

3727. Adulteration and misbranding of so-called cognac. U. S. v. $\frac{1}{2}$ Cask of So-Called Cognac. Consent decree of condemnation and forfeiture. Product ordered released on bond.
(F. & D. No. 5939. I. S. No. 20379-h. S. No. E-112.)

On September 21, 1914, the United States attorney for the District of Connecticut, acting upon a report by the Secretary of Agriculture, filed in the District Court of the United States for said district a libel for the seizure and condemnation of $\frac{1}{2}$ cask of so-called cognac, remaining unsold in the original unbroken package at New Haven, Conn., alleging that the product had been shipped on or about May 25, 1914, and transported from the State of Massachusetts into the State of Connecticut, and charging adulteration and misbranding in violation of the Food and Drugs Act.

Adulteration of the product was alleged in the libel for the reason that it was not a brandy of the cognac type, but neutral spirits colored in imitation of brandy had been substituted in whole or in part and had been mixed and packed with the brandy in such a manner as to reduce or lower or injuriously affect the quality and strength of the product. Misbranding was alleged for the reason that said cognac was branded, "Jas. Hennessy Cognac," and said cask bore a custom stamp, being intended to indicate that the product was of foreign manufacture and importation, when, in truth and in fact, the product was an imitation cognac consisting wholly or in part of neutral spirits mixed and packed therewith so as to reduce and lower its quality and strength.

On January 6, 1915, the case having come on for a hearing, on the libel and answer of A. Blum Jr.'s Sons, New York, N. Y., claimant, judgment of condemnation and forfeiture was entered, and it was ordered that the product should be delivered to said claimant upon the payment of the costs of the proceedings and the execution of bond in the sum of \$200, in conformity with section 10 of the act.

D. F. HOUSTON, *Secretary of Agriculture.*

WASHINGTON, D. C., *April 24, 1915.*