

Issued July 26, 1913.

United States Department of Agriculture,

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY.

NOTICE OF JUDGMENT NO. 2455.

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

U. S. v. Rutger Bleecker. Plea of guilty. Sentence suspended.

MISBRANDING OF COFFEE.

On November 26, 1912, 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 of the United States for said district an information against Rutger Bleecker, doing business under the firm name and style of Rutger Bleecker & Co., New York, N. Y., alleging shipment by said defendant, in violation of the Food and Drugs Act, on March 16, 1910, from the State of New York into the State of Illinois, of a quantity of coffee which was misbranded. The product was labeled: "Dutch East Indies P. W. S. Ankola B. R." "Dutch East Indies AM CCO 1" "PWS Ankola—BR J. W. Bunn & Co., Springfield, Ill."

Examination of a sample of the product by the Bureau of Chemistry of this Department showed that it was a green coffee and tended to show that it was a sweated coffee and perhaps a very pale Dutch East Indian, probably a Kroe, sweated to give it more value. The examination tended to show that the product was not an Ankola coffee. Misbranding of the product was alleged in the information for the reason that the package and label thereon bore a statement, to wit, "Ankola," regarding the product and the ingredients and substances contained therein, which was false and misleading, that is to say, the said statement and label represented that the product was an Ankola coffee and that it conformed to the commercial concept of

Ankola coffee, when in truth and in fact it was not a genuine Ankola coffee, but was a mixture of inferior coffees which had been submitted to a process known as sweating, and was labeled in the manner and form aforesaid so as to mislead and deceive the purchaser into the belief that it was a genuine Ankola coffee, when in truth and in fact it was not so, but was an imitation thereof and was offered for sale under the distinctive name of another article, to wit, Ankola coffee.

On February 10, 1913, the defendant entered a plea of guilty to the information and the court suspended sentence.

B. T. GALLOWAY,
Acting Secretary of Agriculture.

WASHINGTON, D. C., *May 23, 1913.*

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