

# United States Department of Agriculture,

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY.

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## NOTICE OF JUDGMENT NO. 242, FOOD AND DRUGS ACT.

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### ADULTERATION AND MISBRANDING OF VANILLA EXTRACT.

On or about January 15, 1909, the Blanke-Baer Chemical Co., of St. Louis, Mo., shipped from St. Louis, Mo., to Manitowoc, Wis., a consignment of a food product labeled "Vanilla Extract." Samples of this shipment were procured and analyzed by the Bureau of Chemistry, United States Department of Agriculture, and as the findings of the analyst and report thereon indicated that the product was adulterated and misbranded in violation of the Food and Drugs Act of June 30, 1906, the Secretary of Agriculture afforded the Blanke-Baer Chemical Co. and the dealer from whom the sample was purchased opportunities to be heard. As it appeared after hearings held that said shipment was made in violation of the act, the Secretary of Agriculture reported the facts to the Attorney General with a statement of the evidence on which to base a prosecution. In due course a criminal information was filed in the District Court of the United States for the Eastern District of Missouri against the Blanke-Baer Chemical Co., charging the above shipment and that the product was adulterated within the meaning of section 7 of the act, in that a substance, to wit, vanillin, had been mixed and packed with it so as to injuriously affect its quality and strength, and substituted in part for the genuine food product, and that the product was artificially colored in a manner to conceal its inferiority, and was misbranded within the meaning of section 8 of the act, in that it was labeled "Vanilla Extract. Blanke-Baer Chemical Co., St. Louis, U. S. A.," which statement was false, misleading, and deceptive because the product was not vanilla extract but contained vanillin which had been substituted in part for vanilla extract, and was artificially colored in a manner to conceal its inferiority. On January 20, 1910, the defendant entered a plea of guilty and the court imposed upon it a fine of \$10 on each count, making \$20 in all.

This notice is given pursuant to section 4 of the Food and Drugs Act of June 30, 1906.

JAMES WILSON,  
*Secretary of Agriculture.*

WASHINGTON, D. C., *February 28, 1910.*