

5211. Adulteration of oysters. U. S. * * * v. Union Fish & Oyster Co., a corporation. Plea of guilty. Fine, \$10 and costs. (F. & D. No. 7579. I. S. No. 12232-1.)

On September 13, 1916, the United States attorney for the Eastern District of Missouri, acting upon a report by the Secretary of Agriculture, filed in the District Court of the United States for said district an information against the Union Fish & Oyster Co., a corporation, St. Louis, Mo., alleging shipment by said company, in violation of the Food and Drugs Act, on February 2, 1916, from the State of Missouri into the State of Illinois, of a quantity of oysters which were adulterated.

Analysis of a sample of the article by the Bureau of Chemistry of this department showed the following results:

Ash in oyster liquor (per cent)-----	0.72
Total solids in drained oysters (per cent)-----	15.0
Ash in drained oyster meat (per cent)-----	0.68
Sodium chlorid in oyster meat (per cent)-----	0.03
Drained oysters, loss on boiling (per cent)-----	75.7
Sodium chlorid in oyster liquor: Trace.	

Results of this analysis show that the product contained added water.

Adulteration of the article was alleged in the information for the reason that a substance, to wit, water, had been mixed and packed therewith so as to lower or reduce and injuriously affect its quality, and had been substituted in part for oysters, which the article purported to be.

On September 20, 1916, the defendant company entered a plea of guilty to the information, and the court imposed a fine of \$10 and costs.

CARL VROOMAN, *Acting Secretary of Agriculture.*