

6483. Misbranding of Mederine. U. S. * * * v. Northern Drug Co., a corporation. Plea of guilty. Fine, \$5. (F. & D. No. 8776. I. S. No. 11290-m.)

On July 16, 1918, the United States attorney for the District of Minnesota, 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 Northern Drug Co., a corporation, Duluth, Minn., alleging shipment on or about May 5, 1917, by said company, in violation of the Foods and Drugs Act, as amended, from the State of Minnesota into the State of Wisconsin, of a quantity of an article labeled in part, "Mederine," which was misbranded.

Analysis of a sample of the article by the Bureau of Chemistry of this department showed the article to consist essentially of a hydroalcoholic solution of sugar, potassium iodid, methyl salicylate, salicylic acid, glycerin, and plant extractives (emodin).

It was alleged in substance in the information that the article was misbranded for the reason that certain statements appearing on the carton, label, circular, and wrapper, falsely and fraudulently represented it as a cure for chronic constipation, indigestion, liver complaint, and effective as a remedy, treatment, and cure for catarrh, rheumatism, eczema, and all blood and skin diseases, malaria, la grippe, kidney trouble, scrofula, tumors, pimples, boils; and as an infallible remedy for sallow faced and sick people; as a powerful system and blood builder; and as a remedy, treatment, and cure for gout, catarrh of the head, throat, and stomach, morning coughing and vomiting spells, blood taint, tumors and running ulcers, swollen joints and limbs, pains in shoulders, blood poisoning, pain in back, difficulty and irregularity in urinating, rising frequently in the night to urinate, a cloudy or reddish "brick dust" sediment in the urine when allowed to stand a few hours, soreness and weakness of the lower portions of the back, sunken eyes, pale and bloated face, puffy skin beneath eyes, palpitation of the heart, difficulty in breathing, sciatica, inflammatory rheumatism, chronic rheumatism, blotches, blackheads, rough skin, oily skin, falling of the hair, diseased condition of the scalp, and ailments of women, whereas, in truth and in fact, it was not.

On July 30, 1918, the defendant company entered a plea of guilty to the information, and the court imposed a fine of \$5.

J. R. RIGGS, *Acting Secretary of Agriculture.*