

shine, not because it was shattered into a thousand pieces like I'd assumed the day before. It looked exactly like it did when it was placed on the little girl's grave.

With trembling hands, I reached down and retrieved "The Jar" and within a few minutes had returned it to its rightful place – the center of little Helen Marie Sims' grave.

**AUTHOR'S NOTE:** This is a fictional store and its sole purpose is to bring into focus many of the problems plaguing our beloved hobby. However, the old city cemetery does in exist in South Pittsburg and I have visited it many times. I got the idea for the story while reminiscing about one of my visits there with "Cousin Billy" where I remembered seeing an intact U-SAV-IT jar. Since that time, efforts have been made to restore the cemetery.

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# 409/W.H. Bard/Portland, Ore.

## An Unlisted Oregon Flask

By Garth Ziegenhagen



As I was rounding the corner at an earlier Chico Bottle Show, I was very surprised to find an Oregon flask that I nor anybody else I could find had ever heard of before.

A t P e t e Hendrick's table was this flask, "4 0 9 / W . H . Bard/Portland,

Ore." that Pete had received from a friend in Longview, Washington. I was even more excited when I found Pete and he was willing to let it go at a very reasonable price - you know how some sellers are often off looking for bottles at a bottle show!

We, in Oregon are fortunate to have had John Thomas and Bob Barnett to catalog bottles and publish some excellent Oregon resource books on the history of these bottles. We also owe a great deal of gratitude to the bottle collectors of Oregon who have shared their knowledge and bottles with the authors of these books. I doubt if anyone else will be able to publish specific bottle books like John and Bob. It is very rare to find an embossed whiskey not already researched and the history uncovered. Unfortunately, none of the books listed this flask, therefore, it was up to me to find out who this person was, when he was in Portland, and where the saloon was located.

I do have some research books, but soon discovered that W.H. Bard was not listed in any Portland census or directory up until 1910. In the 1910 census, he was boarding in Seattle and in 1911, he was the President and manager of the Mt. Hood Commercial Co, while boarding at 744 Kearny. In the same 1911 directory, he was listed as owner of a saloon at

409 Washington, thus, the 409 on the first line of the dandy flask he had made.

An advertisement on page 1627 of the directory listed:

Family Liquor Department  
Mt. Hood Commercial Co.  
Merchant's Lunch & Buffet  
Imported Lunch Delicacies  
409 Washington Street

The saloon was also listed in the 1912 directory, but, that was the end of the listings and probably why there were not many bottles made for this saloon.

In 1913, at the age of 60, W.H. Bard was listed as a lawyer at 224-225 Abington Bldg. and owned a house at 1125 Francis Avenue and still operated a Mt. Hood Commercial Co., but was no longer the owner of a saloon. How quickly he seemed to have become a lawyer - probably realizing that prohibition was coming, and, thus, being a lawyer was more lucrative than a saloon owner. Still it seems, he would be a person dealing with other people's problems, but, could charge more. He remained a lawyer until his death in 1921 at the age of 68.

**AUTHOR'S NOTE:** If anyone else out there owns one of these flasks, or comes across it, at least now you know some of it's history. History is the reason I collect bottles and I think we, as bottle collectors, have contributed to the preservation of history more then non-bottle collectors will ever realize. As for unlisted Oregon bottles, and "go-withs", it might be wise to save past issues of *The Stumptown Report* edited by Bill Bogynska and published by the Oregon Bottle Collectors Association.

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