

4043. Adulteration of oysters. U. S. v. John H. Miles et al. (J. H. Miles & Co.). Plea of nolo contendere. Fine, \$30. (F. & D. No. 2987. I. S. No. 18332-c.)

On August 13, 1912, the United States attorney for the Eastern District of Virginia, acting upon a report by the Secretary of Agriculture, filed in the District Court of the United States for said district an information against John H. Miles, Bennett P. Miles, and Rufus L. Miles, a partnership, trading and doing business as J. H. Miles & Co., Norfolk, Va., alleging shipment by said defendants, in violation of the Food and Drugs Act, on March 18, 1911, from the State of Virginia into the District of Columbia, of a quantity of oysters which were adulterated.

Analysis of a sample of the product by the Bureau of Chemistry of this department showed the following results:

Solids in oyster meat (per cent).....	11.6
Loss on boiling (per cent).....	59.7
Salt in oyster meat (per cent).....	0.06
Salt in oyster liquor (per cent).....	0.21

Adulteration of the product was alleged in the information for the reason that a certain substance, to wit, added water, had been mixed and packed with it so as to reduce and lower and injuriously affect its quality and strength, and such had been substituted in part for such article.

On January 18, 1915, the defendants entered a plea of nolo contendere to the information, and the court imposed a fine of \$10 on each defendant, making an aggregate fine of \$30.

C. F. MARVIN, *Acting Secretary of Agriculture.*

WASHINGTON, D. C., November 5, 1915.