VOL. XXVI No. 1
No. 151 1999

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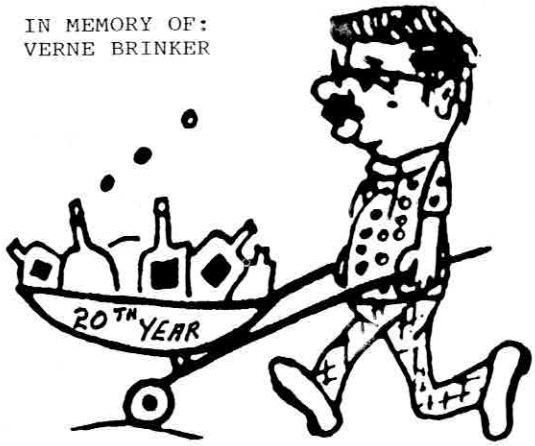
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Let's Talk

A new year and lots of new bottles to go after. I say this because I've just returned from visiting Minnesota and Tennessee. There were surely a good number of bottles I'd never seen before.

I'm always amazed when you ask collectors from various parts of the U.S. what's new in their area. The answer is usually "nothing". Well, I'm beginning to think what they really mean is "nothing...I'm interested in".

In both the above mentioned states I found vodkas, Canadian Whiskies, and a good many liqueurs which were completely new to me. Naturally you'll see them all here shortly.

Want to welcome aboard Bert Thomson from Scotland. This is the first of Bert's columns and I think you'll find it quite interesting... particularly you scotch collectors.

Next time Derman Villegas will join us and Holm Hars will also return with a marvelous new set of German bottles.

Because of the response on the internet, the magazine is now reaching more and more collectors both here in the U.S., Europe, South America and Asia. Surely hope you're taking advantage of meeting other collectors and doing some swapping. Remember, it's just

bottlecollecting.com

And even if you're a weekly (or more often) visitor to the site, you'll continually find new fascinating links.

So, keep thinking small and we'll be back in April.

— DMS —

THE MINIATURE BOTTLE COLLECTOR

VOL. XXVI No. 1
No. 151 1999

Editor / Publisher DAVID M. SPAID

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Finally, some ceramics.

Our Cover

It had to happen. Single Malt Scotches have been around for eons; single barrel distillings of American Bourbons are now commonplace; and finally, we have the new Single Distillery Cognacs as selected by Hennessy. These three bottles are currently only being sold in the 750ml size; however, miniatures have been produced...they just aren't being sold. As soon as they are there will be a good many happy collectors. Don't you agree?

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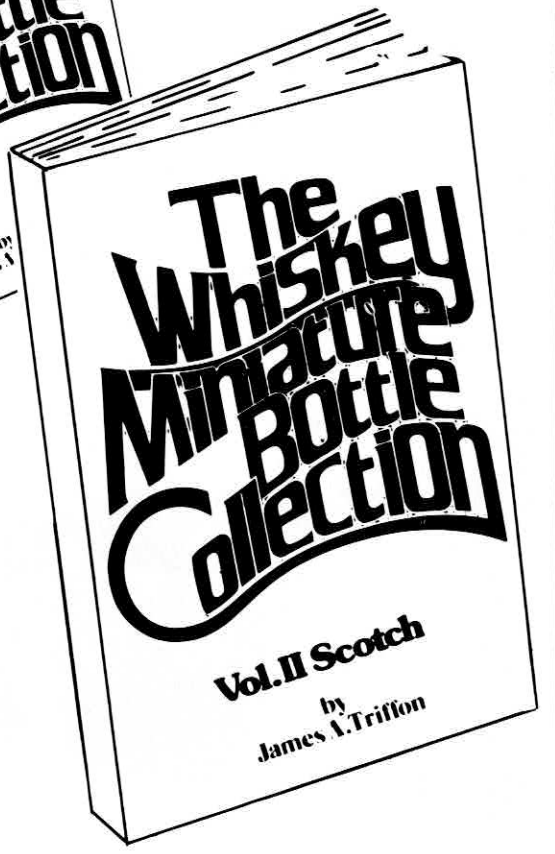
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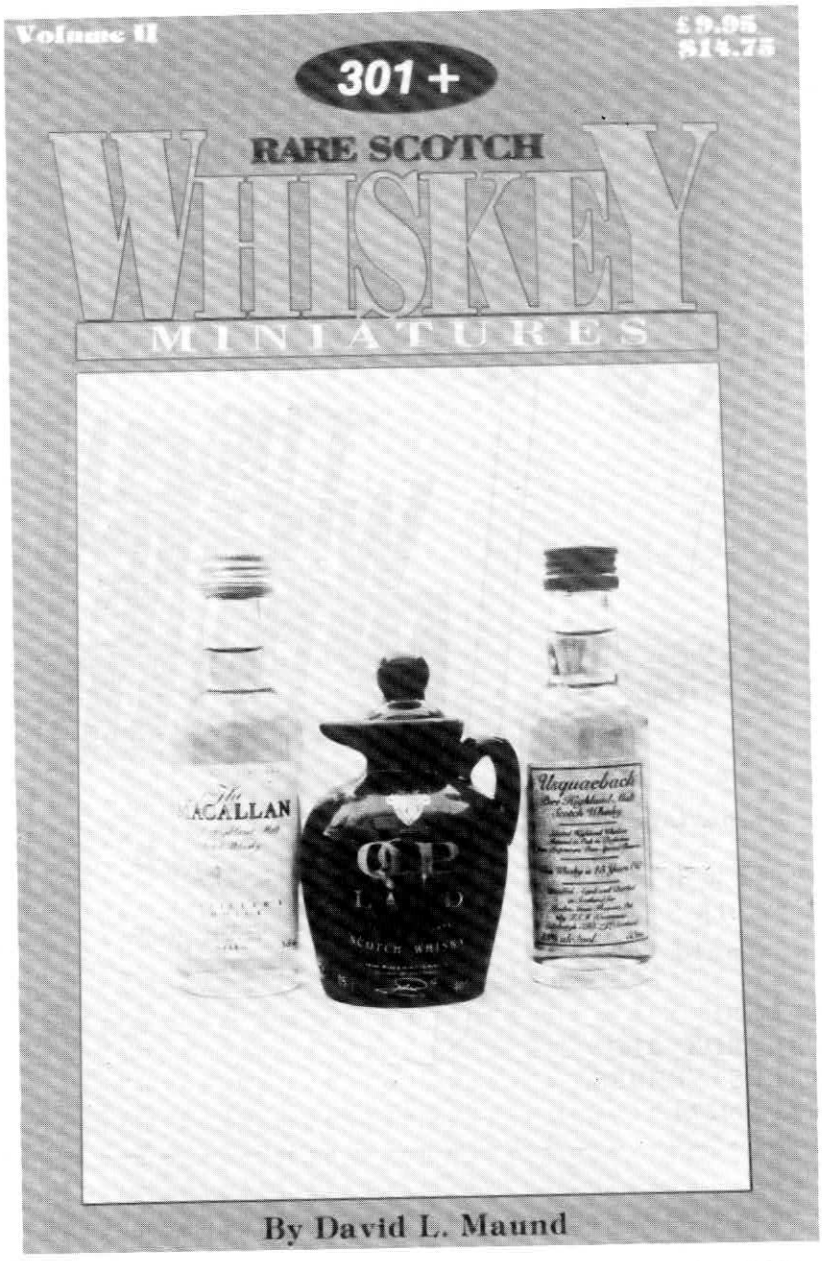
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Beauties From The ORIENT



You won't find many ceramic minis almost anywhere you go in the world. A few jugs/flagons here and there and an occasional figural. So it is with delight that we show you these two beautifully done pieces sold at the duty free shop in the new Hong Kong airport.

Similar in design to the Gordon Highlander or English Gentleman's Choice made in England (by Wade Ceramics), these two pieces are Memories of Hong Kong and Memories of Beijing. They contain Tissinier X.O. French Brandy, are hexagonal, and have the most magnificent decal/transfers. Both bottles share a transfer of a five-toed dragon around the top of the main part of the bottle, but there the pictorial similarity ends. Each has scenes of its respective metropolis which will indeed refresh the memories of all who have traveled to Beijing and Hong Kong.

WHAT'S NEW

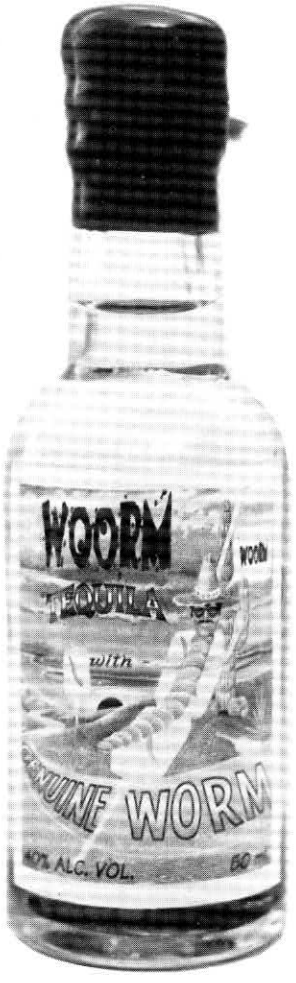


It's really the proverbial mixed bag for you this time. Bottles from all over which were found...all over! We'll begin with the bottles from Asia.

Don't really know of too many from Okinawa, but this highly colorful one (wait until you see it on the internet) which pictures four Japanese people in front of a house, shrine or temple (not sure which). The name is translated as Awamori.

Previously we've showed you a Takara Shochu, now you can see the two newest ones which are









Lemon and Lime flavored. The bottles are very clean and simple which give them quite an elegance.

The next piece is possibly the strangest of the entire lot this time. This is the Woorm Tequila. This was found in a Tokyo department store and naturally it was an import...from the Woorm Tequila Company of Bardstown, Kentucky. C'mon now. Oh well, it may be the only tequila we know of with a worm in it. Methinks someone in a marketing department doesn't know the difference between Mezcal and Tequila!

Now we'll move on to Europe. The two vodkas were both found in Germany and the winner of the two is surely the Caviar. Like the two Japanese Takaras, this is also a bottle elegant in its simplicity.

The trumpet is a very nice molded glass piece from France. It may be found with several different liqueurs. The one shown is Crème de Menthe.

Finally we get to the bottles available in the U.S. The set of three tequilas from Zafarrancho are the reposado, the gold and the





silver. Three different styles and ages, but guess what...they all cost the same. This set was found in Southern California and probably won't have too much distribution,

Incidentally, did you notice there's nary a plastic bottle in the lot this time? --DMS—

A Visit To Boozeville

by Lloyd McLeod



"Every time I want to go somewhere, he always has to tag along. And then he has to dress just like I do. In fact he does everything the way I do it. Boy, it's a pain having a little brother."

This conversation was overheard recently in Boozeville. These two brothers get along even with all their similarities.

Our little Dutch or German boys are highly colorful with their green caps, orange shirts, and blond hair. The "older" brother stands 7 1/2" tall while his "sib- ling" is approximately one inch shorter. They both carry a little nosegay so could it be that they're on the way to visit someone special? -- L.M.—

SCOTCH

David Maund



Never ask a scotch collector "What's New"...he'll tell you. Sometimes the list is rather long. That's true except for when the list is even longer! This time we have a nice new set from Blackadder and another six interesting pieces. In fact, an even dozen for you.

Previously I've showed you a few different Blackadder bottles, but this new set of several of Scotland's well known castles is very well done and quite colourful. You could plainly see this, but the six are Braemar, Edinburgh, Eilean Donan, Fraser, Glamis (pronounced as if there were no "I") and Inverness. They contain a 10 year old single malt.

Our friends at the Whisky Connoisseur in Biggar, Scotland have these two new issues (among a great many): The Kenmore and The Posie. Not the common glass


Fraser
Castle
Single Malt Scotch Whisky
10 Years Old
Glamis
Castle
Single Malt Scotch Whisky
10 Years Old
Inverness
Castle
Single Malt Scotch Whisky
10 Years Old


Teacher's
RESERVE
SCOTCH WHISKY
THE
KENMORE
Single Speyside Malt
16
The Posie
Single Speyside Malt
18
SCOTCH WHISKY



bottle we're used to seeing which adds to their desirability. The Meikles Reserve is a blend and a very nice one too in this presentation.

Now every so often I'm stumped. Can't tell you a thing about the Tambowie other than what you can see yourself! The Edinburgh Military Tattoo though is a Cumbrae Supply Company item and their name has been well known for over two decades now.

I've saved quite a most interesting one for last. This is the Adelphi blend and it's in a most unusual 10 cl bottle. I found it at Royal Mile Whiskies in Edinburgh and that's the only place I've seen it. Still haven't figured out though what that Scotsman on the label is doing.

That's all for now. A happy end of the millennium to all. —D.M.--

REIMERSHOLMS

Trade- mark



REIMERSHOLMS is the trademark for fine Swedish Aquavit, a speciality from Sweden. The name originates from Reimersholme, an island in central Stockholm, where a distillery first opened its doors in 1869. Ever since the 15th century, Swedes have maintained the tradition of blending various flavors and spices with spirits.

Thanks to new distillation methods, the Reimersholme distillery now has three special aquavits which have been imported into the U.S.

The first is Skane, which is the name of the southern province of Sweden. The aquavit has the traditionally mild flavor of caraway, anise and fennel and has been the top seller in Sweden since its introduction in 1931.

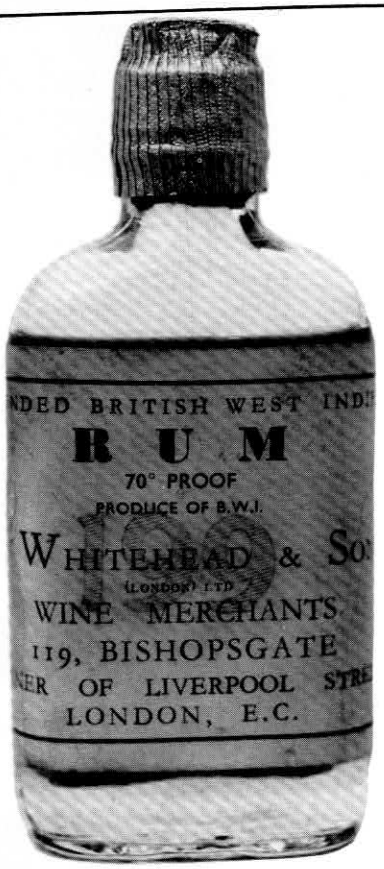
Herrgards Aquavit originates from the mansions in Sweden where society gathered in the old days. Coriander and whisky have been added and it's matured in sherry casks.

The recipe of O. P. Anderson originates from Gothenburg 1891 and is named after the local spirits manufacturer Olaf Peter Anderson. This is the most rich and powerful tasting of the trio.

You'll find these minis in various areas of the U.S. from Washington to New York.

RUM





Usually when we think of different places we have preconceived notions of what might go with those places. For example, think Kentucky and you have to say bourbon, Greece brings to mind Ouzo, France naturally makes you think of cognac, etc., etc. So when I say England, you'd probably say gin and then for Scotland you'd just have to say scotch.

Since we like to be different, let's drop our preconceived ideas and remember when rum was a much liked and lauded libation in the United Kingdom. Yes, rum. You might not realize it, but there was a time when rum (demon or not) was a favorite drink in France, England, Scotland, and in the U.S. in New England. And, each of these areas had their own brands.

Today you might find a New England rum if you searched high and low and you'd see a few French rums (from their possessions), but you won't find much rum from the U.K. in even large bottles. Cadenhead and one or two others still provide quality rums at "high street" prices, but you won't find many minis.

So these denizens of the past should bring a few smiles. They aren't quite as rare as chicken lips, just maybe hen's teeth. The labels do speak for themselves but I must call your attention to both of the Rigby bottles: Reflection and Muzzled Bear. Both of them proudly note that they are a "Product of the British Empire". 'Nuf said.


BY TEST THE BEST
WM CADENHEAD'S GREEN LABEL DEMERARA RUM
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ABERDEEN
PRODUCE OF BRITISH GUIANA
70° PROOF
YE OLDE TIMES
RUM
VATTED & BOTTLED BY
FREDERIC ROBINSON LTD.,
STOCKPORT
PRODUCE OF BRITISH GUIANA
RIGBY'S "REFLECTION"
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TREASURES OF THE PAST

by

BUTCH JONES



This time let's travel down under to Australia for five great whiskies not usually seen.

The first is Old Cobb Smooth Blended Whisky. What do you think of that great label? As you can see, the top of the label has a picture of a stagecoach. The second is Corio Old Whisky while the third is Marksman Light Special Blended Whisky. This clear square bottle is embossed "Australian". This is the older version as I also have a much newer one. Which one do you have?

Number four is Bond 7 Fine Selected Whisky. This whisky was distiller, blended and bottled by Milne and Company. The last one is also a variation of Four Seasons Whisky. This particular bottle is a clear square one.

Hope you've enjoyed our quick visit with five bottles from the land of Oz.

'Til next time. –B.J.—

GRAIN WHISKY

by

BERT THOMSON



Hello. For all you readers who don't know me, I'm one of the two whisky officers for the mini bottle club in the U.K.

For my first article in this splendid magazine, I'd like to show you some rare single grain scotches. The first is **CAMBUS** over 7 years, a distillery issue from 1945. I only got this one recently and prior to this never even knew that it existed.

CAMERON BRIG 40% vol was given away free to visitors during an open day at the distillery in the summer of 1995. It has never been available at any outlets, although it does turn up in auction magazines. **PORT DUNDAS** 40% vol has a similar story to that of Cameron Brig. It was never available in the shops but given away to visitors at an open day in the early 1990's. This one is extremely hard to obtain.

THE NORTH BRITISH 1980 CASK STRENGTH 61.5% vol is still another distillery issue never available at any outlet. It was given to VIP's during visits to the distillery in 1997-1998. Again, this one is almost impossible to obtain.

Finally we have **THE CALEDONIAN** 40% vol which was given to employees of the distillery when it closed in 1988. Whilst this mini never appeared in any outlet, it does appear regularly in auction magazines.

Hoped you liked seeing these grains and next time I'll show you something from Glenmorangie.

THAR'S GOLD IN THEM THAR HILLS

by **JACK SULLIVAN**

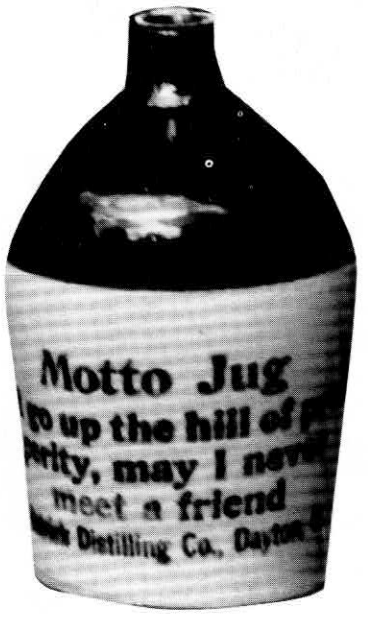




True, these are "golden oldies, but each mini-jug shown here carries out the theme of my title in other ways. The first is **GOLDEN STAR WHISKEY,** a 3 inch high jug covered all over with brown Albany slip. The name is arranged in a circle around a star. There is no potery mark and I have been unable to pinpoint the origins of the brand. Though the mini is crude, it has a great shape.

The **GOLDEN HILL** is a pre-Prohibition item from my home town, Toledo, Ohio. As a brand name, it shows up with a number of Ohio addresses. This one may have been distributed by a tavern of the same name. The Golden Hill Distilling was a Columbus, Ohio firm that operated from about 1905 until 1918. The Bayer-Schwartz Company were proprietors, according to Bob Snyder. The jug is 4 3/4 inches high with a bright cobalt blue transfer and no pottery mark.

Next we come to a motto jug from the Detrick Distilling Company of Dayton, Ohio. It says: "As I go up the hill of prosperity, may I never meet a friend". We can presume there is gold in that hill, but what does the motto mean? Are we sorry that our friend is descending the hill while we are ascending? Or are we afraind that this loser will put the arm on us for a loan now that he knows we are prospering? Your call.



This 4 1/2 inch unmarked jug was No. 1 in a series of a dozen given out as premiums by the Detrick firm. Customers received four motto minis for each three gallons of whiskey purchased. Founded in 1885 by Frank Detrick, the distillery prospered for more than 30 years with a nationwide mail order business. In 1918 it ditched the liquor trade and became the Detrick Grain and Mercantile Company, thus surviving Prohibition.

Finally – still on the theme – these mini-jugs represent three recent additions to my collection. Believe me, it took some "gold" to get them there! --J.S.--

Miniature Beer Bottles & Go-Withs

By Robert E. Kay

A price guide and reference manual for miniature beer collectables

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MELO'S MINIS

by MIKE OLSON



In this article we'll look at a couple of pre-pro's, plus a bottle from the 1920's. Also, we'll see two interesting pairs in dissimilar glass bottles.

The first bottle was almost ruined when it arrived in a shipment with a broken bottle. The label was soaked in whiskey which faded the red printing. This is Brown-Forman's Old Tucker Whiskey which was BIB 1912-1917. Bottle number two is Old Harman Whiskey which was BIB 1912-1917 by O'Neil & Weill, Toledo, Ohio. The third, Hill and Hill, was BIB 1914-1926 and was most probably done for "medicinal purposes".

The Harvey's Most Preferred Maryland Straight Rye Whiskeys were bottled for Harvey N. Boyce of Baltimore. The clear glass was bottled by E M F Distillery Inc. of Havre de Grace, MD. It is 86 proof, six years old and from 1941. The amber glass was bottled by Union Distillers of Baltimore. It is 90 proof, 4 years old and from 1940.

The pair of Wonder Bar Blended Whiskeys are 86 proof, 4 years old and were bottled by Majestic Distillery, Inc., Lansdowne, MD. They are from 1958 and 1956 respectively.

Finally, I still cannot believe the sudden passing of Tony Dobyns. He as a friend and the St. Louis bottle show will not be the same without him.

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



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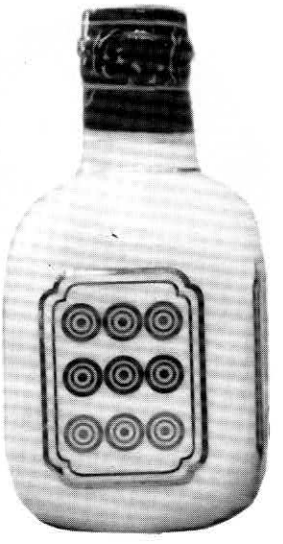
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MAH JONG



one character nine character one dot



nine dots

To begin, let's define what we're talking about here. From the book ***A MAH JONG HANDBOOK*** by Eleanor Noss Whitney comes this introduction: "Mah Jong has a long and puzzling history, largely obscured by uneducated guesses as to its origin, and clouded by legends. It has for centuries been the favorite game of the Chinese, and tradition has it that its name is apropos of the sound made by the tiles clicking together during the game. **Mah** means flax or hemp plant, and is said to refer to the sound of the plant's leaves clicking in the wind. **Jong** means sparrow, and supposedly recalls the chattering of the bird."



one bamboo　　nine bamboo

north



east　south　west

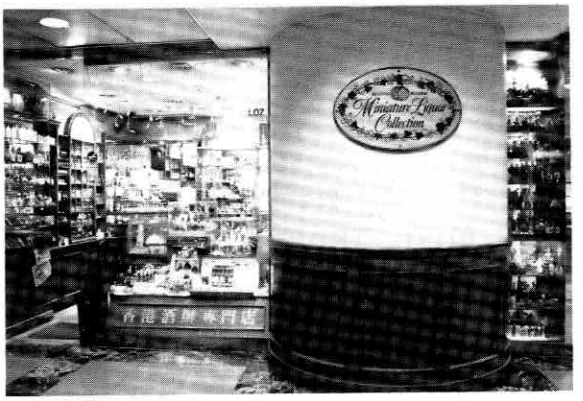


green white red

Here in America, the game had a great popularity in the 1920's and 1930's but then basically died off as a fad. Today it is still played around the world, but nowhere finds the success that it does in Asia.

Played with a set of 136 tiles, it is similar to several rummy card games. The tiles are divided into **suits** and **honors** and are then subdivided. The three groups of suits are the bamboos, the characters, and the dots. The honors are represented by the winds and the dragons.

The thirteen bottles seen here are now sold in Hong Kong. They contain the wine/liqueur that is found in the majority of ceramics made there. Aesthetically it is a most pleasing set and will surely bring a smile to the face of any collector who has ever played the game.



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Dear Miniature Bottle Collectors.

Meet each other in Germany at the EXPO 2000 in Hannover where the German Collectors' Club will organize an International Mini Bottle Collector Bottle Show and a Meeting. Wel-

Mrs and Mr Bode, members of our club, have had the idea to invite our hobby colleagues in abroad to a meeting and a bottle show even at that time when the EXPO 2000 in Hannover will be held. They think it will be a great occassion to visit a worldwide exposition, and, to meet mini bottle collectors from Germany and other European countries. The meeting and the bottle show take place near the exposition area on:

16th and 17th September 2000

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Bärbel & Joachim Bode
Lauterberg 5
D-31249 Hohenhameln
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WANTED: All Bell's and Dimple decanters needed, large and small, also any cork top scotch whisky. Contact D. Maund, Charfield House, Burnetts Lane, Horton Heath, Nr. Eastleigh, Hampshire S050 7DG tel (0112) 441 703 695506 or fax (011) 441 703 696036.

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WANTED: Mini ceramic jugs from Manhattan, Rosard, and/or Meiers. I will buy any color or amount, full or empty. Mrs. Connie Hackman, 11757 Whisper Bay Ct., Carmel, IN 46033 or call (317) 846-3629.

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