

FLUORIDES ARE POLLUTANTS

THIS RANCH IS CONTAMINATED

FLUORIDE POISON from REYNOLDS METAL CO.
kills our cattle...endangers human health
CONTROLS MUST BE ENFORCED

THIS STATEMENT PAID FOR BY PAUL R. MARTIN



The (Portland) Oregon-
ian

Three Win Fume Suit

9/17/55

A federal court jury assessed \$38,292.90 in damages against the Reynolds Metals company Friday in the first case in which it has been alleged that aluminum reduction plant fumes have injured human health.

Beneficiaries of the verdict are Paul Martin, his wife, Verla, and their daughter, Mrs. Paula Yturbe. They had asked a total of \$350,000 on the claim that fumes discharged into the air by the Troutdale aluminum plant adjacent to their ranch had spoiled their health.

The Martins alleged they had suffered serious injury to their livers, kidneys and digestive functions as result of eating vegetables and other farm products contaminated by the fumes on their ranch. Witnesses testified the trio had contracted a disease called fluorosis.

The case was the first ever tried in which it was alleged that human health had been damaged. There have been several cases in the Pacific Northwest in which agriculturalists have collected for damages to their crops and livestock.

Note dead cattle, killed by fluoride fallout. Fluorides are not safe for humans, or animals! See other side for claims and settlements arising from deadly fluorides escaping from aluminum plants, chemical works and steel mills. These fluorides kill livestock, pine trees, gladiolas, lillies etc. and damage orchards, fruits and pastures!

(Mrs. Arthur R. Robinson, Seattle.)

AMERICAN COURTS AWARD DAMAGES

The Oregonian (Portland) Jan. 12, 1961

Judge Orders Reynolds Metals To Pay Fairview Farms \$300,000

Judge William G. East in U.S. district court Wednesday ordered the Reynolds Metals Co. to pay \$300,000 to Fairview Farms Inc. for damage done to the dairy farm by the company's aluminum reduction plant at Troutdale.

The judgment marked a major milestone in a \$3 million suit that has kept the court busy for more than 13 years. The judgment covered damages to the 500-acre dairy farm, the dairy herd and loss of milk production over the eight-year period from March, 1947, to December, 1955. Fairview Farms in the course of the years has sued for nearly \$3 million damages and a permanent injunction against the aluminum plant.

Judge East, after hearing the case without a jury, Wednesday found fluoride "fumes,

liquids and particulates (dust)" from the plant have in fact fallen on the dairy's pasturelands and have "raised the fluoride content of the forage above normal, rendering the same unsafe for dairy cow consumption and caused damage and injury to said cattle."

Injunction Denied

Judge East denied Fairview's application for an injunction to compel the company to install electrical precipitation equipment in the plant or cease operation.

He deferred for further hearing Fairview's suit for \$1,500,000 compensation for "permanent damage" and depreciation in value of its property because of the presence of fluoride fumes. Attorneys were cited into court February 6 to fix a date for further hearing.

Fairview Farms during the course of the 13-year case asked for \$368,572 in damages, to the farm, plus \$150,000 damage to cattle, trebled for punitive damage. Judge East Wednesday again denied treble damages.

The plant was built in 1941 and 1942 by the Aluminum Co. of America for the Defense Plant Corp. and operated by Alcoa from May 20, 1942 until Sept. 7, 1945, when it was leased to Reynolds Metals Co., which purchased it in 1950. Prior to 1950 no equipment was installed to control the fumes and court findings show from 2800 to 3900 pounds of fluoride matter emanated from the plant daily.

Company Pays Bill

By 1950 Reynolds had installed "scrubbing" equipment to wash fluoride fumes out of the air and "cyclones" to catch dust particles, which cut the

loss of fluoride matter from the 536 aluminum reduction pots on the four pollines down to around 885 pounds per day. Judge East Wednesday found that "said devices did not and have not prevented all gases, fumes, liquids and particulates from escaping from said plant, some of which have settled and do settle at various times upon plaintiff's fields."

The company has also set up a laboratory to check the concentration of fluorides on the dairy pastures and has warned the dairy 21 times in a period of four years when the concentration was too great for its dairy cows. The company on these occasions paid a total of \$81,120 to the dairy for feed and silage purchased to feed its stock until the pasture was again safe for use.

The Seattle Times

Wednesday, July 1, 1959

Farmers Sue Aluminum Firm

PORTLAND, Ore., July 1.—(A.P.)—Two farmers filed suits in State Circuit Court here yesterday for more than \$1,000,000 damages from the Reynolds Metals Co.

Julius Lampert and I. B. Wand, both of Troutdale, Ore., contend that fumes from the nearby Reynolds aluminum plant damaged their lily and gladiolus crops.

KAISER ALUMINUM CO SETTLES CLAIMS FUMES SUIT SETTLED

Spokane, May 22 (AP) The \$172,095 fluorine fumes damage suit of Smith Brothers, local greenhouse operators, against Kaiser Aluminum and Chemical Corp. ended abruptly yesterday in a settlement for an undisclosed amount.

The Smiths had claimed damage from fumes from Kaisers Mead plant, to plants and pine trees over a period of five to seven years.

(Seattle Post Intelligencer, May 23, 1954.)

Fluoride Damage Charged

PORTLAND (UPI)—The State Sanitary Authority was told Thursday that fluoride in the vicinity of the Harvey Aluminum Co. plant near The Dalles caused "apparent loss" of one-third to two-thirds of the sweet cherry crop.

Don W. Bailey, a Wasco County fruit grower, told the authority he was speaking for some 250 members of the Wasco County Fruit and Produce League.

Evidence Said Widespread

He said that this year, while analyses on fruit and leaf samples had not been run "The evidence of damage was much more widespread than in 1959. He said the 1960 sweet cherry crop in the plant vicinity was reduced to several thousand tons below normal with an apparent loss of one-third to two million dollars in value."

Cook said extensive pollution control improvements are being undertaken at the plant and will be completed "approximately" by next April.

The Seattle Times
Tuesday, December 16, 1952

Oregon Rancher Asks \$200,000 Of Aluminum Co.

By Associated Press.

TACOMA, Dec. 16.—An Oregon cattleman has filed suit in Federal Court here for more than \$200,000 against the Vancouver, Wash., plant of the Aluminum Co. of America for injury to his beef cattle and farm.

Two years ago the cattleman was awarded \$60,000 from the same company and the provision was made in the court findings that he could seek additional damages in the same suit if the situation was not corrected.

Decision by Judge Leavy

The late Judge Charles C. Leavy made the original decision in Tacoma December 11, 1950. The two-year period Judge Leavy stipulated having passed, the cattleman has filed suit again.

The cattleman is William M. Fraser who owns 588 acres on Sauvie's Island, just across the river from the aluminum plant.

The court agreed with Fraser that the company was at fault in dumping from 1,000 to 7,000 pounds of fluorides each month in the Columbia River. The fluorides contaminated the grass and forage and resulted in injury and death to the cattle.

The aluminum company, in the original suit, said the situation had been corrected and told the court it had made many grants to research groups to find a cure.

Damage to Farm Reported

Now, in this suit, Fraser asserts his farm has been irreparably damaged and is a permanent loss. He asks \$147,000 for damage to the farm itself.

Further, he contends that in the past two years, when the condition was supposed to have been corrected, the situation has grown worse. He asks another \$61,000 for damage to his cattle.

ALCOA Sued For Nearly \$3 Million

A suit for \$2,831,000 was filed against the Aluminum Company of America in Federal Court yesterday by 157 Blount County residents.

The suit charges that poisonous fumes, especially fluorine compounds, expelled by the company's plant have damaged farm lands and injured registered cattle to such an extent that they are no longer marketable.

The residents, representing 84 farms, claim this damage was acknowledged by the company in a compensation agreement that ALCOA had with them up to Jan. 1, 1953. Under the agreement the company made up the loss of income incurred by farmers and cattle raisers. However, according to the suit, after this date the company refused to continue payments.

The gases and fumes, the suit alleges, are "heavier than air and settle on the ground adhering to growing crops, trees and shrubs thus causing damage."

"Premature deterioration of teeth," the suit claims, is caused by the fumes in animal life along with "stiffness of joints, knots on ribs, loss of appetite and the general retarding of growth."

Individual damages up to \$150,000 are being claimed by the farms, with Mr. and Mrs. R. O. Davis asking the top amount. The Davis farm consists of 215 acres adjoining the ALCOA property.

Outside of the damages, the suit also asks that ALCOA be directed to cease releasing fluorine compounds in its operations.

Knowlton (TENN.) Journal, Sat. July 30, 1955

UTAH STEEL MILL POLLUTION

...U. S. Steel's Utah air pollution...when bone ailments were discovered in livestock grazing near the mill...Scientists diagnosed the condition as fluorosis, a disease that crippled livestock and greatly decreased market value.

Lawsuits and claims came fast. Legal experts set to work negotiating nearly 900 settlements totaling \$4,450,234 for alleged damage to livestock.

... (N.Y. Times, 11/10 1957)

Seattle Times

Fume Damages Awarded to 19

PORTLAND, Ore., Jan. 3.—(UP)—United States District Judge Alger Fee yesterday awarded damages of \$78,225 to 19 Oregon and Washington orchardists, bulb growers and stock raisers for losses caused by fumes from the Reynolds Metals Co.'s Troutdale plant.

A total of 98 claimants had asked more than \$3,000,000 in damages in the suits filed against the company two and a half years ago.

\$91,000 Awarded to Rancher in Aluminum Plant Suit

A \$91,000 judgment was returned in a suit brought against the Reynolds Metals company Monday as a trial opened in a second suit against the company. Both cases involve damage to farms in the Troutdale area, allegedly from fumes from the firm's aluminum plant.

Circuit Judge Paul R. Harris Monday gave judgment for \$91,000 to Paul and Verla Mar-

The land, valuable for raising beef cattle, was materially impaired for this purpose by emanations from the plant, the judge said.

In their action against the Reynolds company the Martins had asked for \$40,000 a year

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for five years, a total of \$200,000.

In his ruling Judge Harris allowed \$71,000 for the effect of the fumes on the production of livestock and \$20,000 for damage to the land.

Trial of Fairview Farms, Inc., damage case against Reynolds Metals company began Monday in federal court without a jury, and, preliminary to the taking of testimony, the

THE OREGONIAN, TUESDAY, MAY 8, 1966