulton's registry as its big brother. Both feature a silver stopper and chain.

There they are: four testaments to the Doulton genius for good design -- no matter how small the item.

--J.S.--



WHISKEY HERITAGE

by BUTCH JONES



BUSHMILLS is the company featured this month. This company has produced some great Irish Whiskey minis over the years. The first one is 1/10 pt, 86°, 9 year old Irish Whiskey. This one has an orange cap. Number two though contains 50ml of 80° Irish Whiskey. This one is different because of the gold lettering in the center of the label and around the outside.

Mini number three contains 1/10 pt, 86° whiskey. The label on top says "Produced under the same formula for 150 years at the world's oldest distillery".

Number four is the oldest

of the bunch. The top has a lead outer covering, contains 1/10 pt, 86° Irish Whiskey. This one is embossed "The O.B.O.C. Limited Est 1784". Next is a Bushmill's as opposed to Old Bushmill's like the first four. The bottle is filled with 50ml of 80° whiskey and the label has gold lettering in the center and around the outside.

The last is Black Bush. This label is very colorful with black in the center, white letters, red through the center and gold throughout. It contains 50ml of 80° whiskey.

Hope you enjoyed these.

--B.J.--

Volume I

201

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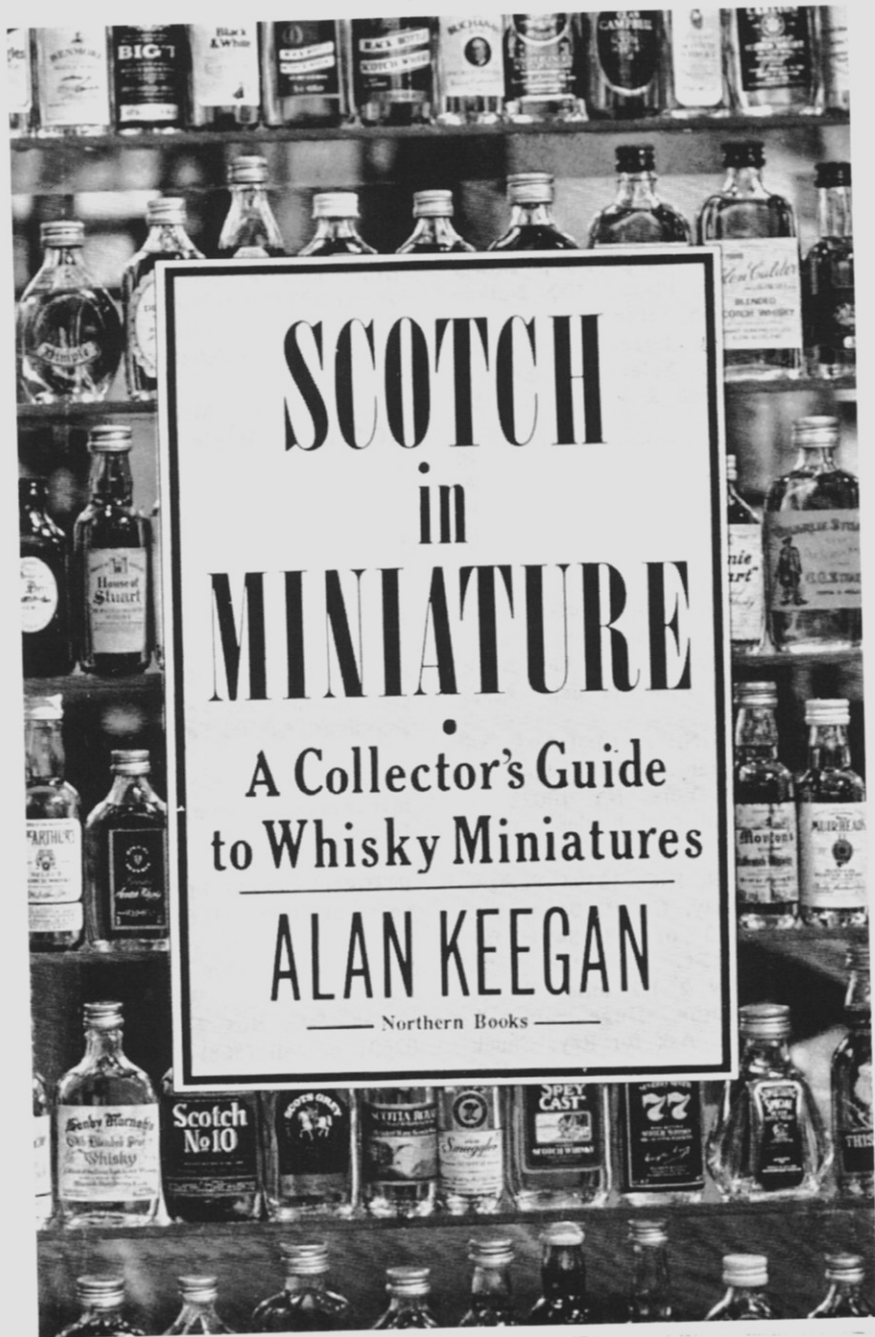
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FOR SALE: James MacArthur & Co. Ltd. are pleased to announce two limited edition bottlings. 1. Tall Ships Race July 1995. Single malt scotch whisky @ 43%vol, 500 bottle edition. Price US\$7 plus US\$4 packaging & postage. 2. Set of five tall Still label miniatures at cask strength. Presentation box in a 200 set edition. 21 y.o. Ledaig 54.2%, 21 y.o. Teaninich 57.2%, 22 y.o. Glen Keith 51.2%, 27 y.o. MacDuff 53% and 27 y.o. Springbank 49.1%. Price US\$55 plus US\$10 packing & postage. Cheques to: James MacArthur & Co. Ltd., 20 Knights Templar Way, High Wycombe, Bucks HP11 1PY England.

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FOR SALE: Entire collection of 750 bottles for sale...\$500 or best offer. Printout available. This collection sold only in its entirety. Taylor Butler, 1065 Winding Creek Trail, Atlanta, GA 30328 or call (404) 252-1356.

FOR SALE: Miniature collection of approximately 1150 bottles. No duplicates, additional 75-100 as spares. Many very old. Catalogued list available... \$2,395, will consider all offers. Barbara or Alex Palacio - call (505) 897-0676.

NOTICE: I have approximately 50 cognac miniatures of which 30 are from 1930's-1940's. Will swap for Irish Whiskey miniatures from same time period. For details write to: Edward Brady, 98 Westminster Drive, Pearl River, NY 10965.

FOR SALE: I have lists galore of different bottles for sale: jugs, bourbons, figurals, misc. Let me know in what you're interested and I'll send list(s). Free glass bottle of Japanese Shochu to all buyers. And if you collect large bottles, there are even lists of those. David M. Spaid, P.O. Box 2161, Palos Verdes, CA 90274.

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WANTED: Tequilas, malt scotches, beers, gag bottles, and N.Y. "liquor-liqueurs". Willing to buy or trade the same, either singles or collections. Call or write to Randy Austin, 535 Fairview Avenue, Baldwin, NY 11510 or call (516) 378-7166 (evenings).

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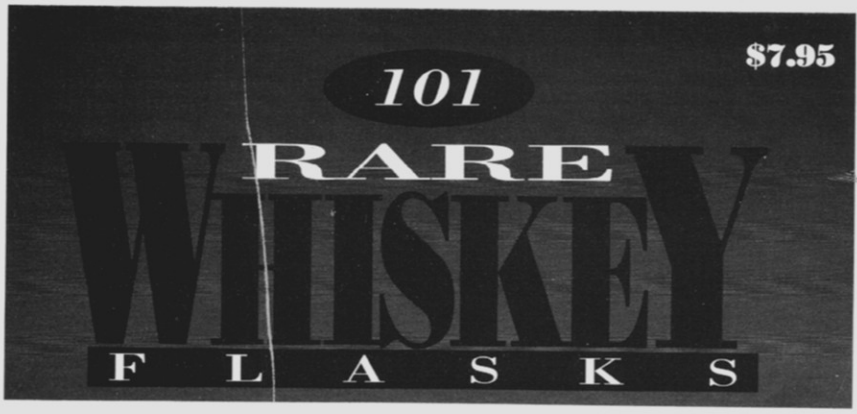
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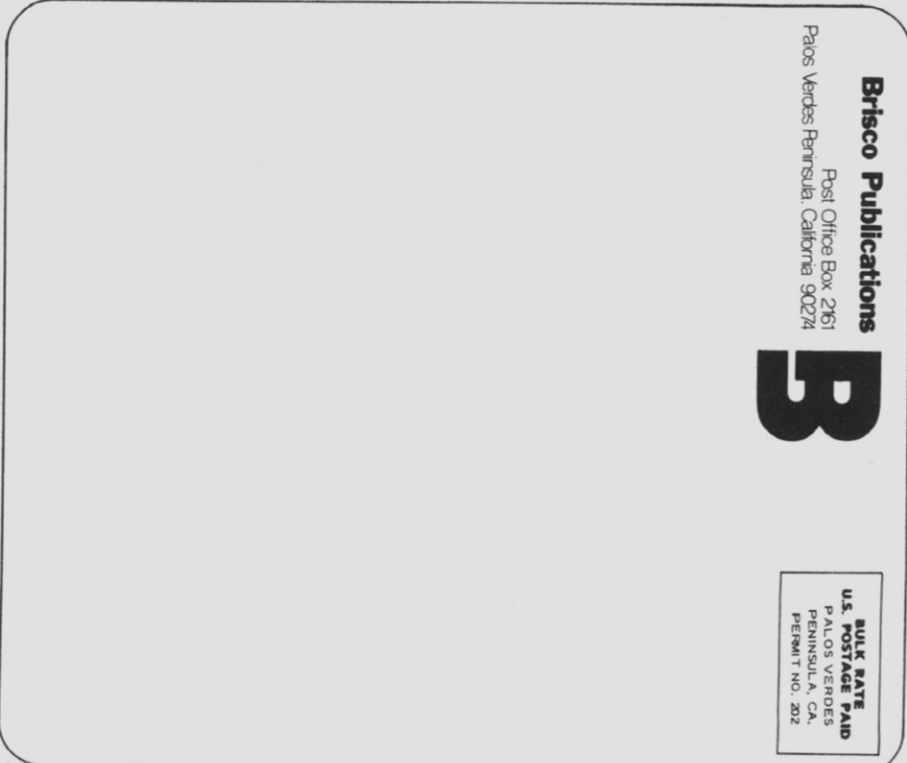
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