

4342. Adulteration and misbranding of so-called oil of lemon. U. S. * * * v. Sethness Co., a corporation. Plea of guilty. Fine, \$25 and costs. (F. & D. No. 5729. I. S. No. 6417-e.)

On July 11, 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 Sethness Co., a corporation, of Chicago, Ill., alleging shipment by said company, in violation of the Food and Drugs Act, on or about January 13, 1913, from the State of Illinois into the State of Louisiana, of a quantity of "Oil of Lemon" which was adulterated and misbranded. The article was labeled, in part: (On copper) "Standard Quality Oil of Lemon Cosco Trade Mark Optical Rotation at 15°—Net weight 25 lbs. Guaranteed under the Food and Drugs Act of June 30th, 1906, by Sethness Company, Chicago." (On shipping package) (Front) "Lemon Oil Net lbs. 25." (Back) "Messina, Italy From Sethness Company Essential Oils Chicago."

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

Specific gravity at 15.6° C.....	0.8605
Index of refraction at 20° C.....	1.4739
Rotation at 20° C.....	59.0
Citral (Hiltner) (per cent by weight).....	3.12
Total aldehydes (Chace) (per cent by weight).....	3.20
Physical constants of 10 per cent distillate:	
Rotation, 20° C.....	58.2
Index of refraction, 20° C.....	1.4726

Citral has been partially removed.

Adulteration of the article was alleged in the information for the reason that another substance, to wit, an oil of lemon, from which citral and other flavoring compounds had been in part abstracted, was mixed and packed with the article so as to reduce, lower, and injuriously affect its quality and strength, and for the further reason that said substance was substituted wholly or in part for genuine oil of lemon, which the article purported to be. Adulteration was alleged for the further reason that valuable constituents of the article, to wit, citral and other flavoring compounds, had been wholly or in part abstracted.

Misbranding was alleged for the reason that the statement, to wit, "Standard Quality Oil of Lemon" borne on the label of the article was false and misleading, in that it purported and represented the article to be a genuine oil of lemon, whereas, in truth and in fact, it was not a genuine oil of lemon, but was an oil of lemon from which citral and other flavoring compounds had been in part abstracted.

On December 4, 1915, the defendant company entered a plea of guilty to the information, and on December 10, 1915, the court imposed a fine of \$25 and costs.

CARL VROOMAN, *Acting Secretary of Agriculture.*