

25034. Adulteration and misbranding of Epsom salts compound tablets. U. S. v. 99,800 Epsom Salts Compound Tablets. Default decree of condemnation and destruction. (F. & D. no. 35271. Sample no. 21887-B.)

This case involved a drug preparation which was labeled to convey the impression that its therapeutic properties were derived from Epsom salt. Examination showed that it contained phenolphthalein and a laxative plant drug which would be responsible for its physiological activity, the Epsom salt present being insufficient to produce any appreciable cathartic effect.

On March 18, 1935, the United States attorney for the Southern District of New York, acting upon a report by the Secretary of Agriculture, filed in the district court a libel praying seizure and condemnation of 99,800 Epsom salts compound tablets at New York, N. Y., alleging that the article had been shipped in interstate commerce on or about January 23, 1935, by the Shores Co., from Cedar Rapids, Iowa, and charging adulteration and misbranding in violation of the Food and Drugs Act.

Analysis showed each tablet to contain magnesium sulphate (Epsom salts, 4.8 grains per tablet), phenolphthalein (0.9 grain per tablet), a laxative plant drug such as aloin, and sugar.

The article was alleged to be adulterated in that its strength and purity fell below the professed standard or quality under which it was sold, namely, "Epsom Salts Compound Tablets."

Misbranding was alleged for the reason that the statement, "Epsom Salts Compound Tablets", was false and misleading.

On July 31, 1935, no claimant having appeared, judgment of condemnation was entered and it was ordered that the product be destroyed.

W. R. GREGG, *Acting Secretary of Agriculture.*

25035. Misbranding of Jaques' Little Wonder Capsules. U. S. v. 51 Packages of Jaques' Little Wonder Capsules. Default decree of condemnation and destruction. (F. & D. no. 35308. Sample no. 28897-B.)

This case involved a drug preparation which was misbranded because of unwarranted curative and therapeutic claims in the labeling. The article was further misbranded because it was represented to be a valuable digestive agent, whereas it contained no appreciable amount of ferment capable of digesting either protein or starch.

On March 28, 1935, the United States attorney for the District of Massachusetts, acting upon a report by the Secretary of Agriculture, filed in the district court a libel praying seizure and condemnation of 51 packages of Jaques' Little Wonder Capsules at Boston, Mass., alleging that the article had been shipped in interstate commerce on or about August 30 and October 6, 1934, by Theodore W. Hellmers, from East Orange, N. J., and charging misbranding in violation of the Food and Drugs Act as amended.

Analysis showed that the article consisted essentially of calcium carbonate (17 percent), magnesium sulphate, cascara sagrada extract, and an extract of a pungent drug.

The article was alleged to be misbranded in that certain statements in the labeling falsely and fraudulently represented that it was effective as a relief from dyspepsia, indigestion, flatulency, catarrh of the stomach, and all troubles which result from overeating; effective to regulate the bowels, increase the appetite, and prepare all flesh-forming foods for assimilation; effective in the treatment of dyspepsia, indigestion, and kindred ailments of the stomach, pains in the stomach, heaviness after eating, biliousness, dizziness, nausea, headache, coated tongue, fetid breath, heartburn, many other forms of stomach disturbances both acute and chronic, and certain gastric and intestinal disturbances; and effective as a treatment for loss of appetite, malnutrition, general debility, mild and acute cases of disorders of the stomach and digestive tract, and indigestion of the bowels.

Misbranding was alleged for the further reason that the statement on the label and carton, "One capsule will aid in digesting 5000 or more grains of food", was false and misleading.

On June 3, 1935, no claimant having appeared, judgment of condemnation was entered and it was ordered that the product be destroyed.

W. R. GREGG, *Acting Secretary of Agriculture.*