

United States Department of Agriculture,

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY.

NOTICE OF JUDGMENT NO. 1861.

(Given pursuant to section 4 of the Food and Drugs Act.)

ADULTERATION OF FISH.

On April 18, 1912, the United States Attorney for the District of Columbia, acting upon a report by the Secretary of Agriculture, filed an information in the Police Court of said District against Richard W. Claxton, Washington, D. C., alleging that said defendant, on February 13, 1911, at the District aforesaid, sold, in violation of the Food and Drugs Act, a quantity of shad which was adulterated.

Analysis of a sample of the product by the Bureau of Chemistry of this Department showed the following numbers of organisms were present per gram in the anterior and posterior portions with the following culture media: Plain agar at 25° C., 17,000, anterior, 2,200 posterior; at 37° C., 3,600, anterior, 2,900, posterior. Gelatin (3 days) at 20° C., 10,000 (400 liquefiers), anterior; 900 (0 liquefiers), posterior. Gelatin (4 days) at 20° C., 90,000 (10,000 liquefiers), anterior; 1,100 (0 liquefiers), posterior. Bile salt at 37° C., 700, anterior; 400, posterior. No gas-producing organisms present in 0.1 gram in dextrose or bile fermentation tubes. General appearance: Tissues soft, flabby, degenerated; eyes sunken; odor distinctly rancid; taste bitter. Distinct evidence to physical senses of decomposition. Adulteration was alleged in the information for the reason that the product consisted in whole or in part of a filthy, decomposed, and putrid animal or vegetable substance.

On June 10, 1912, the defendant entered a plea of guilty to the information and the court imposed a fine of \$10.

W. M. HAYS,
Acting Secretary of Agriculture.

WASHINGTON, D. C., *October 26, 1912.*

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