



Bottle Buzz

News, Notes, Letters,
etc.

Send Buzz Notes to: Kathy Hopson, E-mail: kathy@thesodafizz.com
or write: Buzz Notes, 414 Molly Springs Road,
Hot Springs, AR 71913



Dr. Munsey,

FYI: I have two other versions of "The Smallest Bottle Ever Made..."

The first is 1.095" x 0.523, embossed on one side with ILLINOIS GLASS (vertically with fraction markings), the other side FIRST / IN / GLASS, the base with a diamond through an oval.

The second is 1.176" x 0.625", embossed vertically with LYRIC (with fraction markings and a design on the shoulder), the other side with ILLINOIS / GLASS / CO. / ALTON, IL, the base with an I in a diamond / LYRIC.

Neither has a label.

From John Hinkel
shinkel@mail.win.org

Dear Mr. Munsey,

Just a note to let you know how much I enjoyed your article on Owens in the most recent *Bottles and Extras*. I am a native of Toledo, Ohio, and my aunt was personal secretary to Edward Drummond Libby. The story you told was familiar lore in the family, one of the most interesting nuances is the faith that Libby had in Owens' ability to invent a bottle blowing machine when so many others before had failed. And then when he had done that, for Libby to share the profits and even the company name with a relatively unlettered Irish workman.

As a footnote: I spent a summer in 1953 interning at Owens-Illinois in industrial relations and worked for a time at the Libby glass factory in Toledo.

This also gives me an opportunity to let you know that your book on bottle collecting had a lot to do with my extensive writing on whiskey jugs and other bottle-related subjects. You have set a very high standard for quality and longevity. While I may not meet the former, I will continue to work on the latter.

All the best - and thanks for your inspiration

Jack Sullivan
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Wondering why your Fall issue is late?



My name is Shaun Ashish Sathe. I suppose I fall under the "Extras" category of this magazine, although I do receive my nourishment from a bottle.

You are more familiar with my mom, Kathy Hopson-Sathe. I messed things up royally by making my arrival two weeks earlier than expected and then taking over and not allowing much of anything else to be done except attending to me.

Don't let the above photos fool you, though, my mom had to look through a bunch of them to find one where I wasn't wailing. I suppose when I am being quiet, taking my photo doesn't enter my parents

minds - sleep and peace and quiet does.

Don't be too angry with my mom for having to wait longer than usual to read your *issue of Bottles and Extras*. It took me almost a month to figure out I actually can survive for more than an hour without having a bottle stuffed into my mouth and if there is one drop of wet in my diaper, it doesn't have to wake me from a deep sleep to alert someone of its dangers. In other words, I let my mom get something else - this magazine - done. It just took me a while to figure it out.

Thanks for letting me explain.
Shaun (born August 23, 2005)

Recent Finds

Okay folks... I certainly do not mind letting you know about the "new finds" which have come my way and I enjoy the research. But, I'm awfully tired of reading my own writing!!! **How about some contributions?????**

Following my arrival home from the Reno show, I received a telephone call from a collector in Olathe, Colorado, requesting information regarding a number of flasks he had recently acquired. Among these is my "new find"

for this issue— a previously unreported half-pint coffin flask embossed RADOVICH BROS. / WINES / & / LIQUORS / 29 GEARY ST., S.F. Prior to this flask coming to light, the only other example of a flask related to this one was a half-pint shoofly embossed M. V. RADOVICH / WINES / & / LIQUORS / 29 GEARY ST. S.F. Each is pictured.

The Radovichs are an interesting part of the early liquor business in San Francisco. I am a little limited in my ability to research, with directories at home that only go back as far as 1876. I do have copies of the early liquor dealers in San Francisco from years leading up to that, but these tend to be incomplete and useful only if the individual is the primary proprietor in a partnership or the sole owner. These earlier liquor listings note a Radovich first in the business in 1874-5 in a partnership of Lazarus Radovich and Hermann E. Uhrlandt, operating a liquor saloon called The Wine House at 306 Kearny Street. This firm operated a saloon at this location through 1891. Starting in 1877, we note that the firm L. Radovich and Co has formed and this partnership of Lazarus Radovich and Elias Chielovich is operating the Mint Exchange at 877 Market Street, another long-lasting enterprise.

As collectors of the early San Francisco fifths will recognize, E. Chielovich is responsible for one of the top 25 Western cylinder whiskeys, a wonderful bottle embossed DURHAM / picture of a bull / WHISKEY / E. CHIELOVICH & CO. His affiliation with the Radovichs extends to one of the principals of this family who is pertinent to the flask I am reporting— Bozo Radovich. That affiliation likely predates the listing I have in my 1876 directory for Bozo Radovich, 'with E. Chielovich & Co.'

Bozo Radovich is the first proprietor from this family noted at the 29 Geary Street address. In 1877-78 he is no longer noted as being in business with E. Chielovich, having instead the listing 'importer, wines and liquors, 29 Geary St.' He remains in business at this address through the 1889 directory, at which time there are no further listings for him in either the residential or liquor sections. I have a vague recollection of a stenciled jug from San Jose bearing this gentleman's name and, if so, it is possible that he moved south to that city at this point.

Starting with the 1890 directory, the listing at 29 Geary Street falls under Radovich Brothers and Co., a firm comprised of Matthew V. Radovich, John L. Radovich and Henry A. Maison. In 1891, the firm lost Maison and was re-named Radovich Brothers. The brothers, John L. and Matthew V., jointly owned this business through the year 1901. In 1902, there is a listing for Radovich Brothers listing only Matthew and in 1903 the listing has changed to Matthew V. Radovich 'successor to Radovich Bros.', wholesale and retail wines and liquors, 29 Geary. In 1905, the address changes to 51 Geary Street, which may only signify a change in address but not location. We can date this most recent flask attributed to this family to the period 1903 and 1904.

The Radovich Brothers enjoyed an extended period in the San Francisco liquor community, with endeavors both before and following that reported above. To summarize some of their history:

Matthew V. Radovich:

- 1882-89 bartender for L. Radovich & Co
- 1890 Radovich Bros & Co
- 1891-1901 Radovich Bros (w John L.)
- 1902 Radovich Bros (Matthew V, only)
- 1903-04 Matthew V. Radovich, 29 Geary
- 1905 Matthew V. Radovich, 51 Geary
- 1906 no listing
- 1907 residence, only
- 1908-15 liquors, 1259 Polk
- 1917 residence, only
- 1918 no listing

John L. Radovich:

- 1877 barkeeper, J. Cappadacy
- 1878-81 currently unresearched
- 1882 D. Biagi & Co (Dominico Biagi & John L. Radovich), produce commission
- 1883 residence, only
- 1884 no listing
- 1885-1889 John L. Radovich & Co (John L. Radovich, Martin Denaveaux, Henry A. Maison), wines, liquors & cigars, Frank's Saloon – 328 Pine
- 1890 Radovich Bros & Co
- 1891-1901 Radovich Bros
- 1890-91 John L. Radovich & Co (with Henry A. Maison), Frank's Saloon – 328 Pine
- 1892-1903 John L. Radovich & Co, Frank's Saloon – 328 Pine
- 1904 liquors, 27 Vallejo
- 1905 salesman, Wichman, Lutgen & Co
- 1906 no listing
- 1907 liquors, 6 Sutter, with Domenic B. Bradovich
- 1908-09 liquors, 6 Sutter
- 1910 residence, only
- 1911-18 liquors, (variably) 245-249 Montgomery

