

3897. Misbranding of coffee compound. U. S. v. Lang & Co. Plea of guilty. Fine, \$5.
(F. & D. No. 4381. I. S. No. 15181-d.)

On December 31, 1912, the United States attorney for the District of Oregon, acting upon a report by the Secretary of Agriculture, filed in the District Court of the United States for said district an information against Lang & Co., a corporation, Portland, Oreg., alleging shipment by said company, in violation of the Food and Drugs Act, on or about December 29, 1910, from the State of Oregon into the State of Idaho, of a quantity of coffee which was misbranded. The product was labeled: "Palm Brand Coffee Compound Delicious and Nutritious. Use Cream or Evaporated Milk. Lang & Company, Coffee Roasters, Portland, Oregon."

Examination of a sample of the product by the Bureau of Chemistry of this department showed that it was not a coffee compound, but was a compound of coffee, cereal, and chicory, the proportions being about 9 parts coffee, about 9 parts cereal, and about 2 parts chicory.

It was alleged in the information that said brand and labels set forth above were false and misleading, being calculated and intended to represent to intending purchasers of said alleged coffee compound that said food product was, in truth and in fact, a coffee compound, composed of coffee, when, in truth and in fact, said food product was not a compound composed of coffee, but was a compound composed of coffee, cereal, and chicory.

On February 15, 1915, the defendant company entered a plea of guilty to the information, and the court imposed a fine of \$5.

CARL VROOMAN, *Acting Secretary of Agriculture.*

WASHINGTON, D. C., *May 29, 1915.*