

26978. Adulteration and misbranding of Friable Pills No. 342 Blaud and Ointment Ammoniated Mercury. U. S. v. Standard Pharmacal Co. Plea of guilty. Fine, \$50. (F. & D. no. 38064. Sample nos. 33401-B, 57277-B, 57281-B, 57282-B.)

The Friable Pills No. 342 Blaud differed from the standard prescribed in the United States Pharmacopoeia for Blaud's pills in that each pill contained less than 0.06 gram of ferrous carbonate. The Ointment Ammoniated Mercury contained less ammoniated mercury than the proportion thereof represented on the label.

On November 19, 1936, the United States attorney for the Northern District of Illinois, acting upon a report by the Secretary of Agriculture, filed in the district court an information against the Standard Pharmacal Co., Chicago, Ill., charging shipment by said corporation in violation of the Food and Drugs Act, from the State of Illinois on or about May 26, 1936, into the State of Indiana, and on or about May 29, 1936, into the States of Michigan and Indiana of quantities of an article, labeled "Friable Pills No. 342 Blaud", that was adulterated and misbranded; and on or about May 29, 1936, into the State of Indiana, of an article, labeled "Ointment Ammoniated Mercury", that was adulterated and misbranded.

The Friable Pills No. 342 Blaud were alleged to be adulterated in that they were sold under and by a name recognized in the United States Pharmacopoeia, and differed from the standard of strength, quality, and purity as determined by the test laid down in said pharmacopoeia in that samples from each of the three shipments were found to contain not more than 0.0108 gram of ferrous carbonate in one case, not more than 0.01 gram in a second case, and not more than 0.0093 gram, respectively, in a third case; whereas said pharmacopoeia provides that Blaud's pills shall contain not less than 0.06 gram of ferrous carbonate, and the standard of strength, quality, and purity of the article was not declared on the container thereof. Said article was alleged to be misbranded in that it was deficient in ferrous carbonate, prepared in imitation of Blaud's pills, and was offered for sale and sold under the name of another article, namely, Pills Blaud.

The Ointment Ammoniated Mercury was alleged to be adulterated in that it was sold under and by a name recognized in the United States Pharmacopoeia and differed from the standard of strength, quality, and purity as determined by the test laid down in said pharmacopoeia, in that 100 grams of the article contained not more than 7.36 grams of ammoniated mercury; whereas said pharmacopoeia provides that ointment of ammoniated mercury shall contain not less than 10 grams of ammoniated mercury, and the standard of strength, quality, and purity of the article was not declared on the container thereof. Said article was alleged to be misbranded in that the statement, "Ointment Ammoniated Mercury * * * Represents: Ammoniated Mercury 10 per cent * * *", borne on the package, was false and misleading in that it represented that the article contained 10 percent of ammoniated mercury; whereas in fact it contained less than 10 percent of ammoniated mercury.

On February 2, 1937, a plea of guilty was entered on behalf of the defendant corporation, and the court imposed a fine of \$50.

HARRY L. BROWN, *Acting Secretary of Agriculture.*

26979. Misbranding of Beck's Little Wonder Headache Powders. U. S. v. 134 Packages of Beck's Little Wonder Headache Powders. Default decree of condemnation and destruction. (F. & D. no. 38579. Sample no. 28706-C.)

This product was labeled to convey the impression that it was a safe and appropriate remedy for the ailments for which it was recommended and that it contained no drug having the effects of phenacetin; whereas it contained acetanilid, which has the same physiological effects as phenacetin, and when used as directed it might be dangerous. The labeling also bore false and fraudulent curative and therapeutic claims.

On November 21, 1936, the United States attorney for the Western 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 134 packages of Beck's Little Wonder Headache Powders at Buffalo, N. Y., alleging that they had been shipped in interstate commerce on or about September 19, 1936, by A. L. Beck from Sharon, Pa, and charging misbranding in violation of the Food and Drugs Act as amended.

Analysis showed that the article consisted essentially of acetanilid (4½ grains per powder), caffeine, and potassium citrate.