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Let's Talk

In the WHAT'S NEW column this time, I mention the bottles you can only get if you buy a big bottle. You know, when they hang a mini around the neck of a 1.75L bottle as an inducement for you to buy the larger size bottle. I have no idea what we can do about this and I have no problem with the practice if it's a mini with the same contents. However, when it's a mini whiskey that's available no other way, then this is wrong, rotten, etc., etc.

In today's world of boycotts where people go after advertisers, tv networks, and manufacturer's of just about anything, let's stop buying those big bottles. Who knows, when it only takes on letter to a tv network to represent 20,000 viewers, a couple of us might just represent a sizable amount of drinkers! This isn't really a Dennis Miller RANT, it's just pointing out a marketing scheme that in today's parlance Sucks!

Off the soap box now, let's talk about other matters. Lots of new glass and plastic bottles out there, so check around on your vacation. We have a good many new subscribers from Europe and Asia and many of them are more than eager to swap so buy a couple duplicates when find a goodie.

And, you'll find a great many goodies at the Lilliputian West Coast Show on October 23rd. I expect to see a good many of you there digging through those boxes of 1930's bottles!

Don't forget to check all the new bottle websites when you go online. See you here in the Fall.

— DMS —

THE MINIATURE BOTTLE COLLECTOR

Editor / Publisher DAVID M. SPAID

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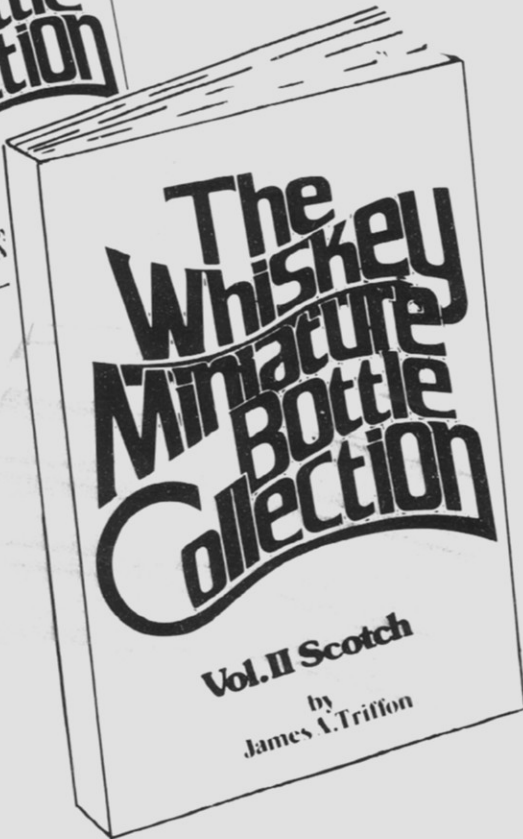
Our Cover

The bottle on the cover this time is many things. Among those are the adjectives rare and expensive. This is the Royal Palace from Bols and KLM Airlines. Probably 99% of all collectors know of the KLM delft houses. However, few know this particular piece which WAS (not "is") given away on KLM to couples on their honeymoon. A new bottle is now being given away, so all you collectors contemplating nuptial bottles...just do it.

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WHAT'S NEW



It's all here this time...from far and near, glass to plastic to ceramic...an eclectic mixture to be sure.

Okay, travelers, the set of Ava Tahiti from that well known (just kidding) distillery, **Distillerie de Tahiti Mooréa**, is what you look for when you're in Tahiti. It's a group of six liqueurs with very colorful label and even more colorful contents. Since they're 30ml bottles, they won't be coming to the U.S.

From there we'll jump all the way around the world to Scotland for our one ceramic this time. This is the new jug/flagon of The Whisky Shop chain of stores. The stores are becoming almost ubiquitous in Scotland with two now in

Edinburgh, two in Glasgow, the main store in Calendar, and possibly others.

And we come back to North America now with this nice Alberta Vodka. Guess where you have to go to find this one. Yup, Alberta, Canada and if you do find it in a province store, it will no doubt be tied to the neck of a larger bottle. You can see my thoughts on this "phenomenon" in the *Let's Talk* column.

So now we're in the U.S. and we'll get the plastics out of the way first. Tropic is getting a very big push from the Bacardi people. Probably if they spend enough money, the public will become aware of it and try to a bottle. Who knows...it might even be drinkable! This



should be found around the entire U.S.

The two little vodkas though are definitely not getting national distribution. Both Odesse and the Lemon Boomsma are surely not household names and doubtfully ever will be, so you'll have to really search for these.

Grappa Marolo is included just because it's new. It surely isn't a very interesting label but possibly there's a collector or two out there who has a Grappa sub-category in his/her collection. This one turned up here in So. California.

I bet the majority of you have added the Grey Goose Vodka to your collection. Well, if you liked that one, you'll also get excited about Citadelle Gin. Very clean





bottle with a nicely designed label. This one turned up in Southern Illinois...not California!

Next...an old favorite. This is the Bak's Zubrowka Bison Brand Vodka. This is pure potato vodka with a sprig of buffalo grass. This is a modernization of a label which was first used over sixty years ago. For those who are interested in proofs, this one rings in at 82 which is quite unusual. Vic Visalli

found this one in New York.

Last up this time is a neat little malt (vatted, not single) scotch named Angus Dundee. It's made for just one California importer and so far as been found only here and in Washington. The eagle on the label is very reminiscent of the old Beneagles brand.

Hope you found something you want to search for as there are definitely winners in this group!

CZECH FLAGONS

By JAROSLAV KUBA



As the tantalizing year 2000 approaches, interest in the symbolism of stars and numbers fascinates more and more people. This appeal also reflects itself in our small world of mini bottles, in particular with the new Czech ceramic series, The Signs of the Zodiac.

The new 1999 series consists of 12 beige ceramic jugs or flagons. The pieces contain Gold Cock Malt Whisky which was also used in the 1998 series. The multi-colored labels show the artistic views (conceived by Czech artist Cizek) of each sign of the Zodiac along with its names and dates. The labels are produced by a new technology which makes it impossible to rub them off. The bottles are cork sealed with colored wax to retard evaporation. --J.K.--

from

VIET NAM



A few months back while I was checking my e-mail messages on the computer, I found one from Mr. Tran Anh Tuan of Ho Chi Minh City, Viet Nam. I quickly answered and we set up a swap. (Once again the importance of the internet in meeting new collector friends.)

What you are seeing here are the bottles I received in that swap. There are actually five different bottle styles: round, round-flashed, rectangular, rectangular-flashed, and flask. Those five have four different contents: rum, vodka,

mint liqueur, and a fruit liqueur. The rum is the easiest as the three labels all state "rhum" and the vodkas are the two clear bottles. The flask and round bottles in the third picture are the mint liqueur which leaves the remaining bottle as our one fruit liqueur. Of course all the fruits on the label were also a large clue.

I'm sure Mr. Tran would be interested in trading with others. He can be reached at bstuan@hcm.vnn.vn



SCOTCH

David Maund



Some time ago while we were on holiday, I noted a very unique large bottle in the duty free shop. It was a Chivas Regal 1801 Revolver bottle. I thought at the time that it would make a marvelous miniature. And, I was correct. The miniature appeared in Scotland earlier this year and it's a must for every scotch collector. The shape is similar to a captain's bottle, but it goes one step further. The bottle will actually spin or revolve if given the least

opportunity. Now will Chivas make miniatures of some of their other duty free offerings?

We go now from the sublime to the ridiculous. Select Drams of Glasgow was a new one to me, but they have issued the Millennium Dram and (shudder) the Millennium Bug. The Dram I can accept; however, the "bug" is quite another prospect. I suppose it fills a humour quote somewhere.

From Glasgow to Edinburgh for two new ones from Historic



Scotland. These are King Robert the Bruce 12 yo Single Malt and Urquhart Castle 8yo Pure Malt (not a single malt, but a vatted one). Good job with the labels, particularly with Robert the Bruce.

Our next two are not new bottles, but new label variations. These are the Bruichladdich 10yo Single Malt and Glen Garioch 8yo Single Malt. Again, two nicely produced labels.

The last two this time are Mitchell's 12yo Blended Scotch and Label 5. I believe this is the first





blend I've seen from the Springbank people and Mitchell's is available mainly at the Cadenhead shop in Covent Garden, London. The Label 5 you won't find at all in the U.K. as it is produced by our neighbors across the channel, the French. I know many of you are quite familiar with the old Label 5, so here is the new bottle as well as the new label!

See you next time. —DLM—

B E E R

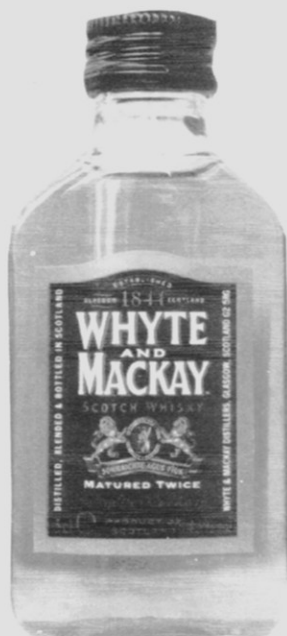
By SCOTT SPAID

I'm back with a group of new micro minis. These are just five of many which are now produced by a firm in Ireland for the collectors' market. Some others include two different Guinness and even a Budweiser. One of the nice things about these is that they are true bottles and actually (it is said) contain the real beer that is advertised on the label. In the future I'll show you some of the other brands. I do enjoy these though as they are all English beers and I don't have many of those in my collection. —S.P.S.—



FROM JAPAN

by TAIZO SHIRATSUCHI



This time I would like to present to you some Scotch Whisky miniatures which appeared in Japan during the first half of 1999.

The first is **GAS-TOH 12yo**. I had introduced the Gas-Toh Blended Scotch no age in The MBC no. 78 (1987). At the same time Gas-Toh 12yo was available as a big bottle. The Gas-Toh means a gas lamp and it is imported and sold by a related company of the Osaka Gas Co. which supplies gas all over Osaka and its neighborhoods. It is a common clear glass bottle containing 50ml

at 43% alcohol.

The **JOHNNIE WALKER BLACK LABEL** followed as a new version on the heels of the Red Label. It took some time from the change of the big bottle's label.

The next three bottles, **AN CNOC 12yo**, **GLENGOYNE 10yo**, and **INVER HOUSE GREEN PLAID**, were imported as miniatures only by a related company of JR (Japan Railway Co.) and not by original agencies. Therefore they are available only in a part of the kiosk at stations and the trains of Shinkansen.



Unfortunately **WHYTE AND MACKAY** with blue label appeared as a pet (plastic) one in Japan in spite of the fact that we know of the existence of fancy glass ones with the same label.

The last is **THE GLENLIVET 18yo**. It is a green glass and there are golden letters on the black label famed with a golden belt. It was available only as a sample to the trade, but I heard that it will become available in the UK market soon.

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



TREASURES OF THE PAST

by
BUTCH JONES



We reach back to the pre-pro era to feature our first whiskey. The miniature is ESMOND "hand-made" old Rye Whiskey. The bottle is a brown flask with the whiskey produced by W. C. Klaes, Prop. of Sandusky, Ohio.

The second bottle is BRAE BONNIE Scotch Type Whiskey (note the inclusion of the "e" in the spelling). The bottle is a clear demple with "Lionel" embossed on the backside and is filled with 86.8 proof scotch (type?) whiskey. The scotch was blended by the Kent Distr. Company of Chicago, Illinois, in the late 1930's. (Ed. Note: Both

Lionel and Kent were two of the Al Capone holdings at the time.)

The last whiskey is also from the 1930's. This the DAY & NIGHT Specially Blended Pure Malt Scotch Whisky. This scotch was blended and bottled by Hanappior, Peyrelonque & Co. of Bordeaux, France. The label in the picture appears to be cut off on two corners, but this is not so. The two corners are black in color. This one is definitely a scotch that is rarely seen.

Hope you enjoyed these three great whiskies. 'Til next time.

--B.J.--

A Visit To Boozeville

by Lloyd McLeod



Aha, it's the McTavish family out again. There they are Great Grandpa Hamish, his son Arthur, and Arthur's young grandson, John. His father Kier didn't make the picture. Of course they're all carrying their favorite little scottie dog too. Wonder where they're off to on this outing.

Yes, the "McTavish family" is well represented here even with one of the sizes missing. This highly colorful S & V decanter was very popular and may also be

found in solid brown and possibly blue. There is even a version in a high glaze finish which was filled with Stuart MacNair Scotch in the 1930's. But no matter which one(s) you have, doesn't he bring a smile to your face...even without sipping the contents.

These highly fashionable gentlemen have red ties, blue pants, black jack, golden beard and brilliant tam. Now, which version would you like?

--L.M.--

MELO'S MINIS

by MIKE OLSON



In this article I would like to feature some bottles which can cause problems if a person collects variations. I have found that bottles which appear to be the same as one another in my collection sometimes turn out to be quite a bit different.

The first two **HOTEL MAPES** Kentucky Straight Bourbon Whiskeys are good examples of this. The first one is 86 proof, 4 years old and was distilled by Medley. The other is 86 proof, but was bottled by Twin Hills of Bardstown.

The **AMERICAN GOLD LABEL** Blended Whiskeys are from American Distilling of Pekin, Ill.

The first bottle has an eagle on the label while the other two have drums and flags. All are 90 proof and have very colorful labels.

We close with three from **TRENTON VALLEY** Distillers Corp. of Trenton, Michigan. The Straight Bourbon is 90 proof and 18 months old. The next Rey is also 90 proof and 18 months old. However the last Trenton Valley Straight Rye is 90 proof and has a decal label. Now I have never seen a T.V. Bourbon with a decal label, but I wouldn't be surprised if there were one. If anyone has any information on this I would surely be interested in hearing from you.

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



BAGPIPERS

by TONY NATELLI



Bagpipers are a great subject and many miniatures exist portraying them. The vast majority contain scotch but I've seen them containing Indian Whiskey, Italian Liqueurs, Scotch with fruit, etc. We have fifteen today and they're certainly colorful and attractive.

Our opening trio contains "the goods". **THREE PIPERS** is a rare 1930's import and only a very few are known. **SCOTS PIPER** is believed to have been exported to South America during the 1950's

and is seldom seen. **SCOTCH LADDIE 7 YR.** Goes our first two even better. A very rare early 1930's import, this is the only one I've ever seen or heard of.

ANDY'S SCOTTISH SOLDIER was produced by Auchentoshan as a private label and can still be found. **SMA' STILL**, a 1940's corker does show up in advanced collections but it's no "easy find". **SCOZZESE** was produced in Italy by Beltion and contains Liqueure Secco, the only non-scotch



BAGPIPERS



discussed this time.

THE ROYAL PIPER and **MELDRUM BLEND** (numbers one and three in our 3rd photo) are currently sold in Great Britain but the **ROYAL HIGHLANDER** has not been available for some 25 years and is not an easy pickup. All three labels are very pretty, and, especially with one and two, very colorful as well.

GLEN GUARD, **GLEN PIPER** and **GLEN PIPER 6 YR** were sold during the past twenty years and

are often seen.

We close with **BLACK SCOT 8 YR** (white label), **BLACK SCOT** (gold label) and **GEORGE DENIS**. All are believed to have been sold in Italy and will prove slightly harder to come by than our previous three.

Only the **THREE PIPERS** and **SCOTCH LADDIE** in our opening photo were ever sold here and that was well over sixty years ago!

--T.N.--



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FOR SALE: Miniatures from Jordan: whisky, gin, vodka, cognac, scotch, arak (ouzo), etc. Write Mitri Manneh, 11333 Lorene Street, Whittier, CA 90601 or call (562) 692-2928.

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

WANTED: Still looking for Garnier blown glass, Anglo Swiss Clown, Gagliano Pagoda, Hine Stags and other newer duty free Larsen & Camus bottles like globes, Luxardo Clown, Pear; Manhattan fruits, Pinocchio bottles, cart, blown glass, novelty bottles, baseball; Papillons, Drambuie Castle/Books, Robj bottles, Jataca; Rynbende Ballerina, bulldog, pink elephant, some houses; Southern Sales, Elvises, Lionstone Shootout at the O.K. Corral, Monarch Loch Ness Monster on Water; James Bond 007, etc. Have traders/sales list. Contact: Robert Waldman, 1102-1835 Morton Avenue, Vancouver, B.C. Canada V6G 1V3. fax (604) 687-2491 or tel (604) 228-8989.

FOR SALE: Varied collection of ceramic, crystal and glass, including many rare and valuable decanters such as: complete Courvoisier Erte collection, complete Elvis Presley collection, complete Dug's Nevada Brothel's collection, Haig and Haig Pinch silver decanter, plus many more. Write to: Saul Ocsman, 2680 East 19th Street, Brooklyn, NY 11235 or call (718) 769-1805.

FOR SALE: Cognac collection 2400+, whole collection or in part, also some quality whiskies available. Contact Ed Neuggass, 6601 E. Jupiter Hills Circle, Apt. E, Alexandria, VA 22312 or call (703) 256-4450.

NOTICE: If you collect many beers and we haven't communicated, you don't know about my duplicates list. Write to John Weatherhead, 10630 Haynes Forest Drive, Alpharetta, GA 30022 or call (678) 393-8501.

WANTED- Buy or Trade: Old rums with natives, pirates, sailors, sea captains on the label. Also any type with gambling or sports. FOR SALE: Very advanced collection with many rare whiskies, scotch, gin, vodkas and cognac. Tony Natelli, 613 S. State Road 7, Suite 3B, Margate, FL 33068. Tel (954) 972-2108 or fax (954) 972-1596.

FOR SALE: The new rum and whiskey lists are available. Send SASE if you're interested in some seldom seen bottles. David M. Spaid, P. O. Box 2161, Palos Verdes, CA 90274.

FOR TRADE OR SALE: A present box with four French wine bottles of Paul Sapin A.S., imported to England for Marks and Spencer. The golden cardboard box, entitled "St. Michael 1997 Christmas Wine Selection", contains the following wine brands: 1997 Vintage Claret Bordeaux, Pudding Wine 1997 Muscat de Rivesaltes, 1997 Vintage Burgundy, 1997 Vintage Fleurie. The round green glass bottles at 10cl are stopped with golden metallic screw caps. Their labels show fragments of historic pictures. I would like to swap them for some good American whiskeys. I also have more wine miniatures from Italy, Portugal and Spain for trade. Write for detailed lists to Karel Klepl, Ulrychova 5, 62400 Brno, Czech Republic.

FOR SALE: Mini whiskey bottles for sale. Over 1000 bottles from a collector of many years, both U.S. as well as foreign. These bottles are sold as is, one lot, no cherry picking. Please call (732) 244-0895 after 5pm or (732) 350-5500 from 8-4.30pm. These are EST hours. Ask for Allen.

NOTE: If you're a Scotch collector, you should be receiving the Scotch Malt Auction catalog. All correspondence will be coordinated by David Hamilton 47, Burradon Road, Burradon, Cramlington, Northumberland NE23 7NF England tel (011) 441 91 2686561 or fax (011) 441 91 2160787.

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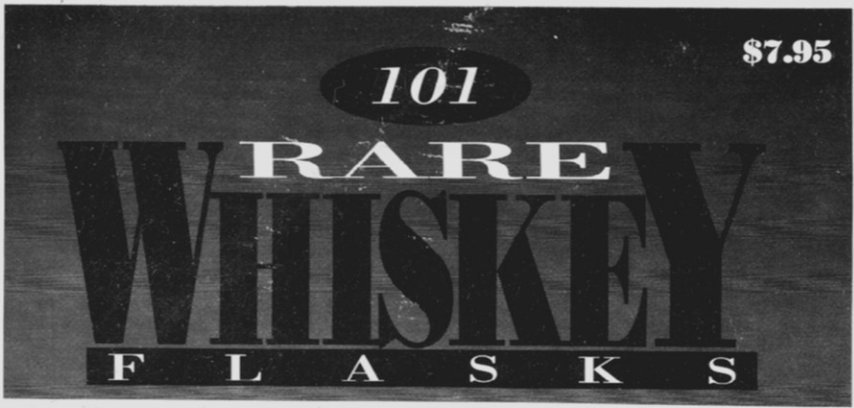
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