

ADULTERATED FOOD WORSE THAN RUM

Speaking before the students of the college of the City of New York, yesterday, Dr. H. W. Wiley, chief of the bureau of chemistry of the United States department of agriculture, declared that the adulteration of food and drugs had done more toward

lowering the moral life of this country than the rum traffic.

As in previous addresses he pointed out the evil effects of food adulteration upon the physical system and strongly appealed to the students to make it one of the principles of their lives to fight

this growing menace to the health of the American people.

Among other examples of adulteration he stated that the product of a widely advertised Vermont sugar bush was made in Chicago, and that this Chicago plant turned out more so-called maple sugar in one month than the whole state of Vermont could produce in a year. The bright green color of imported peas, he said, was obtained by the sulphate of copper, which was very injurious to health.

French white wines contained large quantities of sulphurous acid put in to make the color lighter and to better

preserve it. It was very dangerous to the health and natives of France would not drink it. He believed in time that the importation of such wines would be prohibited. He favored a law in this country similar to the English "merchandise marking act," which requires that all commodities be so marked that the purchaser may know exactly what he is getting.

Dr. Wiley said he had no objection to an American citizen eating or drinking whatever he desired, provided he knew what he was doing; but he objected to fraud and deception. He pointed out that the great bulk of foods were now obtained from outside manufacturers

instead of being made by housewives, as was done 50 years ago, and that this very fact called for closer scrutiny of what came to the table.

"The adulteration of food and drugs," he said, "had done more to sap the moral life of this country than the rum trade ever thought of doing. Do you wonder in a country in which a young man is reared where the people countenance the adulteration of foods and the fraud of selling these goods, where he learns that any method of making money is not frowned upon, that in after life he becomes a defaulter in a big banking institution? It is no wonder to me. His education unconsciously

has been along those lines. He wants to make money and his method is little different from that of the dishonest manufacturer."—New York Herald.

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