

6168. Adulteration and misbranding of cottonseed meal. U. S. * * * v. Madison Cotton Oil Co., a corporation. Plea of guilty. Fine, \$25 and costs. (F. & D. No. 8250. I. S Nos. 3766-1, 3770-1.)

On October 17, 1917, the United States attorney for the Western District of Tennessee, 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 Madison Cotton Oil Co., a corporation, Jackson, Tenn., alleging shipment by said company, in violation of the Food and Drugs Act, on or about December 10, 1915, from the State of Tennessee into the State of Connecticut, of a quantity of cottonseed meal which was adulterated, and on or about December 8, 1915, from the State of Tennessee into the State of Maine, of a quantity of cottonseed meal which was misbranded.

Analyses of samples of the article by the Bureau of Chemistry of this department showed the following results:

	<i>Shipment of</i>	
	<i>Dec. 10.</i>	<i>Dec. 8.</i>
Crude fiber (per cent).....	13.75	14.84
Crude protein (per cent).....	37.25	35.81
Total nitrogen (per cent).....	5.96	5.73
Total ammonia (per cent).....	7.24	6.96

Adulteration of the article in the shipment on December 10, 1915, was alleged in the information for the reason that a certain substance, to wit, a low-grade cottonseed meal; had been substituted for high-grade cottonseed meal, 41 per cent protein, which the article purported to be.

Misbranding of the article in the other shipment was alleged for the reason that the statements concerning the article and the ingredients and substances contained therein, appearing on the label, to wit, "Guaranteed analysis * * * Ammonia, 8%, Protein, 41%, Nitrogen, 6½% * * * . These are minimum guarantees * * * Fiber, maximum 10%," were false and misleading in that they represented to purchasers that the article contained not less than 8 per cent of ammonia, not less than 41 per cent of protein, not less than 6½ per cent of nitrogen, and not more than 10 per cent of fiber; and for the further reason that it was labeled as aforesaid so as to deceive and mislead purchasers into the belief that it contained not less than 8 per cent of ammonia, not less than 41 per cent of protein, not less than 6½ per cent of nitrogen, and not more than 10 per cent of fiber, whereas, in truth and in fact, it contained less than 8 per cent of ammonia, less than 41 per cent of protein, less than 6½ per cent of nitrogen, and more than 10 per cent of fiber.

On April 11, 1918, the defendant company entered a plea of guilty to the information, and the court imposed a fine of \$25 and costs.

CARL VROOMAN,
Acting Secretary of Agriculture.