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No.178 2004

THE MINIATURE BOTTLE COLLECTOR



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2001 Hardbound Edition



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MINIATURE BOTTLE COLLECTOR

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Our Cover:

A few issues back another clever tequila ceramic was featured. This time our cover celebrates Teporocho. This is an exact replica of the larger bottle which was imported in very limited quantities. Only 100 of these "fierce" little muchachos were made to honor a special get together of tequila producers. However, don't despair. It's more than likely that more of these will be produced. If they aren't imported, someone is missing out on a sure thing!

FROM THE EDITOR:

Spring has sprung. Of course spring means a good many things, but to me "bottle show" is at the top of the list. The MMBC's 25th anniversary show in St. Louis was a great success. People started arriving on Thursday and all parts of the Americas...the U.S.A., Canada, Mexico, Chile, Peru...as well as Europe and Asia were represented.

The meeting-dinner-auction got everything going on Friday night but the real action began at 5.30am on Saturday morning when the dealers started setting up. Part of the fun for everyone is seeing what everyone else has brought to sell. Down through the years it has been fascinating to watch the trends develop in collecting. For years it was American Whiskeys, then it was Scotch, and now we have the veritable cult of vodka and tequila collectors. With no exaggeration, thousands of bottles changed hands during the two day show and a great many happy faces left at the end of the weekend. Next year it all happens again. Don't miss it!

This issue is quite an interesting one and apologies to all those who wrote pieces which are being held over until next time. Already set are articles by Butch Jones, Taizo Shiratsuchi, John Sullivan, David Maund, and Jack Sullivan. All of these were set aside so that we could present to you something I feel is very special.

A good many years ago I was given a catalog which a collector had kept over sixty years ago. This is the Southern Sales catalog which is presented on pages 16-23. I think a good many collectors will be surprised at the amount of bottles Southern Sales issued. AND, a good many "purists" out there may be even more surprised to learn that some of their bottles don't contain alcohol after all. Yes, even though the label states Crème de This or That, it was a non-alcoholic cordial so that the bottles could be sold anywhere and weren't subject to our antiquated federal and state liquor laws.

Something else quite interesting is the type of bottles shown. We have straight glass, molded glass, blown glass, and ceramics. I know that those who collect the blown glass pieces will now undoubtedly have new bottles to look for. Some of those animals are really special.

Now let's turn to the gremlins. Usually you comment on mistakes as an after thought...not this time. It seems that a little humorous error was made in the article about the new Macallan bottles. The bottle shown is the 1937. The bottle that should have been shown is the 1973. It is the '73 which is a new addition to the group, not the '37.

Now I have a most sad task to perform. The last issue is notable in a way that I hope never happens again. Two articles were devoted to two special collectors, Jack Kelly and Dick Cotton. Incredibly, both of these fine men passed away while that issue was being printed.

Jack well represented his Northwest Club and had a zeal for collecting. His love of the bottles was "catching" and you couldn't be around him without enjoying his delight in his collection. On the other end of the U.S. in Massachusetts, Dick prided himself on his collection. He always knew to a bottle exactly how many were in his collection and was extremely pleased when he hit the magic twenty thousand mark. Both of these gentlemen will be greatly missed by their families as well as all their collector friends.

Finally, don't forget to let your fingers do the walking...on the computer keyboard that is. Remember that almost every liquor/liqueur has its own website today. If you're interested in something, just type in wwww. and then the name of the company. In case you're wondering (or even if you weren't), we're still at www.bottlecollecting.com and you can post your questions, bottle desires, etc. there. I'll look for you there.

Back in three months. Remember to keep thinking small. --DMS--

HAMM'S IRISH BEAR



Yes, he's looking for the pot of gold at the end of the rainbow; however, this pot of gold contains bottles of Hamm's Beer. Our newest Irish Bear salt and pepper set will be available in February. Only 576 sets were produced and our retail price has not changed; it's still $40 per set and we'll pick up the insured postage. If you've followed the "adventures" of our bear, you'll know that the secondary market has seen the pries rise on all the items. Recently only one pair of our salt and pepper sets could be found on e-bay and that was out of 250 Hamm's items which were being offered.

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WHAT'S NEW



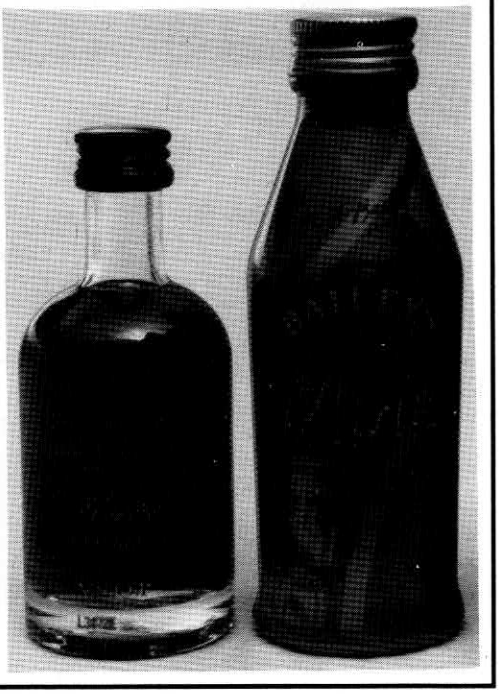
Eighteen bottles this time. An abundance of riches. A few are not available here, but the majority of them are. Of those eighteen, only one third is plastic so let's get those out of the way first.

Sylk was introduced just a few months ago but it has been selling in other parts of the world for at least a couple of years as Drambuie Cream (which has been shown previously). For a plastic, it "ain't" bad. In the same vein we have Baileys which was a 7cl in Europe but here is 100ml. We not only get more of it, but it costs less here. Guess that goes with out "supersize" philosophy. This one is found almost everywhere.

The Giori is from Italy and it's a Lemoncillo. Not only does it taste great but it comes in a very non-standard, embossed plastic bottle which if it were glass would have much great sales among collectors at least.

The remaining two are rums with very easily read labels. The Four Square is from Barbados while the Prichards is from.... Tennessee. Jack Daniels, George Dickel and now rum? Rather nice





label, just different because of where it's from.

Along with the Baileys is a Rubi Brandy. This is a 3 year old, V.S.O.P. French Brandy in a non-standard bottle. Nice glass...with class.

The two that flank the Giori are a rather plebian Marie Brizard Parfait Amour in one of their normal liqueur bottles and a much nicer Hpnotiq. This liqueur has really caught on in cocktails and is all the rage in many areas. The bottle is not a standard straight glass and it has been


BOWEN
VSOP
COGNAC
BOWEN


WHISKY
VODKA
COGNAC
COGNAC



frosted.

The three cognacs are from Bowen, a company unknown to me until these bottles appeared. They are V.S., V.S.O.P., and Pale. These were found by a local collector on a trip to the Caribbean.

Now to the best (in my opinion) of the lot. The set of four from France in the cigar-like tubes are produced by Chateau Ecossais. All you King's Men collectors should eat these up.

Similarly, the A. de Fussigny X.O. Cognac comes in what truly does look exactly like a cigar tube. Since Alain Royer who is the head of A. de Fussigny has a relationship with Jim Beam here in the U.S., it is hoped that one day this mini will become available here.

Finally, we come to the Kryshtal Vodka. This is another of those wonderful see-through, frosted glass, picture-frame bottles. The most delightful thing though is that it's available here.

So let your local retailer know that you know there are some nice new bottles available out there. He just might get some of them in!

TEQUILA





The old and the new. Thought you'd like to see what some of the oldies from the 1930's look like as well as some of the newer bottles. In fact, all of the bottles this time were sold or are now being sold here in California.


SUPERIOR VINO TEQUILA
MARCA
VIUDA DE MARTINEZ
DIRECCION


TEQUILA SUPERIOR
PREMIADO
EN
ELABORACION ESPECIAL
PARA


TEQUILA
Amate
BLANCO
TEQUILA
Amate
TEQUILA
Amate
ANEJO
100% DE AGAVE



Isn't it fascinating how the old tequilas were flats or flasks while so many of the new bottles are round? There isn't much to tell about these that you can't see, but there are certain things to be pointed out. Note the V.S.O.P. on the top label of the Jose Cuervo. Then there is the California tax stamp from 1936 on the other Cuervo. Finally there is the bottom label on the Hornitos which states that it was made especially for La Nacional in Tijuana.

Moving on to the new bottles there is a set of three extremely nice Amates. Both the Blanco and the Reposado are in cobalt blue glass. The blanco has silver writing while the reposado has gold print. The Anejo is in clear glass. One point to notice about these is that they are rather expensive.

The remaining two bottles you might wonder about. Why are they being shown!? The answer is quite simple...they are both variations. The Cazadores is a new label and top while the Don Julio Reposado sports a round top instead of the square one which is found on the other two bottles in the set.

Next time there will be a great many new ones for you!

LUXARDO



Begun in 1821, the Luxardo firm didn't produce this marvelous rooster or other animals until some 130+ years later. There are a good many Luxardo miniature ceramics and the majority are well documented. However, the animal set isn't easily found and is thus in great demand.

This rooster is one of the best of the group (we've already shown you the duck). Although a good number of the Luxardo bottles were sold in the U.S., this animal set was not. It contains Cherry Ardo which is the wine version of the award winning Luxardo Maraschino.

THE MACALLAN



Back to one of our favorite scotches again. We have for you this time three bottles...two of which are new and one not so new.

The larger, not-so-new bottle is one which was done quite some time ago. Currently I don't have the full information on this one other than the fact that it is now quite valuable. No contents are listed but it would appear to hold approximately 100ml.

The other two bottles can be much better described. The Cask Strength mini was found early this year in both New Jersey and Nevada but both were given to the stores as samples. This seems quite unusual because (in large size) this is going to be one of the staples in the Macallan portfolio. It takes the place of the 15 year old which was created to take the burden off the 18 year old. Yes, so



much of this is sold that there isn't really enough to go around. In any case, this red labeled mini is definitely one to grab on to if you see it.

Now big news. The last bottle, the 1937, is an addition to the series of special minis which have been shown here before. This one came directly from the U.K., but (now here's the big news) Macallan will be selling these minis in the U.S. Obviously since there are so few produced they aren't going to be found in your corner store. However, there are certain major stores in large cities which will have the opportunity of getting them. So if you want to add one or more of these gems, contact your store to have them contact their wholesaler. The bottles will be available this spring.

Latest Edition

CATALOGUE

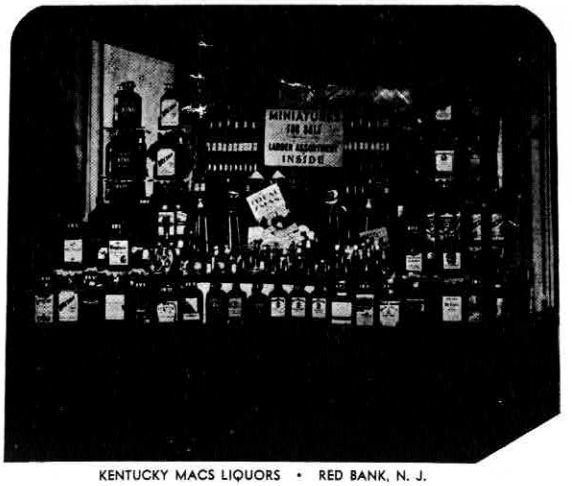
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AND BAR GADGETS

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KENTUCKY MACS LIQUORS • RED BANK, N. J.

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(Non-Alcoholic)

Cordials

MAY BE LEGALLY

Shipped and Sold

Throughout the U. S. A.



No. **100**—ASSORTED CORDIALS
Actual Miniature
2 oz. size
Assorted Cordials
Dozen to box



No. **101**—SCOTCH PINCH BOTTLE
2 oz. size
Assorted Cordials
Dozen to box



No. **102**—CREME DE MENTHE
2 oz. size
Assorted dozen
to box



No. **104**—FLAT FLASK
2 oz. size
Cognac Cordial
Dozen to box



No. **105**—BARREL RUM or BOURBON CORDIAL
Dozen to box
2 oz. size



No. **P18**—BEAUTIFUL ANTIQUE LAMP
Cordial Filled
Parchment Paper Shade
Assorted Colors
Dozen to box



No. **I-10**—COLONIAL HURRICANE LAMP
Cordial Filled
One dozen to box



No. **P29**—NITE LITE WITH WICK
Cordial Filled
One dozen to box



No. **P-16J**—LAMP LITE MINITURE TABLE LAMP
Cordial Filled
One dozen to box



MINIATURE NAVY CANTEEN
Containing 2 ozs. "NAVY RATION"
Jamaica Rum Cordial
Bottle Concealed In
Navy Blue Plastic Container
Packed one to a box



MINIATURE BAR
A hand turned wood bar set with bevelled back bar mirror—containing a bottle each of Rum, Cordial and Whiskey—also two hand made cocktail glasses—a lovely gift for the miniature collector.
INDIVIDUALLY BOXED
READY-TO-MAIL



MINIATURE ARMY CANTEEN
Containing 2 ozs.
Cognac Cordial
Bottle Concealed In
Army Khaki Plastic Container
Packed one to a box



BLACK HORSE SCOTCH

Packed 12 bottles to a case

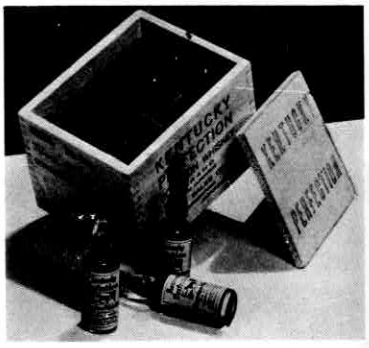
IN WOOD CASE WITH COVER
READY-TO-MAIL
DOZEN CASES TO A CARTON: OR IN BULK: 144 to a carton.

WHISKEY CASES and BEER MINIATURES

Beers as Follows:
RUPPERTS BREW
SCHLITZ
BUDWEISER
BLATZ STUBBIES
BLATZ PILSNERS
MILLERS HI-LIFE
ATLAS PRAGER BEER
PEPSI-COLA
only

Packed: 288 to Carton
Assorted as you Desire

Also packed in READY-TO-MAIL SEALED WOOD CASE containing ONE DOZEN ASSORTED BEERS



Kentucky Perfection BOURBON

Packed 12 bottles to a case

IN WOOD CASE WITH COVER
READY-TO-MAIL
DOZEN CASES TO A CARTON: OR IN BULK: 144 to a carton.



SHAKER SET

Metal Shaker and Fizz Bottles—and a bottle of Bourbon served on a Silvered Tray. A Perfect Bar Gadget Suitable for Gifts, Bridge Prizes, Etc.

INDIVIDUALLY BOXED
READY-TO-MAIL





CRYSTAL DECANTER SET OF HAND BLOWN GLASS

Containing decanter filled with asst. cordials, 2 cordial glasses and a lacquered tray. Packed one complete set to a box

READY-TO-MAIL



CORDIAL ASSORTMENT

An excellent "Beginners" Number, to start a Collection with. Comes packed 144 to carton containing CREME DE MENTHE - CREME DE ROSE - RUM COGNAC - TRIPLE-SEC MARASCHINO - VIOLET, Etc.

Legal In All States—No Local Tax or Revenue Stamps Required—May Be Shipped By Mail or Parcel Post Anywhere

SMALL ANIMALS



No. 426—RABBIT
Bottled with Creme de Rose
Small Size



No. 427—GOOSE
Bottled with Blue Curacao
Small Size



No. 428—DEER
Botled with Apricot Cordial
Small Size



No. 429—HORSE
Bottled with Apricot Cordial
Small Size



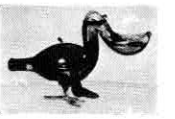
No. 430—SITTING ELEPHANT
Upraised Trunk for "Good Luck"
Bottled with
Creme de Rose
Small Size



No. 431—SWAN
Bottled with
Creme de Menthe
Small Size



No. 430X—IMPORTED CANARY
Bottled in
Assorted Cordials
Small Size



No. 432—PELICAN
Bottled with
Creme de Rose
Small Size



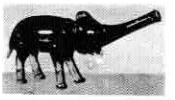
No. 433—PENGUIN
Bottled with
Kummel
Small Size

ALL OUR HAND BLOWN GLASS MINIATURES ARE HAND PAINTED

We use Certified Food Colors and Finest Quality Oils in All our Cordials



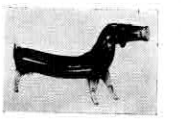
No. 434—PIGGIE
Bottled with
Creme de Menthe
Small Size



No. 435—STANDING ELEPHANT
Trunk Up for "Good Luck"
Bottled with
Creme de Rose
Small Size



No. 436—CAT
Bottled with
Creme de Menthe
Small Size



No. 437—DACHSHUND
Bottled with
Apricot Cordial
Small Size



No. 438—GIRAFFE
Bottled with Jamaica Rum
CORDIAL
Small Size



No. 439—SWORDFISH
Bottled with Blue Curacao
Small Size



No. 440—ALLIGATOR
Bottled with Cognac Cordial
Small Size



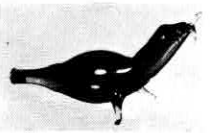
No. 441—GREYHOUND
Bottled with Creme de Violet
Small Size

ABOVE CORDIALS SHOWN IN NATURAL COLORS ON BACK COVER - ALL GLASS ANIMALS ARE INDIVIDUALLY BOXED

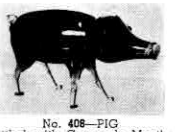
LARGE ANIMALS



No. **405**—BIRD OF PARADISE
Bottled with Blue Curacao
Large Size



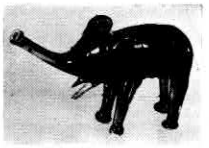
No. **406**—WALRUS WITH TUSKS
Bottled with Jamaica Rum Cordial
Large Size



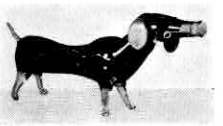
No. **408**—PIG
Bottled with Creme de Menthe
Large Size



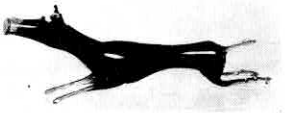
No. **407**—PENGUIN
Bottled with Kummel
Large Size



No. **409**—ELEPHANT
Bottled with Cognac Cordial
Large Size



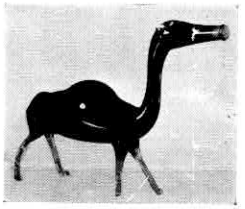
No. **410**—DACHSHUND
Bottled with Apricot-Cordial
Large Size



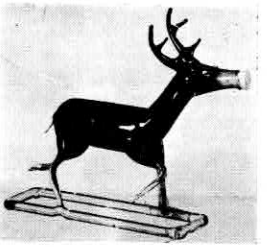
No. **412**—GREYHOUND
Bottled with Creme de Violet
Large Size



No. **414**—SEAL
Bottled with
Blue Curacao
Large Size



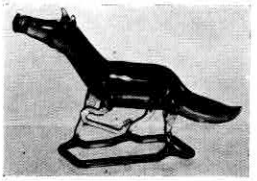
No. **411**—CAMEL
Bottled with Creme de Menthe
Large Size



No. **416**—RUNNING DEER
Bottled with Creme de Rose
Large Size



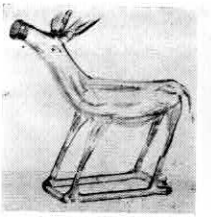
No. **413**—GIRAFFE
Bottled with Jamaica Rum Cordial
Large Size



No. **419**—RUNNING FOX
Bottled with Creme de Rose
Large Size



No. **420**—PINK FLAMINGO
Bottled with Creme de Rose
Large Size



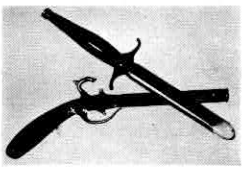
No. **421**—WHITE MULE
Bottled with Kummel
Large Size

ABOVE CORDIALS SHOWN IN NATURAL COLORS ON BACK COVER - ALL GLASS ANIMALS ARE INDIVIDUALLY BOX

IMPORTED and DOMESTIC MINIATURES



1000K—PORCELAIN
MINIATURE SIPHON
Packed assorted
ne dozen to carton



PISTOL AND BAYONET SET
Bohemian Painted Glass
Packed one dozen pistols to box
or one dozen bayonets to box



LADIES PARASOL
Packed Assorted Cordials
One dozen to box



COLONIAL DAMES
Silk Embroidered
In Assorted Colors
China Heads
Whiskey Filled
One dozen to box



401C—GLASS PITCHER
Assorted Colored Glass
Assorted Cordials
One dozen to box



No. **401**—GLASS PITCHER
HAND BLOWN
Assorted Cordials
One dozen to box



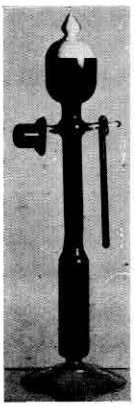
No. **423H**—HURRICANE LAMP
HAND BLOWN
Assorted Cordials
Two to a box



No. **424**—TEA KETTLE
HAND BLOWN
Assorted Cordials
Two to a box



No. **424C**—COFFEE URN
HAND BLOWN
Assorted Cordials
Two to a box



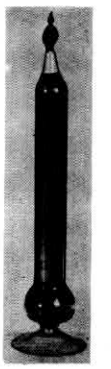
LAMP POST
Beautifully made of
Blown Glass
to actual scale;
tled with Creme de Menthe
h Post comes with Top Hat
d Hand Made Cane affixed.
Individually Boxed



No. **700**—WICKER BASKETS
Rum Filled
Woven by Blind
One dozen to box

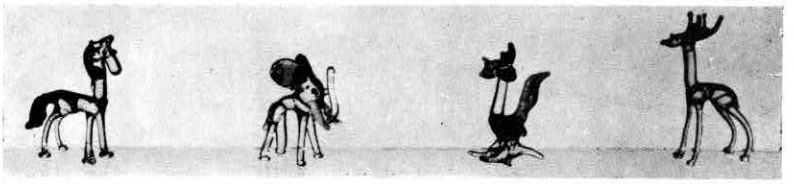


No. **801**—RED APPLE AND
GREEN LEAVES
Cordial Filled
Six to box

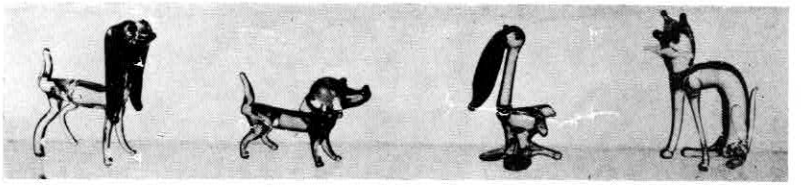


No. **425**—CANDLE STICK
Bottled with
Assorted Cordials
One dozen to box

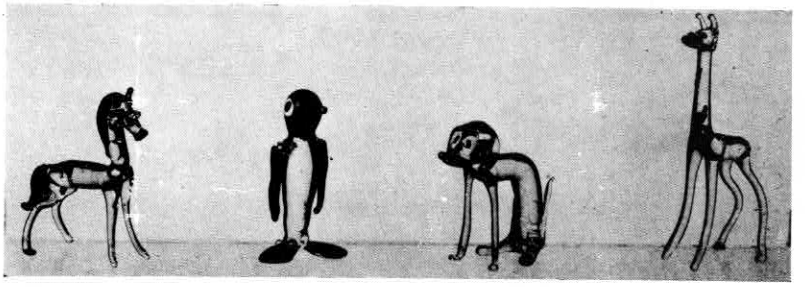
HAND BLOWN GLASS NOVELTIES FOR THE MINIATURE BAR



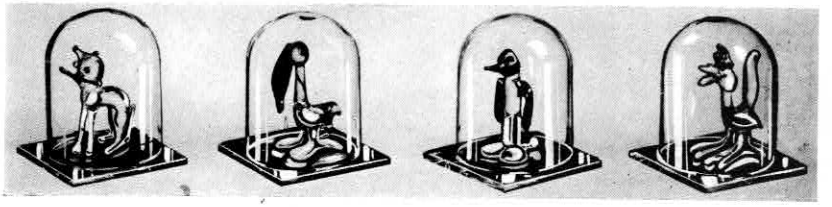
No. 1—ASSORTMENT TINY SOLID ANIMALS
12 Different Characters to a Box



No. 2—ASSORTMENT MEDIUM SIZED SOLID ANIMALS
12 Different Characters to a Box



No. 3—ASSORTMENT LARGE SIZE SOLID ANIMALS
12 Different Characters to a Box



DOMED ANIMALS
Each one affixed to a Mirror Base—12 Different Characters to a Box



No. **415**—GOOSE
Bottled with Blue Curacao.
Large Size
Packed one to a box



No. **800**—FLORIDA
PALM TREE
Bottled with Rum.
Large Size
Packed one to a box



No. **409**—ELEPHANT
Bottled with Apricot and
Creme De Rose.
Large Size
Packed one to a box



No. **442**—CHICKEN
Bottled with Rum.
Small Size
Packed three to a box



No. **750**—CHIANTI
HAND WOVEN BASKET
Asst. Red and Green caps.
Bottled with Chianti Cordial.
Packed 1 doz. to a carton



No. **423**—LAMP
HAND BLOWN
With removable colored
shade. Bottled with
Asst. Cordials.
Packed three to a box



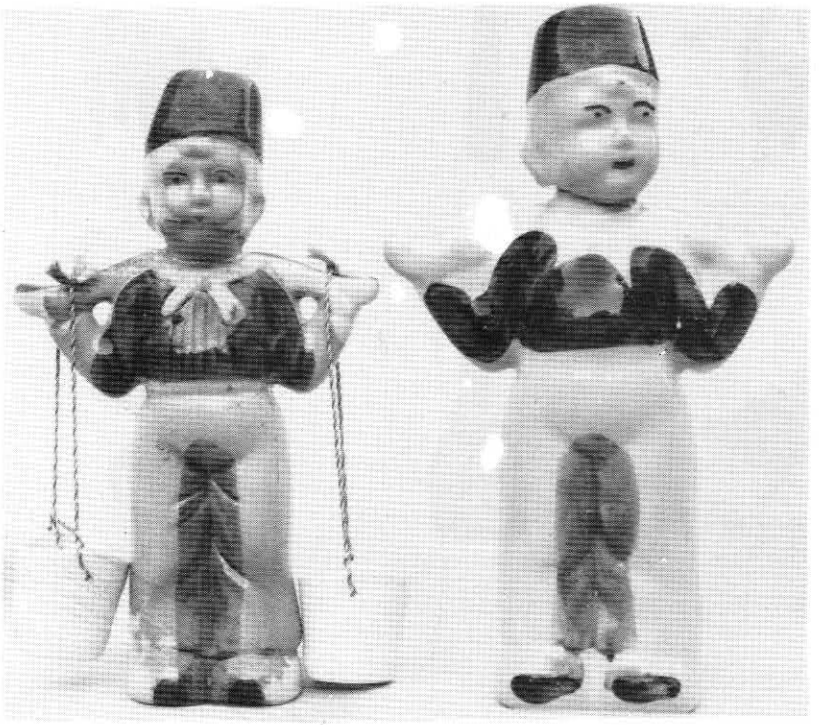
No. **417**—HORSE
Bottled with Cognac.
Large Size
Packed one to a box



No. **418**—MOOSE
Bottled with Rum.
Large Size
Packed one to a box

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RYNB



One of the great names in collectable bottles is Rynbende. A good number of ceramic pieces were produced, along with thirty years and scores of blown glass animals, to say nothing of the monumental number of "straight" glass bottles.

So about twenty years ago when the collecting of mini figurals was at its height, the late Tony Natelli (a master at bottle dealing) made about a seven-way trade and three Rynbende characters with pails arrived in the U.S. All of these were bottom filled bottles. They

ENDE



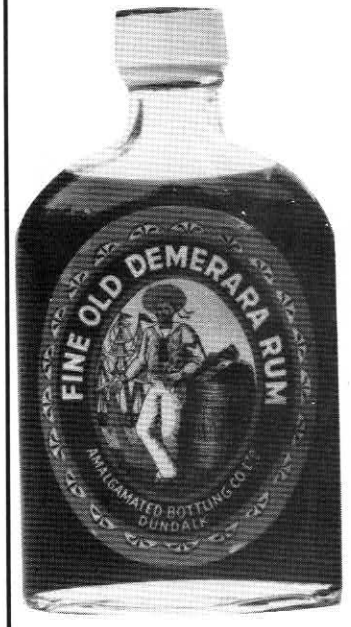
were a small boy and girl and then a larger girl (which obviously needs the missing boy of the same size).

Ratchet up the calendar days to the present where a boy and girl are found in a U.K. auction. These appeared to be slightly different than the others and indeed that turned out to be true. This delft boy and girl had heads for stoppers, were not the bottom fill as were the others, and the mold was changed since these were even a different size.

Now comes the editorializing part of this article. If you take a close look at the middle girl in the picture, you'll note that the bottom of her skirt is discolored. This occurred because the bottle was left full and the contents leeched through the delft which is highly susceptible to this kind of thing. If you don't empty your figurals, particularly delft, you run a great risk of having them stained. AND, no amount of scrubbing will get out this stain.

In any case, here are five of at least six Rynbende boys and girls with pails. Do you know of any others?

RUM







It's another of those old and new bottle columns and there are a baker's dozen of them. We'll begin with the eight older bottles.

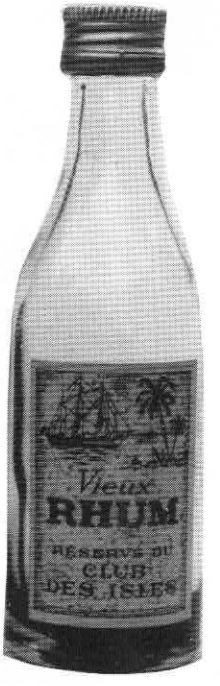
All of these hail from varied lands, in fact possibly more so than in any other article we've published on rums. The one flask in the group is the Fine Old Demerara from the Amalgamated Bottling Co. of Dundalk, Scotland. This is one of many which feature a sailor on the label.

Another unlikely area for rum is the Philippines which is represented by the Manila. This is only the second one from there that I have seen. This is undoubtedly from the 1950's.

Now we'll move on down to the Caribbean for the Bahamas, Trinidad, and Puerto Rico. The Ron Matusalem is a well known name but usually not from Freeport, Bahamas. The Golden Glow may come from Trinidad but with that crumpled covering over the closure, it surely was sold in the U.K. The last of this group is the Llave, a name from Puerto Rico which is not often seen these days.

Continuing on we have the Vieux Rhum from the Club Des Isles. This is also from the Caribbean but since the back label is missing, it could be either Martinique or Guadeloupe. The oldest bottle in this article is the





DuBouchett Rum O'Kola which is technically a cocktail and comes to us from almost sixty years ago. The Old Florida Rum is from the 1960's and was the first label used by this company which issued quite a number of bottles in the 1960's through the 1980's.

Staying down south, we have the first two of the new bottles. These are both now available in Guadeloupe. There used to be a good number of rums from there but not so today. These two are both from the Damoiseau Company which was a new one to me.

Finally we have a really nice set of three which have been

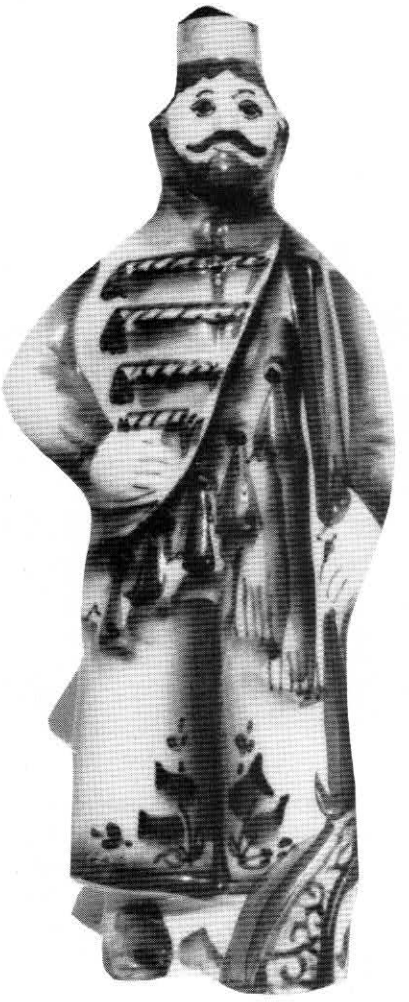


sold in the U.K. in the last few months. The label that is difficult to read states that it is a 12 year old while the other two are the easily read 16 and 23 year olds. These are from Jamaica, but were done for an English company. They are possibly most notable for their cost. This is one expensive set with the 23 year old running a minimum of $15 and up.

So, lots to look at this time. We'll have more colorful older ones for you next time.



TOVARICH



Michael Strogoff...Courier of the Czar, perhaps? Well, we surely don't know but we can guess this haughty Cossack with his rifle had to represent someone important.

This ceramic is from Russia and contains 0,1l (or 100ml) Moskovskaya Vodka at 40% alcohol. It definitely is of newer production since it states Russia (in Cyrillic) as opposed to the older CCCP or USSR.

Interestingly enough, there is a variation to the bottle (which we hope to show you shortly) and both of these seem to be found with or without hats. Oh well, you can't everything.

MELO'S MINIS

by MIKE OLSON



Who the heck was little Jimmie Durkin? I have no clue; however, he did make a mini Rye with a killer label. This bottle leads off our foray into the very interesting world of pre-pro miniatures. It has a yellow label with red, black and gold printing. The business was located at 121 Howard St. in Spokane, Wash.

The other pumpkinseed bottle is Gibson Pure Rye Whiskey Bottled by Boston Hotel Co. Chas. E Sleeper Mgr. It is embossed on the front and back, printed in green and the label has a deep patina. More about that later.

Next is Denney's Old Underoof Whiskey in a small square bottle. It is from Chas. Dennehy & Co. of Chicago and has a white label with red. This brand reappeared in the 1930's with a similar label. It still has its original lead seal as does our next bottle.

This is the Hunter Baltimore Rye which was bottled by Wm. Lanahan & Son Baltimore. This was a major brand and also reappeared after prohibition.

Now we come to a real gem. This is the Seminole Club Rye Whiskey with a great looking multi-colored label. It is from the Seminole Distilling Co. and has a Seminole Indian on the label.


DENNEHY'S
OLD UNDERROOF
Whiskey
REFINED AND BLENDED
CHAS. DENNEHY & COMPANY
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HUNTER
TRADE
MARK
BALTIMORE RYE
BOTTLED BY
WM. LANAHAN & SON
BALTIMORE.


Rye
Whiskey



The Manhattan Club Whiskey comes next. It is from Weideman Holmes & Co. of Cleveland, O. It's a tall, embossed, eight-sided bottle with a multi-colored label. Notice the label states "FULL QUART" and the mini is a close copy of the big bottle which I have seen on the internet.

The Old Lewis Hunter Rye Whiskey is another great looking bottle with an exceptional amount of printing on the label. It is from the Old Lewis Hunter Distillery of Lair, Kentucky.

Next we have a bottle with a fairly small label. This is Old Jeff C. Taylor's White Star Bourbon with a gold label from Eugene Hooch & Co. of Louisville and Portland. Then the Old Parish Rye is from E. F. Hynes of Haverhill, Mass. It sports a white label printed in red and black. We close now with Diplomat Whiskey which has a green multi-colored label.

Finally, "patina" is a nice antique word. When things are old and kind of crappy looking, they are said to have a nice patina which makes them more valuable. Yeah...right!

Until next time... M E L O

EVOLUTION



This is another in our evolution of a bottle series. Pictured for you are the three (are there more?) variations of the Cuervo 1800 bottle. Not only are the labels different on each bottle, but the covering over the closure as well as the embossing changes.

The original was the Cuervo 1800 Anejo Tequila. No embossing, nice wood stopper. Then we had a smaller label which states that it is a Reserva Antigua Anejo. On this one the agave leaves on the bottom have been done as a fired on label. The last has a slightly smaller label but these time the leaves are embossed in the glass and the wood stopper is much darker.

Which one do you want? Why all three, of course...that's the "one" you want.

VODKA

by JOHN SULLIVAN



No time to write for this issue so I'm just including some quick observations. Two of the pictures show a set of seven different bottles from Ukraine all produced by the same company, S & V. Most of these have absolutely outstanding labels.

The other picture has four bottles recently brought to me from England. It isn't difficult to tell my favorite, the Sputnik. It states "Taste of Russia" but really comes from Ukraine. The Czar and Chekov are both produced in the U.K. while the Polmos Vodka au Poivre (Pepper) is from Poland.

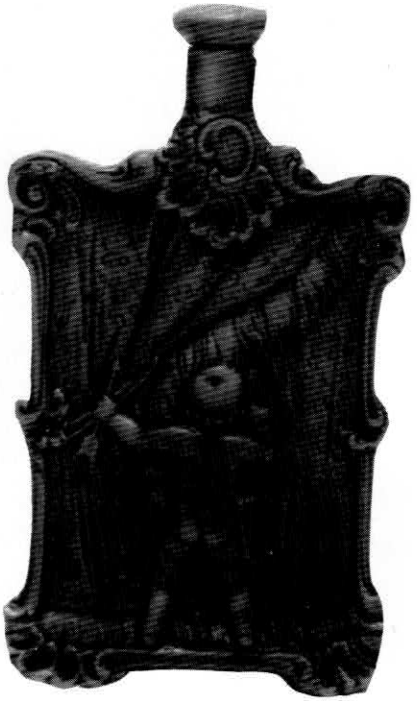
Next time some real beauties. –J.S.--


Анисовка


Фаворит

A Visit To Boozeville





No doubt you know of the naughties? These are the Shafer and Vater pieces made to elicit a bit of a snicker and often dealt with what we today call "toilet humor".

For your enjoyment this time we have the front and back (should I say rear?) views of a delightful S& V blue naughty. This flask shows a less than svelte woman on the chamber pot while the little naked child peeks in from behind.

This rare piece is very seldom seen and unfortunately it is not seen on my shelves. How about yours?

ARMAGNAC



We don't see many armagnacs became available here any more so any new release is more than welcome. This set was found on the island of St. Martin in 2003 and the bottles had just been introduced. Chateau de Laubade is a very well known armagnac producer who decided to issue both large and small bottles of many different vintage years. This set features only two but well over two dozen are available...at higher and higher prices the further back you go. So find out if your birth year is one which was produced!

ABSINTHE





Once again we'll look at the world of absinthe. This time we have four new bottles from Spain and a fifth bottle which would like to pass itself off as absinthe...but really isn't. Let's look at that one first.

This one is the tall Versinthe. Previously we've shown you the green Versinthe; however, this is the white or Blanche. Even though it is made in France, it is not an absinthe as they are still not allowed to be sold in France. They can make them there, they just can't sell them there. La Fee is an excellent example of that.

Now we'll look at the four



bottles from Spain. There are two different companies involved, Tunel and Antonio Nadal. The Red and Black absinthes are from Nadal and both are 80% or 160 proof. They are straight glass but quite colorful.

The remaining two are much more interesting. The Absenta Tunel is a nice fancy glass but the Mata Hari wins for me because of the label. Not only is it colorful but the infamous name adds to the allure.

There are a great many more absinthe minis produced in other countries and slowly but surely we'll track them down for you.

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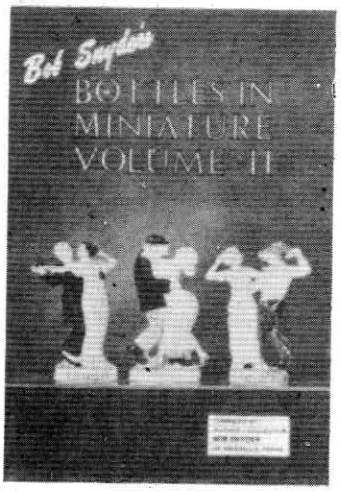
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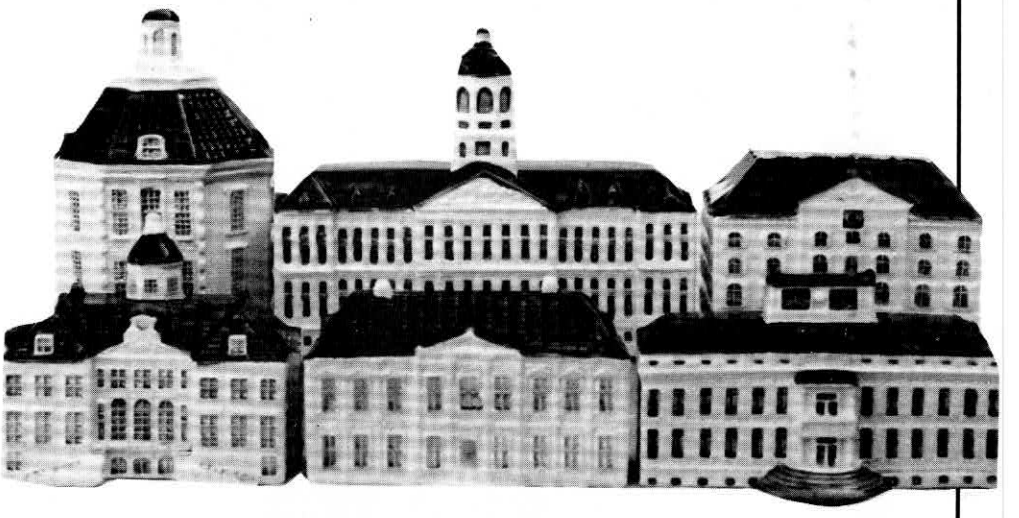
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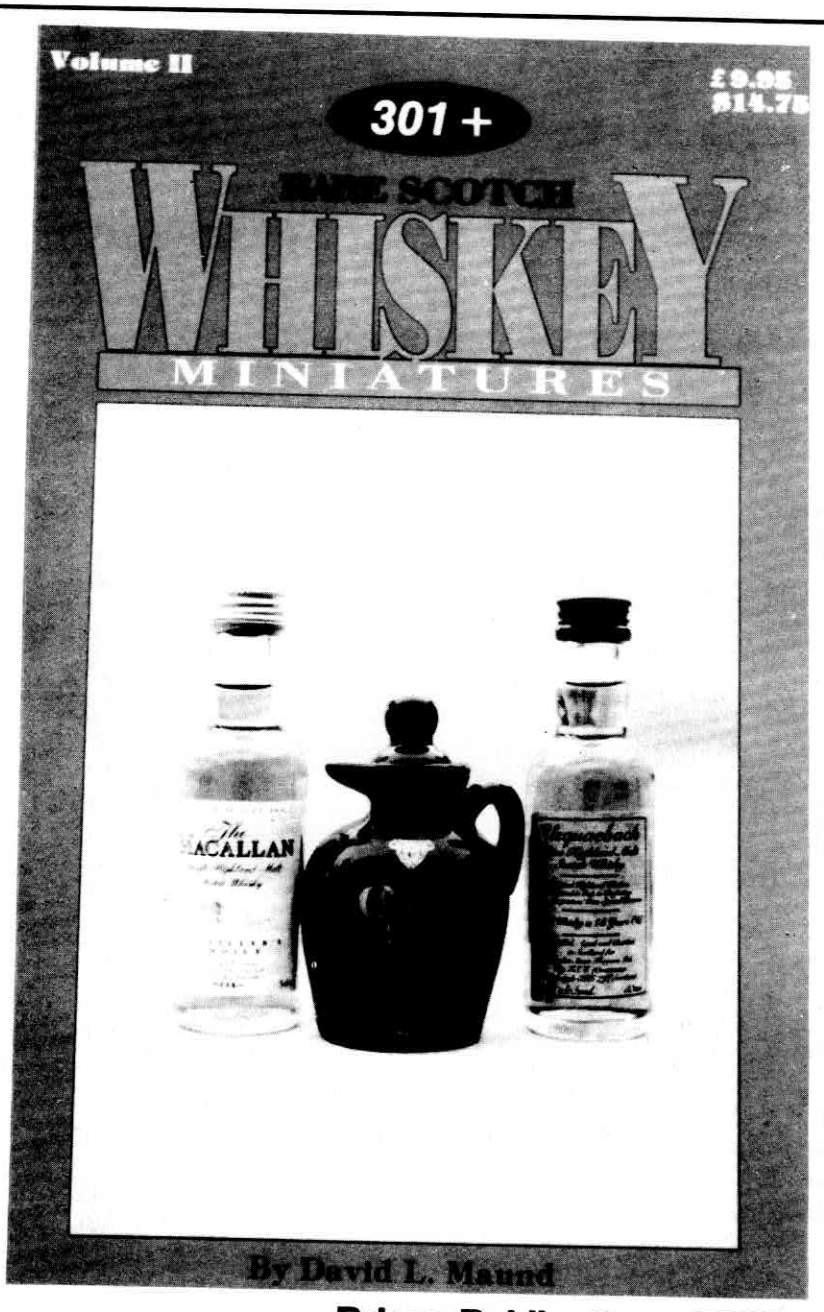
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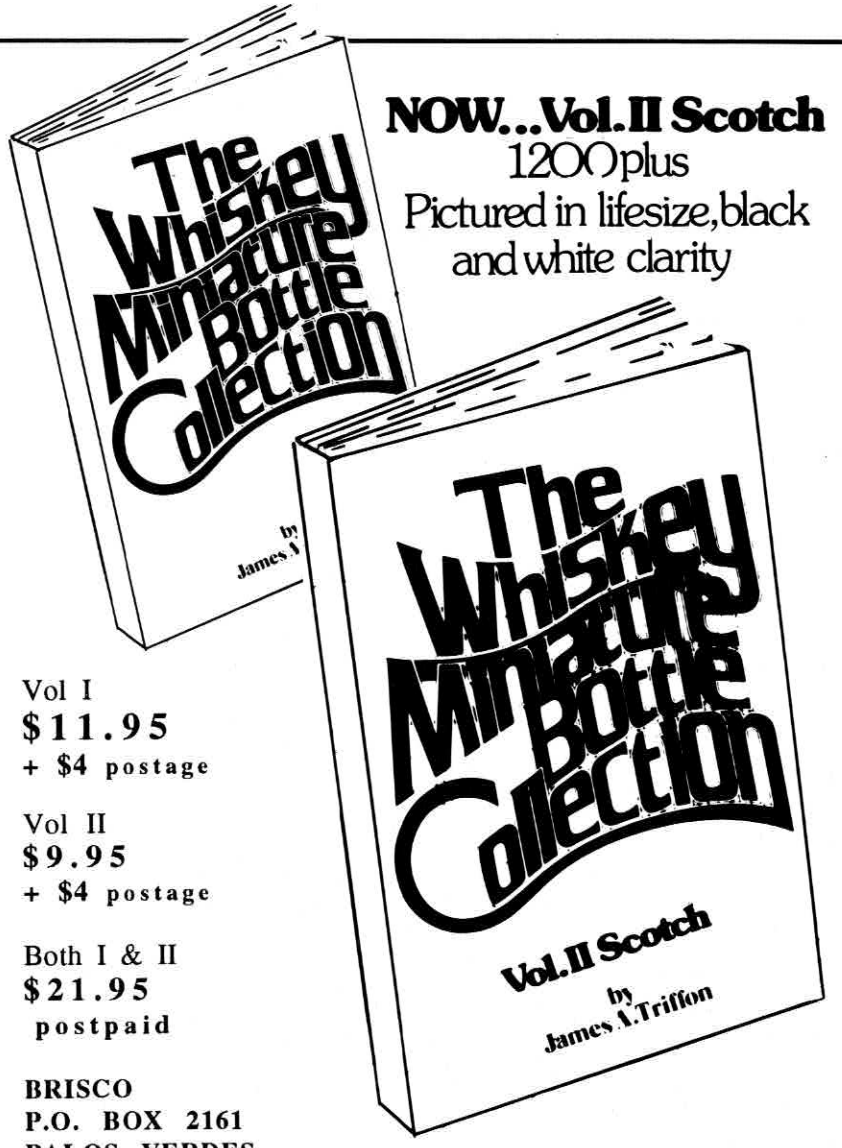
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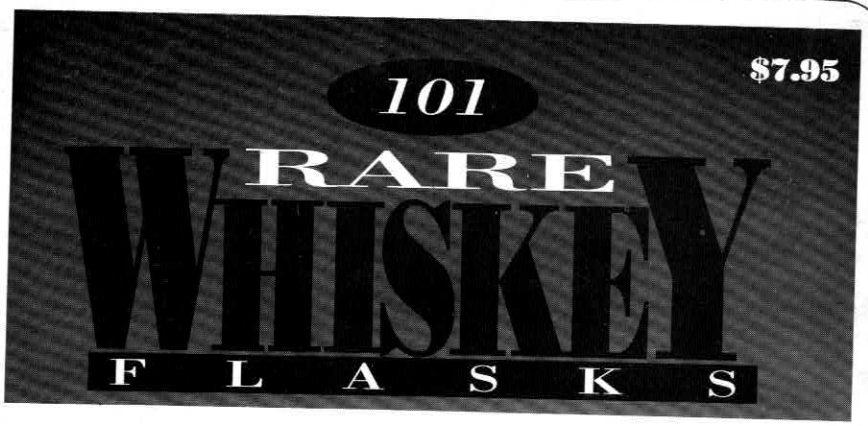
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