

4385. **Adulteration and misbranding of so-called special cognac. U. S. \* \* \* v. The Grand Wholesale Wine & Liquor Co., a corporation. Plea of guilty. Fine, \$10 and costs. (F. & D. No. 6087, I. S. No. 2163-h.)**

On June 14, 1915, the United States attorney for the Northern District of Illinois, acting upon a report by the Secretary of Agriculture, filed in the District Court of the United States for said district an information against The Grand Wholesale Wine & Liquor Co., a corporation, Chicago, Ill., alleging shipment by said company, in violation of the Food and Drugs Act, on or about July 17, 1913, from the State of Illinois into the State of Indiana, of a quantity of "Special Cognac," which was adulterated and misbranded. The article was labeled: (Strip from cork to principal label) "Quality Superfine." (Neck label) "Special Cognac." (Monogram) "S H" (Principal label) "Paul Antier French Cognac This Cognac is blended with choice old brandy and is guaranteed to comply with all pure food laws of the United States Bottled by Grand Wholesale Wine & Liquor Co. 2044 Grand Ave. Chicago."

Analysis of a sample of the product by the Bureau of Chemistry of this department showed the following results, expressed as parts per 100,000 of 100° proof alcohol, unless otherwise stated:

Proof (degrees)-----	85.2
Solids-----	485.2
Acids, total, as acetic-----	25.9
Acids, fixed, as acetic-----	7.2
Acids, volatile, as acetic-----	18.7
Esters as acetic-----	23.2
Aldehydes as acetic-----	5.6
Furfural-----	0.1
Fusel oil (Allen & Marquardt method)-----	31.9
Color (degrees, Lovibond, 0.5 inch cell, to 100° proof)-----	8.4
Color insoluble in amyl alcohol (per cent)-----	44.0

The product consists of neutral spirits and brandy.

Adulteration of the article was alleged in the information for the reason that neutral spirits had been mixed and packed therewith, so as to reduce, lower, or injuriously affect its quality or strength, and had been substituted in part for genuine French cognac blended with choice old brandy, which the article purported to be.

Misbranding was alleged for the reason that the following statement appearing on the label aforesaid, "French Cognac This Cognac is blended with choice old brandy \* \* \*," was false and misleading in that it indicated to purchasers thereof, and deceived and misled purchasers thereof into the belief, that the said article consisted wholly of French cognac blended with choice old brandy, when, in truth and in fact, it did not so consist, but consisted of a mixture of French cognac or brandy and neutral spirits. Misbranding was alleged for the further reason that the article was a mixture of French cognac or brandy and neutral spirits, and was an imitation of, and sold under the distinctive name of, another article, to wit, "French Cognac This cognac is blended with choice old brandy."

On July 14, 1915, the defendant company entered a plea of guilty to the information, and on December 10, 1915, the court imposed a fine of \$10 and costs.

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