

## Bottles From Anheuser Busch

by Curt Faulkenberry

In 1860, Eberhard Anheuser bought the "Hammer & Dominic Urban Bavarian Brewery". Who was to know that this purchase would grow into the giant worldwide Anheuser-Busch Brewery of today!

Over the next 20 years, The "E.ANHEUSER & Co'S BREWING ASSOCIATION" grew & turned out several nice embossed beer bottles. At this time I know of four different embossed bottles. They are the following:

1. Double ring collar amber Qt, embossed on the shoulder "E.ANHEUSER & CO ST.LOUIS,Mo."
2. Same as above only in Aqua.
3. Gallon Picnic amber bottle with a ring blob embossed on the face "E.ANHEUSER & CO'S BREWING ASSOCIATION ST.LOUIS".
4. Five and one-half inch tall double collar blob amber mini, embossed the same as #3. EX-RARE.

In 1879 the brewery became the "ANHEUSER-BUSCH BREWING ASSOCIATION". Thus the world's largest brewery had its beginning along with a large group of beer bottles. A-B realized early on that expansion beyond St.Louis was the way to keep the brewery strong. They opened depots throughout the country. Many of these new distributors made their own embossed bottles with the A-B logo.

A collector can go from the Atlantic to the Pacific coast with bottles from Anheuser-Busch. Many of these bottles are very common, I.E. Norfolk, Vir., Waterford, Conn., or Baltimore, Md. to the Ex-Rare such as Kansas City.

Thus collectors have choices: they could put together a nice collection from many branches and not have to spend all that much. One could collect only the rare examples, which are higher in price but have fewer bottles. Others may want to collect all examples. Still others may want to collect only the blob top bottles.

Blobs are available in aqua, amber, citron and cobalt. The cobalt example is the label only "LIQUID BREAD". Finding the cobalt bottles by themselves isn't that tough, however, finding one with a label can be a challenge.

The bimal crown bottles are often overlooked, but they shouldn't be. Many have nice colors,super embossing and some are very rare. Examples such as the "FAUST F.P. FIEGER, ERIE, PA." are nice looking & rare. A-B started making bimal crown bottles early on. Crown bottles were the way of future and A-B knew this.

Still another pre-pro A-B bottle is the "C.CONRAD & CO ORIGINAL BUDWEISER". Carl Conrad was A-B's bottler. Examples of these bottles exist in quarts, 20-ounce and 12-ounce. Most of these bottles are aqua, but rare citron bottles do exist.

Anheuser-Busch also made a gallon amber picnic blob bottle. It has a double ring blob and is embossed "ANHEUSER-BUSCH BREWING ASSOCIATION ST.LOUIS". This bottle is super rare, much harder to find than the gallon "E.ANHEUSER & Co" and thus has great growth potential.

A-B also had many nice label bottles. Labels such as "BUDWEISER", "BLACK & TAN" or "ORIGINAL LAGER" can be found in good shape. However, many ex-rare labels are out there. Some of these labels can run into the thousands of dollars. When collecting label bottles, go for condition and watch of repos.

Collecting Anheuser-Busch bottles can be very exciting & rewarding. One can fill a basement wall shelf and still not have them all.



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