

and duodenal ulcers; kidney and bladder troubles; rheumatism, arthritis, neuritis; eczema and skin ailments; \* \* \* also surface lesions, cuts, burns, scalds, old sores, etc."

On January 13, 1938, no claimant having appeared, judgment of condemnation was entered and the product was ordered destroyed.

HARRY L. BROWN, *Acting Secretary of Agriculture.*

**28375. Adulteration and misbranding of hospital absorbent cotton. U. S. v. 645 Packages of Hospital Absorbent Cotton, et al. Default decrees of condemnation and destruction. (F. & D. Nos. 40337, 41309. Sample Nos. 20994-C, 55287-C.)**

This product was represented to be absorbent cotton suitable for hospital and surgical uses, whereas it was contaminated with viable micro-organisms.

On September 21 and December 31, 1937, the United States attorney for the District of Rhode Island, acting upon reports by the Secretary of Agriculture, filed in the district court libels praying seizure and condemnation of 930 1-ounce packages, and 714 2-ounce packages of absorbent cotton at Providence, R. I., alleging that the article had been shipped in interstate commerce on or about August 4 and December 10, 1937, by Acme Cotton Products Co., Inc., from Dayville, Conn., and charging adulteration and misbranding in violation of the Food and Drugs Act.

The article was alleged to be adulterated in that its purity fell below the professed standard under which it was sold, namely "Hospital Surgical Absorbent Cotton," since it was not sterile but was contaminated with viable aerobic and anaerobic micro-organisms including gas-producing anaerobic organisms.

It was alleged to be misbranded in that the statements on the label, "Hospital Surgical Absorbent Cotton \* \* \* Acme \* \* \* This surgical cotton has been processed to a high degree of \* \* \* refinement. It is recommended for sick room, first-aid, nursery \* \* \* purposes," and the design of a nurse on the cartons of a portion of the article, were false and misleading as applied to an article that was not sterile but was contaminated with viable micro-organisms.

On November 4, 1937, and January 17, 1938, no claimant having appeared, judgments of condemnation were entered and the product was ordered destroyed.

HARRY L. BROWN, *Acting Secretary of Agriculture.*