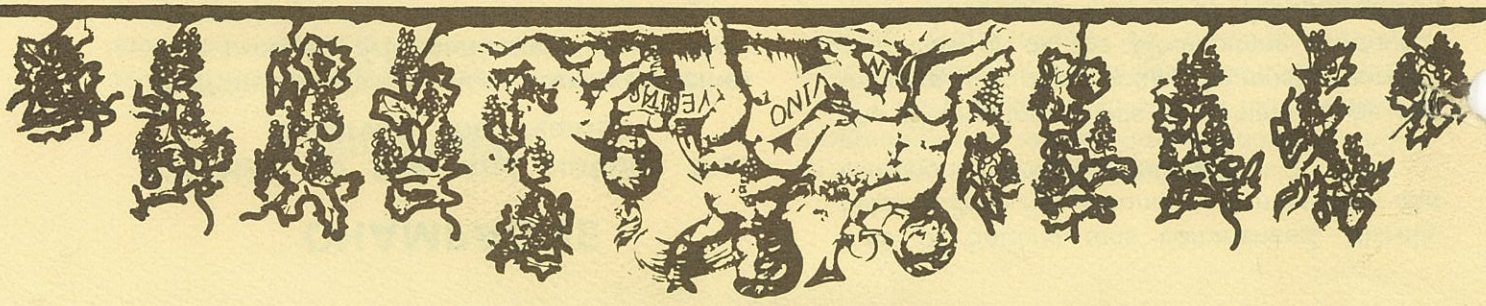


THE UNDERGROUND WINELATTER



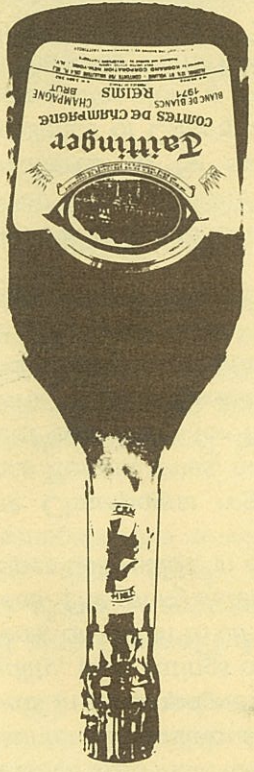
A Definitive Guide to Fine Wines

In This Issue:

- 1 Woes of a Burgundy Drinker
- 2 Champagne
- 7 The Domaine de la Romanee-Conti
- 10 1976 Burgundies
- 12 1977 White Burgundies
- 14 1970 Pomerols
- 16 The Glorious 1975 Chateau d'Yquem
- 16 A Bargain in White Wine

WOES OF A BURGUNDY DRINKER

"Must Consumers Contend With Spoiled Wines as Well?"



the U.S. In fact, some of the bottles of the 1976 Domainedee Romanee-Conti have shown signs of premature age. Numerous other stories could be related. Perhaps the French feel we do not know the difference and, as a result, they do not take the necessary measures to insure the condition of our wines.

Enough is enough! It is up to us to return to our wine merchants young Burgundies which, while perhaps not spoiled, are flawed from oxidation, brown color, etc. If enough resistance is generated, someone will get the message. Only then will we be insured that we're getting Burgundies that are at their best.

Edward Lazarus, West Coast Associate Editor

What is unsettling is that Burgundy shippers do not seem to be concerned about the care taken with wines shipped to the U.S. For instance, it is said that the Domaine of Romanee-Conti will ship their wines in Europe only during the seasons of temperate climate. However, no such policy exists with regard to their wine coming to

With precious little Burgundy available (in a good year production is only about 10-15% of that of Bordeaux), soaring prices, and many mediocre wines, must we consumers have to contend with spoiled wines as well? Many times we're told a particular Burgundy, or Burgundies in general, drink better on their home soil than in the U.S. Some of this is media hyperbole, but in certain instances there is no question as to the truth of this statement. Without question, most modern day Burgundies are too fragile to withstand the less than ideal storage and handling to which many are subjected.