

United States Department of Agriculture,

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY.

NOTICE OF JUDGMENT NO. 2274.

(Given pursuant to section 4 of the Food and Drugs Act.)

ADULTERATION OF MILK.

On June 29, 1912, the United States Attorney for the Eastern District of Illinois, acting upon a report by the Secretary of Agriculture, filed in the District Court of the United States for said district an information against William Rueter, Hoffman, Ill., alleging shipment by him, in violation of the Food and Drugs Act, on July 17, 1911, from the State of Illinois into the State of Missouri of a quantity of milk which was adulterated. The product bore no label.

Bacteriological examinations of samples of the product by the Bureau of Chemistry of this Department showed the following results: (Sample No. 1) 4,000,000 bacteria per cc, plain agar, after 2 days at 37° C.; 5,000,000 bacteria per cc, litmus lactose agar, after 2 days at 37° C.; 4,000,000 acid organisms; 100,000 *B. coli* group; 1,000,000 streptococci. (Sample No. 2) 19,000,000 bacteria per cc, plain agar, after 2 days at 37° C.; 10,000,000 bacteria per cc, litmus lactose agar, after 2 days at 37° C.; 8,000,000 acid organisms; 100,000 *B. coli* group. Adulteration of the product was alleged in the information for the reason that it consisted in part of a filthy, decomposed, and putrid animal substance, to wit, bacteria. (While it was stated in the information in effect that bacteria were filthy, decomposed, and putrid animal substances, the Department does not consider this to be a fact but claims that the stage of decomposition of animal substances can be clearly demonstrated by the abundance and character of bacteria.)

On November 18, 1912, the defendant entered a plea of guilty to the information and the court imposed a fine of \$10, with costs.

W. M. HAYS,
Acting Secretary of Agriculture.

WASHINGTON, D. C., *January 29, 1913.*