

ORIENTAL ORIGIN OF THE COCKTAIL

A LEARNED discourse on the beginnings of man's greatest solace delivered by the venerable Professor Salamander (whom God preserve) as the result of many years study and research at the University of Hop Hed, The King's Head, The Railway, and many other public institutions.

COCKTAILS were first discovered by the scholar, Pak a'Poo, in the reign of the mighty Emperor, Wang Spam, in the Had'It Dynasty. It would seem that the scholar, Pak a'Poo, was pouring soya bean alcohol into a goblet of exquisite jade when the Goddess of the Thousand Earholes appeared to him in a vision.

She bore in her hands a spray of juniper berries and, as Pak a'Poo was about to clutch her somewhat ethereal robes, she bade him pause and squeeze some of the berry juice into the goblet, together with five drops of lamp-oil. This he did.

Visions, to which the erudite Pak

a'Poo was greatly subject, invariably made him thirsty and he quaffed the potion at a draught. At first he thought it had been a demon in the guise of the Goddess who had appeared before him, and had prescribed molten fire for his further purification. For was not the evil spirit, How Plonk, ever on the watch for such opportunities? But after a few seconds a sensation of sheer ecstasy came upon him and he fell swooning to the floor, screaming the delights he was experiencing.

When he had been sufficiently revived by his admiring pupils, Pak a'Poo repaired swiftly to the Palace and presented his new drink to the

