MEDICINES CONDEMNED.

Courts Condemn Goods, or Fine Patent-Manufacturers--Proceeded Against for Fraudulent Claims as to Curative Powers.

More than half a hundred legal actions have been terminated successfully under the Sherley Amendment to the Food and Drugs Act, which prohibits false and fraudulent claims as to the curative or therapeutic effects of drugs or medicines. Criminal prosecutions against the manufacturers were brought in 25 cases, but in 31 instances the falsely and fraudulently labeled medicines were seized while in interstate commerce. Claims made by the manufacturers for the curative powers of these preparations ranged from tuberculosis, smallpox, and diphtheria to coughs, colds, and scalp diseases. A number of other criminal prosecutions and seizures are pending in various Federal courts throughout the United States because of alleged violations of the Sherley Amendment similar to those which have already been tried. The officials charged with the enforcement of the Food and Drugs Act are of the opinion that the evils of the patent-medicine business can be stopped only by the most drastic action.

It is pointed out that traffic in medicines for which false and fraudulent claims are made is not only an economic fraud of the worst kind, in that a worthless preparation that costs but a few cents is frequently sold for a dollar or more a bottle, but that health and even life are endangered by failure to secure the service of a physician in such serious diseases as tuberculosis, diptheria, pneumonia, and scarlet fever until too late, because reliance may have been placed in the curative powers of some worthless preparation which is claimed to be a never-failing remedy. The deluded victim may not realize his danger until the disease has reached a stage too far advanced for even the ablest physicians to cope with it. Effective treatment depends in most cases on applying it during the early stages of the disease.

Suggestive Name of "Family Physician" Fails to Save.

The Houchens Medicine Co., of Baltimore, Md., pleaded guilty to the charge that a preparation called "Family Physician" and shipped by them into interstate commerce was falsely and fraudulently labeled. Among the many diseases for which this medicine was recommended by the manufacturers in statements appearing on the labels and accompanying circulars were diptheria, scarlet fever, typhoid fever, smallpox, bronchitis, neuralgia, croup, and all diseases of the throat and lungs. The following quotations from the label, carton, or circular are interesting: "The Public is hereby assured that this is the Genuine and Original Family Physician. * * * For fever you need not give anything else but this Medicine, it will keep the rash out itself. * * * For cases of Small Pox take plenty and often.—Use freely. Give no hot teas, just give the medicine and what pimples are under the skin will come out, the rest will be carried off by the medicine. * * * Also a wonderful and positive remedy for dyspepsia, keeps measels out nicely, regulates the bowels without trouble, and by purifying the blood prevents your liability to disease."

Analysis of the product, which was claimed by the manufacturer to be effective in the treatment of so many virulent and contagious diseases, as well as a variety of minor ills, showed that it was a sirup containing 19.2 per cent non-volatile matter, 8.9 per cent alcohol, anise, and a vegetable cathartic drug. The Government, therefore, charged that the medicine did not contain ingredients or medicinal agents effective for the relief and cure of the diseases which it claimed to cure. The court imposed a fine of $75.

Dr. H. A. Ingham's Vegetable Expectorant Nervine Pain Extractor.

A plea of guilty was entered by H. A. Ingham & Co., of Vergennes, Vt., to the charge that statements and claims as to curative powers of a product called "H. A. Ingham's Vegetable Expectorant Nervine Pain Extractor" were false and fraudulent. An analysis of a sample of the product by the Bureau of Chemistry showed the same to contain alcohol, 86 per cent; opium alkaloids, camphor, capsicum, and vegetable extractive matter. The Government, therefore, alleged that the medicine did not contain ingredients or medicinal agents effective, as the labels or circulars asserted, to subdue raging fever, or to cure typhoid fever, lung fever, scarlet fever, rheumatic fever, cholera, dysentery, sunstroke, diphtheria, bleeding at the lungs, nervous exhaustion, or piles, or to prevent fits of apoplexy and epilepsy when coming on, or to heal without inflamation or suffering all wounds, sprains, or burns, or to break up a felon, or to cure congestion of the lungs, pleurisy, fits of apoplexy, chronic rheumatism, paralyzed limbs, and croup.

It was also alleged by the Government that the statements "For teething and restless children, it is not only safe and harmless, but positively beneficial; it agrees with the most tender child or feeble infant," were false and misleading in that they were of such a nature as to mislead the purchasers into the belief that the article contained no harmful or poisonous ingredient, whereas, in fact, it did contain morphine and other opium alkaloids of a poisonous and deleterious nature, such as might prove harmful and deleterious to the health of tender children and feeble infants, and other persons, if consumed by them. The court fined the defendant $100.

Seized 4,092 Bottles of "Father John's Medicine."

Four thousand and ninety-two bottles of "Father John's Medicine" were seized in Philadelphia, Pa., it being alleged in the libel that the labels on the bottles and on the pasteboard packages containing the bottles bore satements regarding the curative effects of the medicine that were false and fraudulent. Claims were made by the efficacy of the medicine in the treatment of consumption, coughs, colds, croup, asthma, bronchitis, sore throat, whooping cough, pneumonia, catarrh, rickets, and a number of other ailments. A judgment of condemnation and forfeiture was entered and it was ordered by the court that the product be delivered to Carlton & Hovey Co., Lowell, Mass., upon payment of all the costs in the proceedings and the execution of a bond in the sum of $5,000 to insure that the goods would not be sold unless truthfully relabeled.

Jury Says "Guilty" for Misbranding "Bad-Em-Saltz."

A verdict of "guilty" was rendered against the American Laboratories, a corporation located at Philadelphia, Pa., for shipping into interstate commerce a product called "Bad-Em-Salz," which it was alleged was falsely and fraudulently labeled. An anaysis of a sample of the product showed that it consisted of common salt, Glauber salt, baking soda, and a small amount of tartaric acid. It was claimed by the manufacturers that this preparation reproduced the medicinal properties of the great European springs famous for centuries for the cure of diseases of the stomach, intestines, liver, kidneys, or bladder, and that it represented the medicinal agents obtained by the evaporating of the water from famous European springs. The Government alleged, among other things, that these claims were false and misleading. It was also alleged that the statements in the circular indicating that the preparation contained ingredients or medicinal agents effective for dissolving gall stones, for the prevention of gastritis, for curing diabetes, for preventing or checking chronic inflamation of the kidneys, and for relieving catarrh of the bladder were false and fraudulent. A fine of $100 was imposed by the court.

The following list includes other preparations against which the Government's charge that they were falsely or fraudulently labeled was sustained by the Federal courts. Statements were made on the labels of, or on the circulars accompanying, the preparations intended to make the purchaser believe that the medicines were effective cures for a great variety of diseases for which they were recommended by the manufacturers or promoters. The main allegations of the Government were upheld by the courts and judgment accordingly entered in connection with each of the following preparations.

Radam's Microbe Killer.
Hilton's Specific.
Smith's Agricultural Liniment.
Dr. Sullivan's Sure Solvent.
Russell's White Drops.
Stramoline.
Wild Cherry Pepsin.
Moreau's Wine of Anise.
Dr. Herman Koch's Brand Phosphate, Celery and Gin Compound.
Swissco Hair and Scalp Remedy.
Cod Liver Oil with Syrup of Tar.
Dr. Mozley's Lemon Elixir.
Sa-Yo Mint Jujubes.
Gray's Glycerine Tonic Compound.
Dr. Martel's Female Pills.
Quickstep, Frye's Remedy.
Seawright's Magnesian Lithia Water.
Hill's Aromatic Ext. Cod Liver Oil (Hollander-Koshland Co.)
Black's Pulmonic Syrup.
Tetterine.
Laxative Quinine Tablets.
Mrs. Joe Person's Remedy.
Maignen Antiseptic Powder.
Cranitonic Scalp Food-Hair Food.
Dr. David Kennedy's Cal-Cura Solvent.
Schenck's Pulmonic Syrup.
Keller's Flaxseedine.
Tutt's Pills.
Universal Rheumatic Remedy.
Green Mountain Oil.
Weber's Genuine Alpine Herb Tea.
Montague's Liniment.
Coe's Cough Balsam.
White Stone Lithia Water.
Kalamazoo Celery and Sarsaparilla Compound.
Quality Damiana Compound.
Pennie Eucalyptus Ointment.
Cassidy's 4X, The Great Blood Purifier.
Porter's Antiseptic Healing Oil.
Dr. Shoop's Night Cure.
Dr. Shoop's Cough Remedy.
Dr. Shoop's Restorative.
Rheumacide.
Rice's Mother's Joy Salve.
Milan.
Old Jim Fields Phosphate Dill and Gin.
Stuart's Buchu and Juniper Compound.
Ozomulsion.
Jones' Break Up.
Caswell's Liver Aid.
Dr. Shoop's Twenty Minute Croup Remedy.
Rogers' Consumption Cure and Cough Lozenges.
Rogers' Inhalant.

Interested at Once.

"My dear, you ought to pass up frivolous things and take an interest in deep subjects. Take history, for instance. Gessler, the tyrant, put up a hat for the Swiss to salute." The lady was a trifle interested. "How was it trimmed?" she inquired.—Louisville Courier-Journal.

OPPORTUNITY FOR YOUNG MEDICAL MEN.

Government Filling Vacancies in Public Health Service.

Young medical men between the ages of 23 and 32 will be given an opportunity on November 1st, 1915, according to a circular just issued by Surgeon General Rupert Blue, to demonstrate their fitness for admission to the grade of Assistant Surgeon in the U. S. Public Health Service. There are several vacancies in the government's mobile sanitary corps, which is now in the 118th year of its existence, but in order to be recommended to the President for a commisssion, a physicial and professional examination must first be passed. As the tenure of office is permanent and the Public Health officers are liable to duty in all parts of the world, they are required to certify that they believe themselves free from any ailment which would disqualify them for service in any climate. Boards will be convened at Washington, Boston, New York, Chicago, St. Louis, Louisville, New Orleans and SanFrancisco, but permission to take the examination must first be obtained from the Surgeon General. The examination is searching and includes, in addition to the various branches of medicine, surgery and hygiene, the subjects of the preliminary education, history, literature and the natural sciences. Commissions will be issued as Assistant Surgeon and, after four years of service, the young officers are entitled to examination for promotion to the grade of Passed Assistant Surgeon, and after twelve years of service to another examination for promotion to the grade of Surgeon. The annual salaries are; Assistant Surgeon, $2000; Passed Assistant Surgeon, $2400; Surgeon, $3000; Senior Surgeon, $3500; Assistant Surgeon General, $4000. When the Government does not provide quarters, commutation at the rate of $30, $40, and $50 a month according to grade is allowed. All grades receive longevity pay, that is, 10 per cent in addition to the regular salary for every five years until the maximum of 40 per cent is reached. When officers travel on official duties they are reimbursed their actual traveling expenses.

More men are kicked by the mule of adversity than ever ride the horse of prosperity.

TRAVELING IS CHEAP.

American Railroad Rates Are Very Low, Compared With Conditions In Europe.

Do people realize how much they receive for their money when they purchase a railroad or steamship ticket? There appears to be a prevalent idea that American railroad rates are high. Statistics show that the average disance traveled by every revenue passenger who boards a train is 34 miles and that for carrying this passenger the railroad receives 67 cents, or less than 2 cents a mile, as against an average of 3 1-2 cents charged abroad in ordinary times. At this low rate of less than 2 cents the tourist in America wants good roadbeds, oiled in summer in sections where the climate is dry and the bed sandy; steady, easy-riding cars, not built of wood like most of the European cars, but of steel; the protection of intricate and costly safety devices, the fastest engines and the best service. He wants passage on the most palatial steamers with all the comforts of home, at prices that are a source of wonder to the person who traveled in other countries, says Kathleen Hills in Leslie's.

The American tourist is provided with free time tables and booklets of information. The latter, while not necessary, make the journey pleasanter—and the traveler's comfort must be considered always. Anywhere from 10 pounds to 100 pounds of baggage for each patron must be carried free from one mile to 3,000 miles or more. In Europe the transportation of all baggage, except that carried by the passenger, is charged for according to weight. Here trains must be electric-lighted and have free ice water, lavatories, electric fans, etc., and all for less than 2 cents a mile.

The Pullman car traveler pays but a small additional fee for his increased comfort. For 25 cents per hour, during which time one can travel 35 or 40 miles, the passenger can ride in a luxuriously appointed car equipped with every convenience. He can sojourney across the continent in superb sleeping cars, with the privilege of enjoying, by day, a free library, writing and smoking rooms, and is given prompt and polite service, all for the additional expenditure of a little over 1-4 cent a mile. It is safe to assume that the passenger who makes a complaint because of some trifling incivility or inattention on a railroad or steamer has given little thought to the many things that are done gratuitously for his comfort, else he would undoubtedly write a letter of commendation and be thankful that he is traveling in America.

Good Basement a Necessity.

No farm home should be without a large, roomy, dry and cool basement; of the kind in which you can stow away a furnace, as well as serving a comfortable workroom. Besides, any other kind is not sanitary, to say the least.