

Brewing in Medford, Oregon

by Dave Scafani

Beer was first brewed in Medford in 1893 at the Southern Oregon Brewery & Ice Works, located at the Northwest corner of Fourth and F Street (later renamed Fir). The owner was G. W. Blasford and production was about 500 barrels.

In 1897 Elias Merc acquired the plant and changed the name to Medford Brewing Company.

In 1902 the brewery was sold to Henry Weinhard, the Portland beer baron. He closed the brewing operation and used the

facilities to produce ice and for storage and distribution of his Portland brewed beer. It was known as The Medford Agency, Henry Weinhard Company of Portland.

The operation closed down in 1916 when Prohibition was enacted in Oregon.

After Prohibition was repealed in 1933, the brewery was one of the few Oregon breweries to reopen. It was purchased by an investor group, remodeled and modernized with a capacity of 1500 barrels.

Its new name was Southern Oregon Brewing Company Inc. The brands were Gold Seal, Gold Seal Bock and Old Rogue Lager.

Henry Weinhard Brewery

Brewers and Bottlers of Finest Quality Table Beers

Columbia Export Kaiserbräu Malt Tea (See Analysis)

Our Malt Extract Is an Invigorating Nerve-Building Tonic With Exceptional Value As a Tissue-Building

Medford Agency, West 4th, Northwest Cor. Fir St.

From Polk's Jackson County Directory, 1911

BEER BREWING
IS A LIFE STUDY

WEINHARD'S COLUMBIA

Purity Is the Result of Age 50 Years' Experience
Flavor That's Why It's So Good

Order a case of your dealer. If he can't supply you, call Phone 51

H. WEINHARD
Beer and Ice Depot
Medford, Oregon

From Jackson County Fair Brochure, 1913

PHONE **51** **WEINHARD'S**
BEER AND ICE DEPOT
Pure Distilled Water Ice **ICE**

1913

COMPARE THE NEW
WEINHARD
Bottle Beer

With any now on the Market and note its SUPERIORITY

SPARKLING INVIGORATING

COLUMBIA
Portland, Ore. 1933

BREWERY'S OWN BOTTLING
HENRY WEINHARD BREWERY Portland, Oregon

Portland Automobile Club Tour Book, AAA, 1911

GOLD SEAL
OREGON'S FINEST
BEER

SOUTHERN OREGON BREWING CO.
MEDFORD, OREGON

INTERNAL REVENUE TAX PAID
NET CONTENTS 11 FLUID OZS.
CONTAINS LESS THAN 4% ALCOHOL BY WEIGHT

Oregon's Finest
Gold Seal
Beer

SOUTHERN OREGON BREWING COMPANY
MEDFORD, OREGON

Southern Oregon Brewing Co., 1933-1938

In 1938 the name changed to A-One Brewing Company with the brands A-1 Beer and Old King Cole. A-1 soda was also bottled at the plant. Bill Chrysler was named general manager.

In 1945, with Bill Chrysler still in charge, the name was changed again to Chrystal Beer. Mission Orange and Clicquot Club sodas were bottled as well as beer. The business ended in 1947.

Today only the front steps and part of the foundation remain as the property is now a plumbing supply store and storage lot.

BREWERS AND AGENTS

MEDFORD

SOUTHERN OREGON BREWING, ICE, & COLD STORAGE
corner of 4th and F Street

1893-96

G.W. BLASFORD

Corner of 4th and F Street

1896-97

MEDFORD BREWING COMPANY

Corner of 4th and F Street, Phone 51

1897-1902

HENRY WEINHARD BEER AND ICE DEPOT

Corner of 4th and Fir, S.A. Kroschel, Agent

1902-1916

SOUTHERN OREGON BREWING COMPANY, INC.

301 North Fir Street

1933-38

A-1 BREWING COMPANY

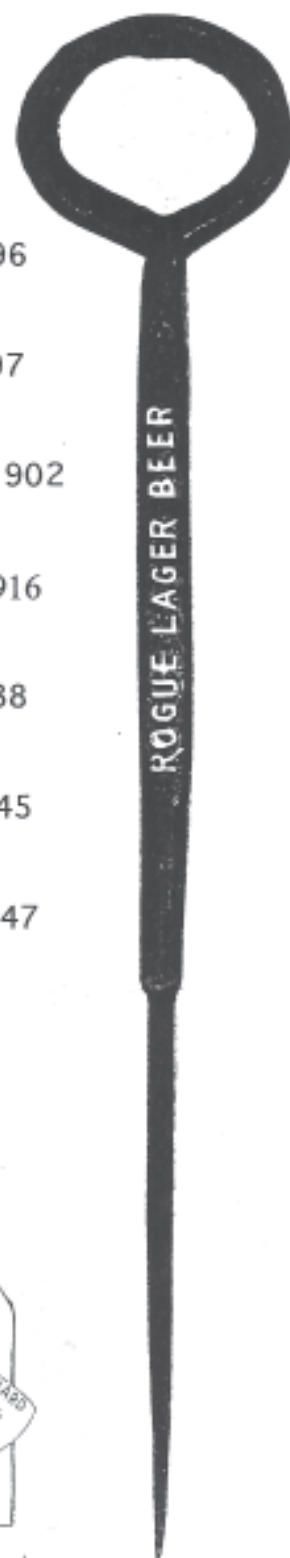
301 North Fir Street

1938-45

CHRYSTAL BREWING AND DISTRIBUTING COMPANY

301 North Fir Street

1945-47



BIMAL
amber
split
very scarce



BIMAL
amber/aqua
split
scarce



BIMAL
amber/aqua
split
scarce



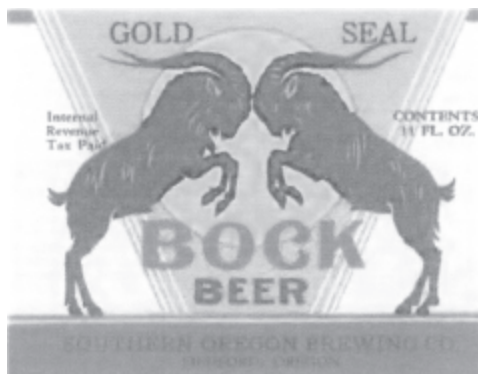
BIMAL
amber
quart
rare



BIMAL
amber
quart/pint
very scarce



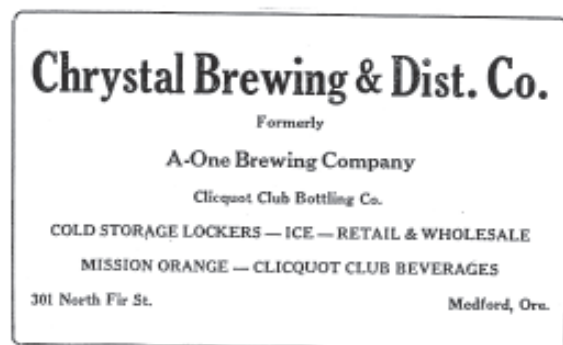
BIMAL
amber
pint
rare



Southern Oregon Brewing Co., 1933-1938



A-1 Brewing Co., 1938-1945



1946



Southern Oregon Brewing Co.



Chrystal Brewing & Distributing Co.



A-One Brewing Co.