

6383. Adulteration of citrate of magnesia. U. S. * * * v. William C. Field (Butler & Field). Plea of guilty. Fine, \$40. (F. & D. No. 8458. I. S. Nos. 2235-m, 9812-m.)

On November 9, 1917, the United States attorney for the District of Columbia, acting upon a report by the Secretary of Agriculture, filed in the police court of the District aforesaid an information against William C. Field, trading as Butler & Field, Washington, D. C., alleging that said defendant, on December 21, 1916, and February 9, 1917, at the District aforesaid, in violation of the Food and Drugs Act, offered for sale and sold quantities of an article labeled in part, "Solution of Citrate of Magnesia," which was adulterated.

Analyses of samples of the article by the Bureau of Chemistry of this department showed the following results:

Sale of December 21, 1916:

Magnesium oxid (gram per 100 mils)----- 0.89

Sale of February 9, 1917:

Magnesium oxid (grams per 100 mils)----- 1.04

Citric acid (grams per 100 mils)----- 5.33

Adulteration of the article in the sale on December 21, 1916, was alleged in the information for the reason that it was sold under and by a name recognized in the United States Pharmacopœia, and differed from the standard of strength, quality, and purity as determined by the tests laid down in said Pharmacopœia, official at the time of the investigation of the article, in that the article contained in 100 mils of the solution, magnesium citrate corresponding to 0.89 gram of magnesium oxid, whereas the said Pharmacopœia provides that 100 mils of the solution shall contain magnesium citrate corresponding to not less than 1.5 grams of magnesium oxid, and the standard of strength, quality, and purity of the article was not declared on the container thereof.

Adulteration of the article in the sale on February 9, 1917, was alleged for the reason that it was sold under and by a name recognized in the United States Pharmacopœia and differed from the standard of strength, quality, and purity as determined by the tests laid down in said Pharmacopœia, official at the time of investigation of the article, in that the article contained in 100 mils of the solution, magnesium citrate corresponding to 1.04 grams of magnesium oxid, whereas the said Pharmacopœia provides that 100 mils of the solution shall contain magnesium citrate corresponding to not less than 1.5 grams of magnesium oxid; and in that in 100 mils of the solution there were 5.33 grams [of] citric acid, whereas the said Pharmacopœia provides that in 350 mils of the solution there shall be 33 grams of citric acid corresponding to 9.43 grams citric acid in 100 mils of the solution; and the standard of strength, quality, and purity of the article was not declared on the container thereof.

On November 9, 1917, the defendant entered a plea of guilty to the information, and the court imposed a fine of \$40.

C. F. MARVIN, *Acting Secretary of Agriculture.*