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THE

**MINIATURE
BOTTLE
COLLECTOR**



2001 Hardbound Edition



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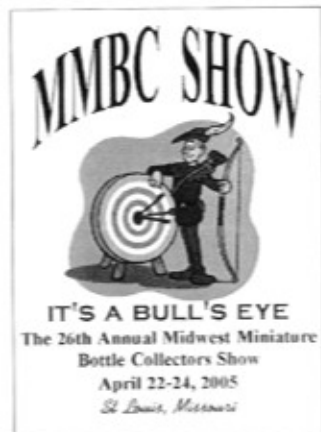
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Our Cover:

The two bottles which grace the cover this time are blue Schafer and Vater pieces. They may be familiar to some of you but this particular bottle (in its two distinct sizes) is not that well known. Since it is mentioned in the text of the article about our collector of the month, Peter Spirito, it seemed more than logical that you'd like to see it!

Let's begin with a bit of unfinished business. We need a bit of a round-up of the MMBC bottle show held this past April. As you'll remember, this was number 25 and that's quite a nice number, be it birthday or anniversary. If you weren't there and could have been, shame on you. Those who were there had a great time with the show itself on Saturday and Sunday as well as the buffet dinner and auction on Friday night.

It seems every year the number of items in the auction gets larger and larger. And to go along with that, the money spent at the auction gets also larger and larger. A good many people went home very happy due to their success in the auction. Naturally I'm talking both buyers and sellers.

You'll find the ad for next year's show there on page one. It's never too early to make plans as you know it's time and money well spent!

Our apologies again to all those authors who got squeezed out last time due to the old Southern Sales catalog. All are included this issue and we also have a new voice from Montana, Bob Holloway. He takes a fresh look at one rather strange bottle. Bob will be back with more articles in the future.

Time now to do a bit of editorializing. I'm thinking about ebay. It seems that a few of our collectors have been told by ebay to 'take a hike'. In other words, they got kicked off. There are those who don't pay any attention to the rules and are still around while some of those who have been "banned" did literally nothing wrong except follow directions.

Ebay has a policy of making certain that you follow a very strict pattern when it comes to selling anything with alcohol in it or even something which HAD alcohol in it. If they give you a bad time, keep fighting if you're in the right.

Now just who is breaking the rules? There are a number of people who are putting new bottles on and this may cause a problem. However, the biggest problem is caused by those who just can't live without a certain bottle, pay an exorbitant amount for that bottle and then get angry when they find it a little while later at their local liquor store. Here's an example: the first Pravda Vodka that was seen back in April appeared on ebay and sold for over \$100. The person who bought it I'm sure could kick him/herself when it showed up in some areas for just a few dollars. So the famous Caveat Emptor or Let the Buyer Beware should be remembered.

Something else that I want to get on the soapbox about is the old "Are you your brother's keeper?" Let's paraphrase that and ask "Are you your fellow collector's keeper?" Usually in the summer time I make mention of watching out for new bottles on your vacation. Well, this time I want to take that one step further. When you find a new bottle, do you get one or two extra for your collecting friends? Often the old "what goes around comes around" comes into play. You find something for a friend and I imagine he or she will find something for you. Now obviously if you flew to Timbuktu and there were bottles there, you can't be expected to bring extras back for every Tom, Dick and Harry. But if you drive to a neighboring state, there's usually room in the car for an extra bottle or three!

Anyway do hope you had a good vacation and were able to add some new things to your shelves. They're out there...ya just gotta look.

Don't forget, 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 prices 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



There are a great many interesting new things out there. The problem these days is finding them all. Just today I found out through collector Harland Johnson of Louisiana that there is a Black Stallion Vodka available in Alberta, Canada. Columbus Vodka is another which is only found in a handful of states. We just have to get our hands on them to be photographed and then you'll know what to be on the lookout for.

In any case, there are ten plus bottles for you this time. I don't say eleven because the picture of the Malibu Mango is way too dark. And speaking of Malibu, the other

plastic one shown here is the Pineapple. They came through Canada...last I knew Malibu came through Barbados!

There are two other plastic pieces for you this time: Captain Morgan's Parrot Bay (another Mango) and the much more clever Giori Amaretto from Italy. Giori is probably using this embossed bottle for all their flavors.

The other rum this time is the Mount Gay Vanilla. This is one of the two Mount Gay flavored rums. Guess what the other one is??

Let's move now to what I would consider the more important "stuff". The 1800 Silver (also



available in Reposado) is the new one from Cuervo; however, just try to find the Cuervo name on it. There are now three different as we showed you the evolution of the anejo bottle previously.

We have three types of whiskey for you this time...notice all are spelled with the "e". Corner Creek is a Reserve Bourbon which has been aged in American oak casks for eight years. The label presents a serene rustic view. This bottle is not an easy one to find and beside one or two stores in Southern California, it hasn't been mentioned as being seen elsewhere.

The Conecuh Ridge Whiskey is

"to be" an Alabama Whiskey but right now it's coming out of Kentucky. You can see that this is a bit bigger (100ml) than normal but still a great addition to anyone's whiskey collection.

The last of the three is probably the most difficult for most collectors. The Buena Vista Irish Whiskey is sold in only one store. That store happens to be around the corner from the "B V" itself in San Francisco, near Fisherman's Wharf. Through the years, the "B V" has become a San Francisco institution and finally owned up to its reputation and opened a gift shop around the corner. If you go,



you can find hats, mugs, shot glasses, you name it and, of course, this nice little mini. Aren't very many of these specials around today.

This brings us to our last two bottles. These are from "down under" and both New Zealand and Australia are represented. The first of the pair is Imperial Velvet Malt Whiskey (note spelling) from New Zealand. It appears that the substance floating in the whiskey is a small segment of deer antler. Well, if you can stick a worm in tequila...

The Tasmanian Bush Liqueur is

produced in Tasmania, Australia, by The Lark Distillery. It was found in a gift shop and not in a liquor store. It would appear that the liquor tax there is more than a bit on the high side. This piece sold for \$14 Australian which at the time equaled \$10.50 U.S. Tasmania would also seem to be about the last place left producing Australian alcoholic products. So maybe that price isn't too high after all.

We'll be back next time with Blue Wave Raspberry Vodka...now doesn't that sound delicious? Well then, how about J. Dupont X O Royal Cognac? --DMS--

GLASS



"Here comes Peter Cottontail, hoppin' down the Bunny Trail"...yada, yada, yada. This big, homely bunny will never be mistaken for Peter Cottontail.

Coming from Spain, this molded glass bunny is all dressed up with

even a vest. He contains a liqueur and that's about all that is known about him. Unless of course, someone else has it in a collection and can shed a little light on his credentials. Please let us hear from you as we'd love to know more about our big bunny.

TEQUILA



Back again with another dozen interesting bottles from south of the border. The tequilas this time run the gamut of rather plain to downright extra special...and that hasn't anything to do with contents.

Let's begin with one that's Sublime. Quite frankly I really doubt that it is since it's a Joven or "young" tequila. At least it has sort of a see-through label. Not a four star bottle but surely worth having.

The other young (Joven) tequila is the Potrancas with the horse on the label. It is a square bottle with a decent label so this one gets thumbs up too.

One that makes the cut only if you have to have everything is the Mayor Reposado. Normal straight, dull label...but maybe it tastes good! It's companion there is the Three Compadres Reposado. Also a normal straight but at least a clever label.

Let's move on to the Porfidios now. So, when is a Porfidio not a Porfidio...or more to the point...when is a Porfidio not a tequila. Of the two shown here, the ceramic tall shot glass on the left is a genuine Anejo Porfidio Tequila while the blown glass one with the cactus on the right is not a tequila. Nowhere on the label will you find

the word "tequila" just that it comes from blue agave. This bottle has turned up in both Texas and California as well as Mexico and the story gets more and more bizarre.

The brand's general manager delivered the bottles to the liquor store himself (which certainly in itself is very unusual). He proceeded to spin a web of intrigue which took us from Mexico to South Africa (not South America) and on to Switzerland where the "tequila" rests. Why Switzerland you might ask...and everyone did. The answer was that it was the only place in the world where they felt





“safe”. A little adjunct to the story is that the large bottles are not being sold here because they are available through Pura Sangre (Pure Blood) and known as The Cactus Series.

Anyway, if you want a fascinating bottle, definitely add it to your collection; however, you'll have to figure out in what category to put it.

The set of three Ortigoza bottles is another story. This set of blown glass bottles with metal labels was sent to England as a promotional item. If they are sold anywhere yet, please let us know.

We finish up with three bottles all of which a little something special. The Centenario Anejo is the exact replica of the larger bottle. As such it mimics all the embossing and is quite elegant. The Cristeros Reposado is again another replica. The label may not be something to write home about but the metal “cage” that surrounds the bottle makes it more than unusual. Finally Los Valientes (The Valiant Ones) Reposado with its cloth and leather printed label is an excellent addition to any collection.

So there's the dozen. A mixed lot but heavy on the winners!

ABSINTHE



It seems in talking with many collectors and from e-mails that Absinthe is a nice niche collectible. Since they aren't available in the U.S., this makes them more desirable. Sort of a corollary of the supply and demand theory. We'll let you make your own decisions on this particular group.

This set of three comes from Holland. In fact all three come from the same store in Amsterdam. The Van Gogh is just a variation of a large set of Van Gogh bottles which all contain vodka.

For years this store has been selling gins and vodkas which are literally made "in the basement". The old gimmick used to be to take three bottles, two square and one round. Then you could take the same label and use on all three. The third was done by taking the square bottle and putting the label over the corner or edge so that it went around two sides. Thus the store could sell a set of three. Today Absinthes are popular so guess what's being filled down in the basement?

SCOTCH

David Maund



Remember where we left off last time? Well, if you think you're seeing the same set of three this time, think again. You're not! This group of three Bowmores is another set of Islay malts. Above the Islay you'll note the words Dawn, Darkest, and Dusk. Naturally these are miniature replicas of the larger bottles. This set was sent to me from the U.S. where it appeared as part of a Christmas gift pack last year.

Then I was sent another set of three from Eastern Europe. These weren't Bowmores but the

Wyzour bottles with the comical labels. And, it turns out there is more to the set than these three. I don't know what these characters are saying as it appears to be in Czech. However, possibly next time I can have more information for you.

The remaining six in our dozen this time are certainly a mixed lot. Before catching a train at Paddington Station in London one day, I spent a little time walking around outside the station. There I found the Cheers Wine Shop and incredibly the shop had



its own bottle. It won't win any prizes in my opinion, but none the less, it's a nice oddity,

The Jacobite is a blend made for off-license shops in the U.K. You won't find it in any of the big shops, but you'll see it in tiny ones which handle very few bottles. This is made to be consumed, not collected.

The exact opposite though is true of the Vintage Hallmark of St. James Glen Mhor which was produced three years ago for Stanground College in France. This was the last miniature Vintage



Hallmark produced before they went bankrupt. It was a lovely shop in St. James near Piccadilly.

The last three bottles are all quite new...at least to me. I believe they've all appeared within the last six months. I was more than surprised to see this Fettercairn 1824; it's the first one without the "Old". Very pretty label and a highlight of currently available bottles.

An Cnoc is an interesting single malt which has been around for some time; however, very few miniatures are known. The label is

rather plain, but this 12 year old is still another nice addition.

Finally, what can you say about the name, A Wee Shyte Whisky? Yes, of course it's a specialty for the Shyte Shirt company but their slogan of "bluff with a little shyte in your hand" definitely leads us in a much different direction. It's a 10cl bottle and to add injury to epithet, it's a Xerox-type label.

So that's it for this time. Next time I hope to have a new Bell's bottle to show you. -DLM-

GUINNESS



You're looking at the fifth and last in a series of Guinness Toucan pieces produced in England for Millennium Ltd by Royal Doulton. These pieces are some of the last Doultons which will be made in England as all Doulton production is being moved to Asia and in most cases will no longer be manufactured in porcelain/fine china.

This particular one, "Mine's a

Guinness", refers back to an advertising campaign that featured the toucan as a miner. If you look closely you'll note the miner's pick that this bird carries in his left wing while in his right he naturally sports a pint of Guinness.

Hope you've enjoyed this series of go-withs. If we're lucky there may be something additional produced but by Coalport. We'll see.

Ski Country



It's time to look at some old favorites. The Indians seen on the facing page (okay, so you have to turn the magazine) are but five of the many Indians that Ski Country has produced in the last three decades. This set, however, is among the most colorful. Made by Goto in Japan, this group is now bringing quite high prices when it does turn up on ebay...which isn't too often.

In the "what's new" category with Ski Country though, we turn from Indians to a marvelous wildlife decanter (done in both large and small sizes naturally) featuring an elk and wolves. An ad for this piece has been seen in the last couple of issues here, but the

print job left a great deal to be desired.

Only 300 of this piece were produced and if you didn't get one by now, you'll probably have to look for it in the secondary market. (That old devil ebay comes to mind once again.)

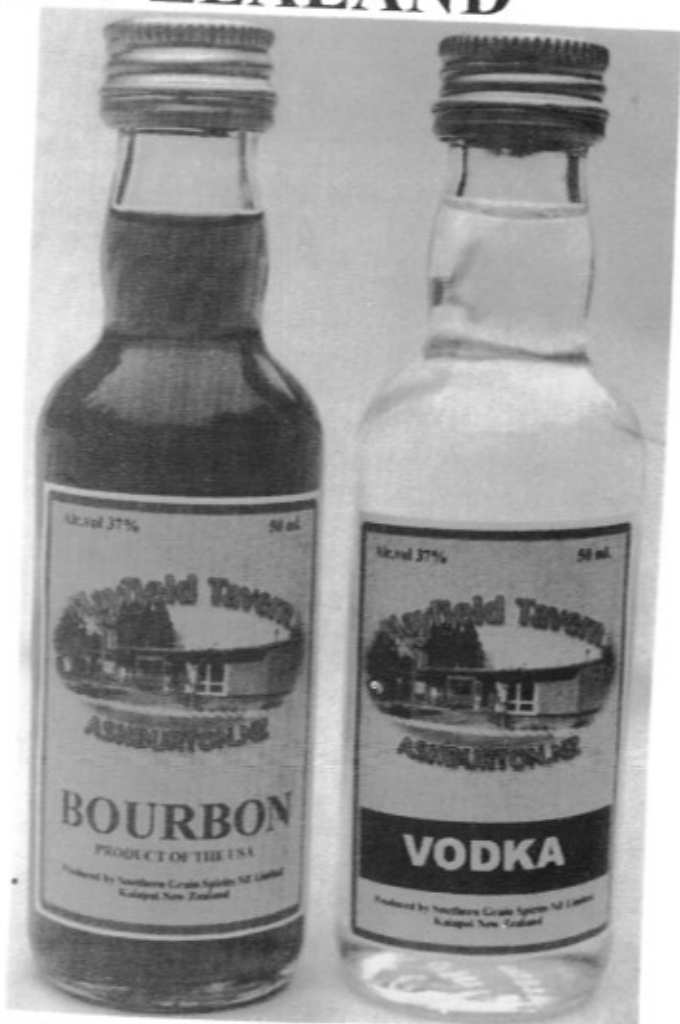
With a limited edition this small, only dedicated porcelain collectors can be assured of a bottle as they'll always jump at something new like this so as not to miss out.

If you're missing out on other pieces, the Ski Country Club in Texas is who you should contact and you can easily do that by calling (800) 383-3788. If Frank and Jacque can't find it for you....you ain't gonna find it!



from

NEW ZEALAND



Let's take another look at some of the recent specialty bottles issued in New Zealand. As before, we have eight to show you but this time from only three different sources.

One of the more interesting characteristics of these bottles is that they are all 37% alcohol. An educated guess would

be that this has to do with taxes, but who's to say. As you can plainly see, the three establishments being honored with bottles are The Grand Hotel in Akaroa, the Mayfield Tavern in Ashburton, and the Papanui Club. Most of these sets will also include gin, malt whisky, and occasional tequilas, ports and sheries.



SCREECH

by
BOB HOLLOWAY

I recently acquired an excellent example of this little bottle of "Screech" rum and while looking through some of my back issues of "MBC" magazines, came across a copy of the enclosed story (facing page).

The bottle is a beauty, with great label graphics which are done in dark blue and red letters which are imposed on a pale yellow outline of the province of Newfoundland. The pale blue background shows a small fleet of fishing boats. The label is outlined in gold and red, while at the top is a coat of arms, with a shield and a horse and lion rampant on either side. Under the shield are the letters "N.L.C." on a gold banner. A great job of printing and graphics.

There are no signs of any other graphics or labels on the bottle except the one on the front. The bottom of the bottle is embossed with: "Canada Liquor Bottle" and there is a date which I can't make out.



Is this story and this bottle for real?? Anyone have any more info? I would surely like to know. Any WWII vets who were stationed in Newfoundland and are members of "MBC"?? Any members from Jamaica or the Caribbean who may have heard about "SCREECH" rum??

--B.H.--

The SCREECH Story

Long before any liquor board was created to take alcohol under its benevolent wing, the Jamaican rum which was eventually to be known as Screech was a mainstay of the Newfoundland diet. Salt fish was shipped to the West Indies in exchange for rum; the fish became the national dish of Jamaicans and the rum became the traditional drink of Newfoundlanders.

Not being overly concerned with alcohol content, the early fishermen tended to drink the rum at incredibly high strength with no attempt made to temper the taste. When the government took control of the liquor business in the early 20th century they put the rum in a very sophisticated unlabeled bottle, but fortunately did not alter the rum itself. This delightful product might have continued indefinitely as a nameless rum except for the influx of American servicemen to the island during World War II.

As the story goes, the commanding officer of the first detachment was taking advantage of Newfoundland hospitality for the first time and was offered a drop of rum as an after dinner drink. Seeing his host toss back the liquor with nary a quiver, the unsuspecting American adhered to local custom and downed the drink in one gulp.

The look of shock and the glorious shades of color on the American's face were overshadowed by the bloodcurdling howl made by the poor fellow as soon as he managed to regain his breath. Sympathetic persons from miles around rushed to the house to assist the poor creature in such obvious agony and of course to satisfy their curiosity as to what was going on. Among the first to arrive was a garrulous old American sergeant who pounded on the door and demanded "What the cripes was that ungodly screech?"

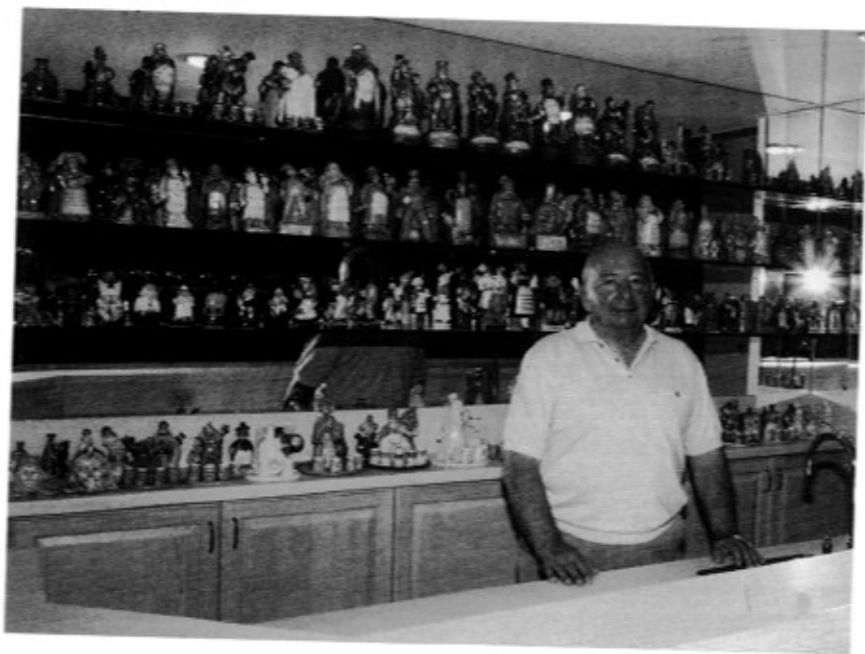
The taciturn Newf who had answered the door replied simply, "The Screech? 'Tis the rum, me son."

Thus was born a legend. As word of the incident was passed around, the soldiers determined to try this mysterious "screech" and finding its effects as devastating as the name implies, adopted it as their favorite.

The opportunistic liquor board immediately pounced on this name and reputation and began labelling Newfoundland Screech. While having to tone down the alcohol content slightly in deference to a less robust clientele, the liquor board has allowed Screech to retain its character and the product is as impressive as ever, especially to the uninitiated.

MEET THE COLLECTOR:

PETER SPIRITO



I started collecting Mettlach beer steins in 1958. A gentleman who had a very large and advanced collection introduced me to METTLACH, at a time when very few people even knew anything about them. There wasn't any information to be found on the subject, which is similar to the situation that S & V is in now.

My family and I saw our first SCHAFFER & VATER when we visited his beautiful home and discovered that in addition to the stein collection, his wife had one of the nicest collections of S & V's. The S & V's were character bottles, all blue-color, 8 to 12 inches tall and were displayed above their blue kitchen cabinets with a lighted





background. When I saw the S & V collection, I thought that some day when my METTLACH collection was where I wanted it to be, I would start collecting S & V's. That day came in February 1995 at the Miami Antique Show where I purchased my first character bottle. The bottle is blue-color, 8" tall and is a lady wearing a cross and holding a bottle.

SCHAFFER & VATER character bottles make great Go-With additions for beer stein collectors because they are German drinking vessels, produced about the same time and have many of the same

German sayings like PROSIT! There is even a character beer stein which is identical to the S & V "Nurnberger Tricher (Funnel Man). My goal in collecting METTLACH was not to have the largest but to have my collection as perfect as I could and I am doing the same with my S & V's.

All of my pieces are in mint condition and would not be as advanced as they are if it were not for the assistance and encouragement from my family. My wife's (Jean) famous words are "Bid Higher!".

FROM JAPAN

by TAIZO SHIRATSUCHI



This time I would like to present to you some Japanese Whisky miniatures which became available only as samples. As you can see in the first picture, they put the bottle in a polyethylene sack with a leaflet and hang it on the neck of a big bottle, usually a 2.71 over bottle (ed. note: I believe that's equivalent of the 1.75??).

By the way, no new Japanese Whisky miniatures became available by themselves in the market since last year.

There are three Suntory Whisky miniatures, RED, WHITE SUPER CLEAN and TORYS. As you know, the Suntory WHITE and RED have many variations of labels for many years, especially



WHITE as it is the oldest Suntory whisky.

Literally the **WHITE** has a white label and is 10.5cm tall at 37% alcohol. The **RED** is a familiar square bottle shape since 1979. It is 9.5cm at 39% alcohol. In 1946, the

after the end of World War II, Suntory launched the **TPRYS**, but with no miniature. We do know a few **TORYS** miniatures were available only in Mexico with Mexico import labels. Last year Suntory launched **TORYS**

SQUARE as a revival version. This is a round one different from the regular bottle. It's square and 11cm tall at 37% alcohol.

Next are two miniatures from Nikka, **MALT CLUB** and **BLACK NIKKA CLEAR BLEND**. The Nikka issued the first miniature of **MALT CLUB** as a pet sample in 1995. This new sample miniature is glass with two dimples, so it is a complete replica and 9.5cm tall at 40% alcohol. Since 1965 the **BLACK NIKKA** has had some variations. The **CLER BLEND** was launched some years ago and has finally become available as a miniature sample last year. It is a little roundish square bottle at 10cm tall and 37% alcohol.

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



MELO'S MINIS

by MIKE OLSON



In this article I would like to feature two "colorful" bottles from the 1930's, plus we'll look at six from the Hillcrest Distilling Corporation. These nice old bottles from the period after the end of prohibition are getting very scarce. I am sure they are still out there in dormant collections, but the hard part is finding them.

Anyway, the first bottle is White Owl Straight Whiskey bottled by American Grain Distillers of Detroit. This company also made the Sampson brands and I believe

changed its name to Sampson. The label is printed in red, blue, green and gold and the bottle is highly embossed and very distinctive.

The other bottle of "color" is Gold Bond DeLuxe Straight Bourbon Whiskey bottled by Distillers Distributing Corp. of San Francisco. It has a white label printed in red, black and gold and is the same company that produced the fabulous Red Robin. Both of these bottles are near mint which is really a nice bonus.

Hillcrest of Lawrenceburg,





Indiana, produced some very nice bottles during a short period in the mid-1930's. The State Express Straight Whiskey has a white label printed in red and black. Unfortunately, some moron put the Illinois tax stamp on the label.

The Harmony Blended Whiskey has a black label printed in gold and white. The next two have tan labels with red and black. The Hillcrest "48" is a Bourbon Whiskey imported in bulk from D C L of Canada. The Hillcrest

"Special" is another blend. The last two are Amber Gold A Blend of Straight Whiskies in a clear and amber glass bottle. They have gold labels printed in red and black.

Finally, it turns out Little Jimmy Durkin was a very large liquor distributor in the Spokane area. I saw a pint bottle on the internet which had a neck label which stated, "If your kinds don't have shoes, don't buy no booze". I'll drink to that!

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

TREASURES OF THE PAST

by
BUTCH JONES



Over the past eighty plus years, Canada has produced some great whiskies, especially in the '20's and '30's. Everyone's whisky collection has some of the older versions of Canadian whisky. One of the more well known producers of Canadian whisky is Seagram's.

Two of their bottles from the 1930's are shown in our first picture. Both of these whiskies featured the same type bottle: clear flask, concave section, front and back. The first is Seagram's "83". The bottle is embossed "Seagram's Famous Whiskies" and is filled with 1/10 pt of 90 proof Canadian whisky. The tax stamp is dated 1931 but the other bottle, V.O., is dated 1932. The V.O. bottle shows the back label which is just a smaller version of the front label. This one is filled with 1/10pt, 90

proof, 6 year old Blended Canadian Whisky.

The second picture features Corby's Special Blended Canadian Whisky. Unfortunately, the Territory of Alaska tax seal is in the center of the gold foil label. This square clear bottle with dropped shoulders is dated 1927 and is filled with 1/10pt, 90 proof Canadian Whisky.

I've saved the best and rarest for last, Monogram Canadian Whisky. This clear flask contains 7 year old, 90 proof Canadian Whisky. The bottle is dated 1929 and again has the Territory of Alaska tax seal on the top.

These are all great additions to any collection. 'Til next time.... -- B.J.--

VODKA

by JOHN SULLIVAN



Back again with a group of nine new vodkas for you. A third of these are available here in the U.S. in different areas of the country. The pictures may not reflect the way I talk about the bottles, but I'm certain you can which one is which.

The most mass market production is the one known as Level which was released last April. It has a very nice frosted or satin glass finish and is quite elegant in its understated way. The vodka itself is produced by the Absolut company and is meant to raise the art of vodka to a new...what's that

word again...Level. From a collector's standpoint though, it will never be more than a regular Absolut bottle because it's available in almost every outlet that can sell mini vodkas...unless, of course, we're taking about an establishment that secures most of its income from selling Night Train and other delicious fortified wines.

Next is the Nemiroff Ukrainian Wheat Vodka. There are a great many Nemiroff vodkas and they all seem to be available in both 50ml and 100ml sizes. The bottle is embossed and an interesting addition to a collection. This



particular one was found in San Francisco.

The last (and best) of the vodkas found here in the U.S. is the Pravda. This also was issued last March or April in a couple of eastern states and by now has found its way all along the eastern seaboard. Sometimes the bottle is sold as shown here; at other times it is sold in a box with two glass martini glasses and known as a martini kit. Whichever way you find it, realize that you aren't buying gold. I was told that the first one to hit ebay this spring went for \$106!

Now to the remaining bottles which are found out of the country. An excellent pair is comprised of





the Dakk and Goldessa Vodkas. They're not from Russia nor Ukraine but from Romania. Bottles from this country aren't seen here too often so this pair is special. The Goldessa obviously has high hopes of being exported to the U.S. as the front label has all our legal requirements. All they need is an importer and a back label warning. Don't be surprised if a Goldessa is in your future.

Naturally we have to have a pair of Russian vodkas in our group. This is represented by the two with black labels. The Tambovski (with the wolf on the label) is certainly the more interesting of the two. What can you say about the other bottle except that there's "no there

there".

Since we've had Romania and Russia we'll look at one from another of the Eastern countries. The Stolicha with the building on the label proudly spells out its heritage in Cyrillic at the bottom of the label. It comes from Belorus and the Cyrillic states "Belorusskaya Vodka".

Our last bottle is from Holland and it's one of my favorites because of its shape. This is the Expertise Dutch Vodka. If you'll note the far left of the label, you'll see a small picture. It's by Rembrandt and makes me think that this might be one of a series. If I find out, you'll see any others here.

--J.S.--

A Visit To Boozeville



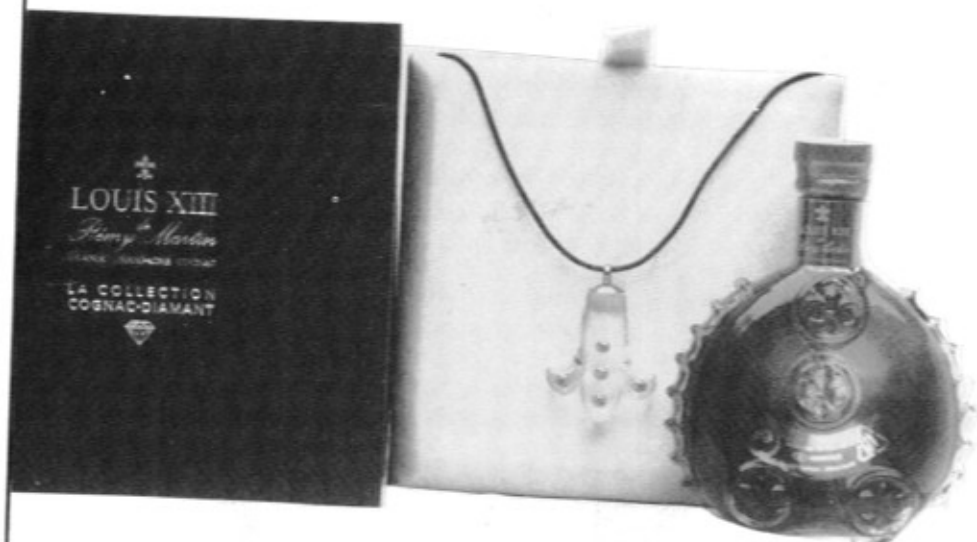
It looks almost as if old Sandy MacGregor couldn't wait and had to rip a small bottle of whisky from the back of this decanter. Well, he didn't. What was actually there originally was a thermometer but that went by the wayside a long time ago.

Our character who is enjoying a good quaff may have indeed been a representation of Sandy MacGregor Scotch Whisky. This

brand is no longer seen here in the U.S. but at one time was fairly well known.

The other side of this Schafer & Vater piece states: Believe It or Believe It Not You Need a Little Scotch. The graphic is of a humorous Scotty dog. This Scotsman may be a long way from home but he does fit in well here in Boozeville.

A NEW LOUIE



Remy Martin Louis XIII. The name itself is something we all sort of "ooh and aah" over because it immediately brings to mind one of the most sought after and desirable bottles of all time. If you have the second version, you crave the original. If you had the first one, then you had to have the second version. And, what's this...there are variations to the numbers of spires from bottle to bottle depending on Baccarat Crystal. Oh, you'd forgotten the Baccarat crystal part.

Well, get set to drool, because the third separate version has been issued (naturally in 700/750ml size also). What you're seeing here though is the 50ml version which so far has only been reported in Japan.

Only a few dozen bottles were sold in Japan and those were dispersed through a lottery. If you got picked, you got a bottle. Of course, the price was a determining factor for almost all collectors.

And what made this new piece, Louis XIII La Collection Cognac-Diamant so special. Obviously you've noticed the stopper by now. There are five diamonds embedded in the crystal stopper which when added together total .4 to .5 karats. The bottle would appear to be exactly the same, but oh that stopper.

Word has it that some of the large size bottles have been sold in California. Price with tax was over \$7,500.00. So see, even though the price of the little guy hasn't been mentioned, it's still a bargain!



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