

United States Department of Agriculture,

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY.

NOTICE OF JUDGMENT NO. 896, FOOD AND DRUGS ACT.

MISBRANDING OF COFFEE.

On or about May 10, 1910, Robert S. J. Steuart and Edward J. Knatz, trading as the Enterprise Coffee Company and Steuart, Knatz & Co., Baltimore, Md., shipped from the State of Maryland into the State of Delaware a quantity of a food product labeled "Gold Star (Picture of star) Trade Mark. Roasted Coffee Java Flavor. Manufactured by the Enterprise Coffee Co., Baltimore, Md." Samples of this shipment were procured and examined by the Bureau of Chemistry, United States Department of Agriculture. The product was found to be from an old crop of that grade of coffee known as Mellowed Rio, ordinarily termed a Golden Rio. As the findings of the analyst and report thereon indicated that the product was misbranded within the meaning of the Food and Drugs Act of June 30, 1906, said Robert S. J. Steuart and Edward J. Knatz and the party from whom the samples were procured were afforded opportunities for hearings. As it appeared after hearings held that the above shipment was made in violation of the act, the Secretary of Agriculture reported the facts to the Attorney General with a statement of the evidence upon which to base a prosecution.

In due course a criminal information was filed in the District Court of the United States for the District of Maryland against the said Robert S. J. Steuart and Edward J. Knatz, charging the above shipment and alleging that the product so shipped was misbranded because the label above set forth bore the false and misleading statements that the product possessed a Java flavor, which words conveyed the erroneous impression that said article of food consisted of Java coffee in such quantity as to give it the flavor of Java coffee, when, as a matter of fact, it did not consist of Java coffee in any amount and did not possess a Java flavor.

On January 14, 1911, the defendants entered a plea of guilty to the above information, whereupon the court imposed a joint fine of \$5.

This notice is given pursuant to section 4 of the Food and Drugs Act of June 30, 1906.

JAMES WILSON,
Secretary of Agriculture.

WASHINGTON, D. C., *May 20, 1911.*

