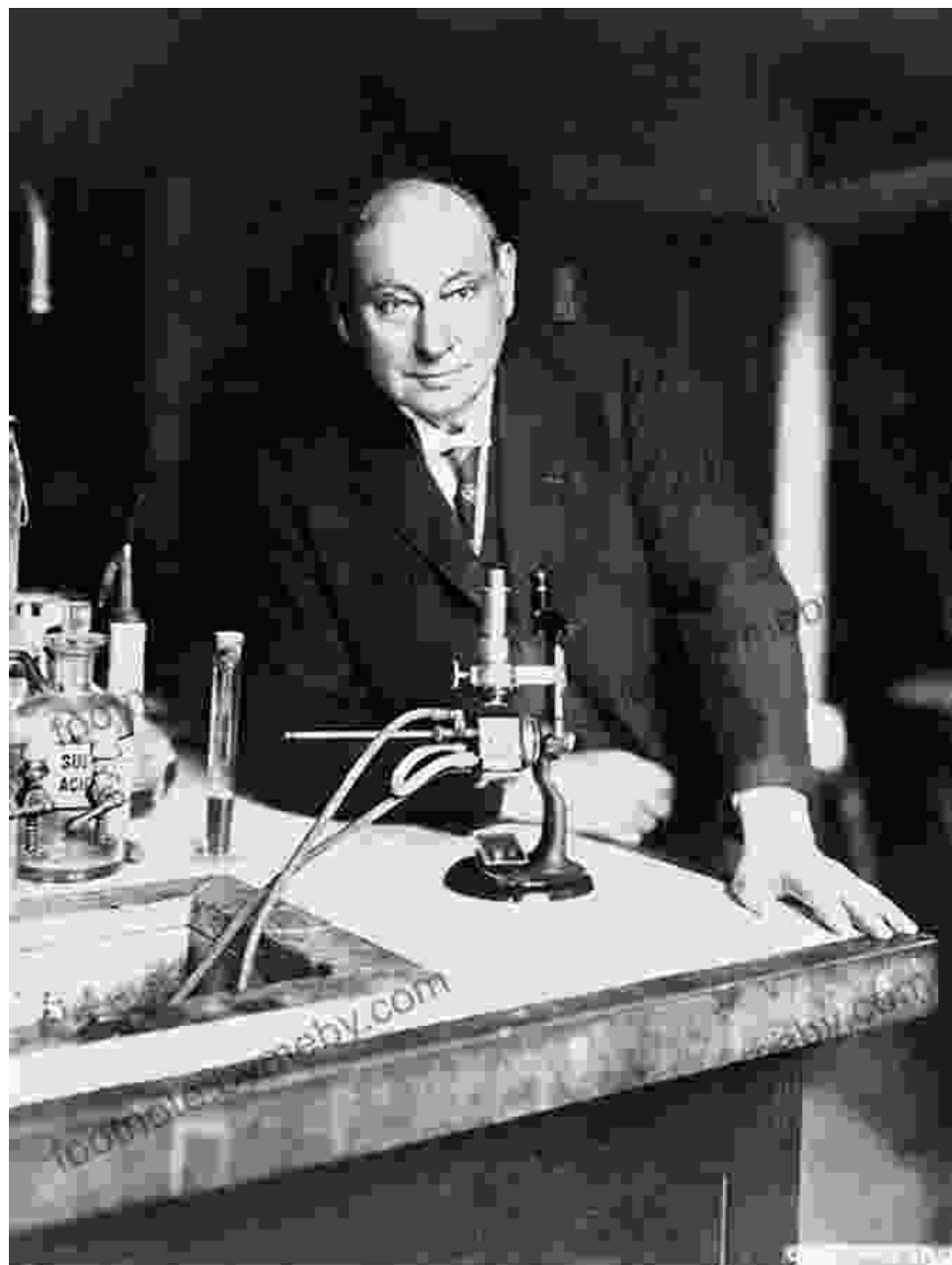
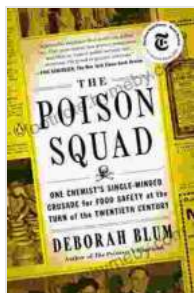


# One Chemist's Single-Minded Crusade for Food Safety at the Turn of the Twentieth Century

The Poison Squad: One Chemist's Single-Minded Crusade for Food Safety at the Turn of the Twentieth Century



In the United States, the early 20th century was a period of rapid industrialization and urbanization. This period also marked a significant increase in the consumption of processed foods. However, these foods were often adulterated with harmful chemicals and dangerous bacteria. As a result, consumers were at risk of serious illness and even death.



## The Poison Squad: One Chemist's Single-Minded Crusade for Food Safety at the Turn of the Twentieth Century

by Deborah Blum

★★★★☆ 4.6 out of 5

Language : English  
File size : 34806 KB  
Text-to-Speech : Enabled  
Screen Reader : Supported  
Enhanced typesetting : Enabled  
X-Ray : Enabled  
Word Wise : Enabled  
Print length : 352 pages



Harvey Washington Wiley, a chemist who dedicated his life to ensuring the safety of the American food supply, was one of the few people who realized the extent of the problem. Wiley began his career in the U.S. Department of Agriculture in 1883. In 1887, he was appointed chief chemist of the USDA's Bureau of Chemistry. In this role, Wiley led the charge against food adulteration.

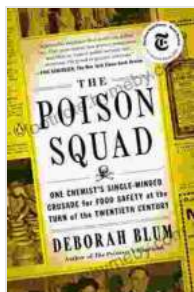
Wiley's work was not easy. He faced opposition from powerful food industry lobbyists who were determined to protect their profits. However, Wiley was not deterred. He used his scientific expertise to expose the dangers of food

adulteration. He also worked tirelessly to educate the public about the importance of food safety.

In 1906, Wiley's efforts culminated in the passage of the Pure Food and Drug Act. This landmark legislation prohibited the adulteration and misbranding of food and drugs. It also established the Food and Drug Administration (FDA), which is responsible for enforcing food safety regulations.

Wiley's work had a profound impact on public health. He is credited with saving the lives of countless Americans. His legacy continues today. The FDA is one of the most respected food safety agencies in the world. And the Pure Food and Drug Act remains the cornerstone of American food safety law.

Harvey Washington Wiley was a true pioneer in the field of food safety. His single-minded crusade for food safety helped to protect the health of millions of Americans. His legacy continues today, and his work remains an inspiration to all who are committed to ensuring the safety of the food supply.



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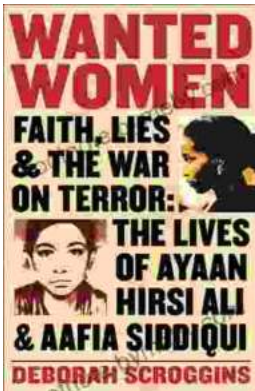
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