

UNITED STATES STEEL CORPORATION,  
a corporation

Complainant,

-vs-

JOSEPH S. COULTIER and GERTRUDE E.  
COULTIER, jointly and individually,

Respondents.

) IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF  
)  
) BALDWIN COUNTY, ALABAMA.  
)  
) IN EQUITY. NO. 3146

F I N A L D E C R E E

THIS CAUSE coming on to be heard, was submitted for decree upon the pleadings and proof, as noted, and upon consideration thereof, the Court is of the opinion that the complainant is entitled to the relief prayed for in its bill of complaint.

IT IS, THEREFORE, ORDERED ADJUDGED AND DECREED by the Court:

ONE: That the complainant, United States Steel Corporation, a corporation, is the owner of the real property described in the original bill in this cause which same is situated in the County of Baldwin, State of Alabama, and more particular described as follows:

The South Half ( $S\frac{1}{2}$ ) of the Southwest Quarter ( $SW\frac{1}{4}$ ) of Section Six (6), Township Four (4) South, Range Four (4) East, containing eighty (80) acres, more or less.

TWO: That the two respondents Joseph S. Coultier and Gertrude E. Coultier, jointly and individually, have no estate, right, title, or interest in, or encumbrance or claim upon such lands above described, or any part thereof.

THREE: That whatever document or documents the respondents, Joseph S. Coultier and Gertrude E. Coultier, jointly and individually, may have or hold under or by which they claim any right, title or interest in said property and in particular the deed from the State of Alabama dated May 9,

1951, recorded in the office of the Judge of Probate of Baldwin County, Alabama on May 17, 1951, in Deed Book 165 at page 285, are hereby cancelled as a cloud upon complainant's title and the said respondents are hereby forever barred from all claims against this property thereunder.

FOUR: That the Register of this Court, within thirty (30) days from this date, file a certified copy of this decree in the office of the Judge of Probate of Baldwin County, Alabama, for record therein and that the cost thereof be added to the cost of this cause.

FIVE: That the complainant pay the costs of this suit, to be taxed by the register, for which let execution issue.

Dated and done this 29<sup>th</sup>  
day of March, 1954.

Stewart M. Hester  
CIRCUIT JUDGE

FILED

125  
 FILED  
 MAR 30 1954  
 ALEX. L. BROWN, JR.

The State of Alabama  
Baldwin County

Circuit Court

Equity

To

*Joseph S. Contrie*

*Gertrude E. Contrie*

You are hereby commanded to appear and plead, answer or demur, within thirty days from the service hereof, as provided by an Act of the Legislature of Alabama, approved September 25th, 1919, to a Bill of Complaint filed in the Circuit Court of Baldwin County, Alabama, against you, Defendant....., by United States Steel Corporation, A Corp Complainant.....

A copy of which Bill of Complaint is hereto attached.

Witness by hand, this 23rd day of November 1953

*W. J. Kenck*  
Register

UNITED STATES STEEL CORPORATION,	*	IN THE CIRCUIT COURT
a corporation,		
	*	OF
Complainant,		
	*	BALDWIN COUNTY, ALABAMA.
-vs-		
	*	IN EQUITY. NO.
JOSEPH S. COULTIER and	*	
GERTRUDE E. COULTIER,	*	
jointly and individually,	*	
	*	
Respondents.	*	

BILL OF COMPLAINT

TO THE HONORABLE JUDGE OF THE CIRCUIT COURT OF BALDWIN COUNTY,  
ALABAMA, IN EQUITY:

Comes now your complainant, United States Steel Corporation, a corporation, and brings this bill of complaint against Joseph S. Coultier and Gertrude E. Coultier, jointly and individually, and shows unto Your Honor as follows:

ONE

That your complainant is a corporation organized and existing under the laws of the State of New Jersey, and qualified to do business in the State of Alabama; that the respondents Joseph S. Coultier and Gertrude E. Coultier, are non-residents of the State of Alabama, residing in the City of Dearborn, State of Michigan, and that their address is 22828 Cherry Hill in that city.

TWO

That your complainant is in the peaceable possession of the following described real property, situated in the County of Baldwin, State of Alabama, claiming to own the said real property in its own right, viz:

The South Half ( $S\frac{1}{2}$ ) of the Southwest Quarter ( $SW\frac{1}{4}$ ) of Section Six (6), Township Four (4) South, Range Four (4) East, containing eighty (80) acres, more or less.

THREE

Your complainant is informed and believes, and upon such information and belief avers the facts to be, that the aforesaid

Joseph S. Coultier and Gertrude E. Coultier claim, or are reputed to claim, some right, title or interest in or encumbrance upon the aforesaid real estate and your complainant now calls upon each of the aforementioned persons to set forth and specify his or her title, claim, interest or encumbrance and how and by what instrument the same is derived. Your complainant further avers that no suit is pending to enforce or test the validity of such title, claim or encumbrance.

FOUR

That fee simple title to the real property hereinabove described was conveyed to complainant by one Howard Nikart by deed dated November 19, 1929, which same was filed for record in Baldwin County, State of Alabama, on November 20, 1929, and can be found in the records of the offices of the Judge of Probate of said county in Deed Book 48 N. S. at page 184. That complainant has been in actual, open, notorious, peaceable and continuous possession of said real property since November 19, 1929, and that it paid taxes thereon for the year 1929 and for each year successively since that time. That on, to-wit, the 17th day of May, 1951, there was recorded in the office of the Judge of Probate of Baldwin County, Alabama, a deed from the State of Alabama to the respondents conveying all right and title of the State of Alabama, in and to the said property hereinabove described, wherein it was recited that on, to-wit, the 8th day of June, 1931, the Probate Court of Baldwin County, Alabama, rendered a decree for the sale of the land hereinabove described for the payment of State and County taxes then due from Lillian Blair the owner of said lands. Your complainant alleges and avers that there were no State and County taxes then due on said lands and that the said Lillian Blair was not on that date the owner of said lands and your complainant further alleges that all State and County taxes due on the aforementioned property had been duly paid

by it or its predecessors in title to that date and that your complainant has continuously paid in full all State and County taxes due on said lands to this date. Your complainant avers that the respondents obtained no right, title or interest in and to said lands by virtue of said deed from the State of Alabama and that they have never been in possession of said lands and that said deed from the State of Alabama constitutes a cloud on its title to said real estate.

WHEREFORE, THE PREMISES CONSIDERED, your complainant prays that the aforesaid Joseph S. Coultier and Gertrude E. Coultier be made parties respondent to this bill of complaint and that writs of subpoena or other appropriate writs be issued from this court commanding the said Joseph S. Coultier and Gertrude E. Coultier to appear in this court and demur, plead or otherwise defend against this bill of complaint in the time required by law or by the rules of this Honorable Court, or that the allegations of the same to be taken as confessed against them. That upon a final hearing of this cause, your complainant prays that Your Honor will finally adjudge and decree whether the respondents or either of them, has any right, title or interest in or encumbrance upon such real estate or any part thereof, and what such right, title, interest or encumbrance is and in or upon what part of the said real estate the same exists and if it be adjudged and determined that the respondents have no valid or enforcable title or interest or encumbrance or demand in or against the said property of your complainant hereinabove described, that whatever document or documents the respondents may have or hold under or by which they claim right, title or interest in said property and in particular the deed from the State of Alabama described hereinabove be cancelled as a cloud upon your complainant's title and that said respondents be forever barred from all claim which the court finds and decrees to be unjust and without right.

Your complainant prays for such other, further, general or special relief to which it may be entitled in the premises, and if your complainant is mistaken as to the relief to which it is entitled, then your complainant prays for such other, further, general or special relief in the premises to which it may be entitled and as in duty bound it will forever pray.

Howell Johnston  
Solicitor for Complainant



720 3146

RECORDED

FILED

NOV 23 1953

ALICE J. DUCK, Register

United States Steel Corporation  
a corporation

The Circuit Court of  
Baldwin County, Alabama

No. 3146 VS. }  
Joseph S. Coultier and }  
Gertrude E. Coultier, }  
jointly and individually }  
Complainant  
Respondents

ORDER OF SUBMISSION

This cause coming on to be heard, is submitted for decree on the pleadings and on the proof  
as noted.

Dated, February 1, 1954

NOTE OF EVIDENCE

At the hearing of this cause the following note of evidence was taken to wit:

FOR COMPLAINANT

1. Original Bill of complaint.
2. Decree pro confesso against Respondents entered  
January 7, 1954.

Howell & Johnston  
Solicitors for Complainant

FOR RESPONDENT

FILED, 2-27-54  
Eric J. French Register }

Solicitor—For Respondent

<div style="text-align: center;"> <b>ORDER OF SUBMISSION</b>  <b>NOTE OF EVIDENCE</b> </div>		Ent. Min. No. _____, Page _____ Terms, 19____
<div style="text-align: center;"> <b>VS.</b> </div>		
No. _____		

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES  
 Superior Court  
 Case No. \_\_\_\_\_

Plaintiff, \_\_\_\_\_  
 Defendant, \_\_\_\_\_  
 Cause of Action: \_\_\_\_\_

**FILED**  
 FEB 27 1954  
 ALICE J. DUCK, Register

RECEIVED  
 DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
 FEB 27 1954  
 ALICE J. DUCK, Register

RECEIVED  
 DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
 FEB 27 1954

LAW OFFICES OF  
**HOWELL AND JOHNSTON**  
FIRST NATIONAL BANK ANNEX  
P. O. BOX 1652  
MOBILE 9, ALABAMA

THOMAS O. HOWELL, JR.  
THOMAS A. JOHNSTON, III  
ALICE M. MEADOWS  
IRVIN J. LANGFORD

November 20, 1953

Mrs. Alice J. Duck, Register  
Circuit Court, In Equity  
Baldwin County  
Bay Minette, Alabama

Re: United States Steel Corporation  
Vs: Joseph S. and Gertrude E. Coultier, et ux

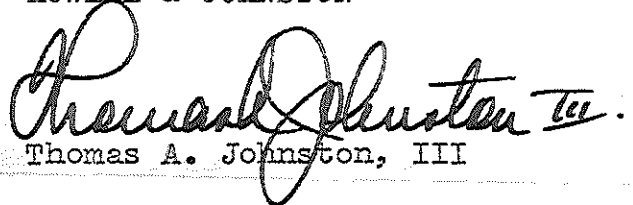
Dear Mrs. Duck:

We enclose herewith bill of complaint in the above styled cause to be filed in your court. We would appreciate process being issued on same as soon as possible.

With best regards, we remain

Very truly yours,

HOWELL & JOHNSTON

  
Thomas A. Johnston, III

TAJ:ee  
Encs.

The State of Alabama,  
Baldwin County.

No. 3146 CIRCUIT COURT, IN EQUITY.

United States Steel Corporation, a corporation Complainant

Vs.

Joseph S. Coultier and Gertrude E. Coultier,  
jointly and severally Defendant

Motion is hereby made for a Decree Pro Confesso against Joseph S. Coultier

and Gertrude E. Coultier, jointly and severally Defendant

in the above stated cause, on the ground that more than thirty days have elapsed since service of summons upon said Defendant, and that said summons was duly served by Registered Mail, according to law, and that said Defendant have failed to demur, plead to or answer the Bill of Complaint in this cause to this date.

This 7th day of January, 1954

*Harrell A. Johnston*  
For Complainant

Solicitor

RECORDED

No. 3146

Page

THE STATE OF ALABAMA  
Baldwin County

CIRCUIT COURT, IN EQUITY

United States Steel Corporation,

a corporation

Vs.

Joseph S. Coultier and Gertrude

E. Coultier, jointly and  
severally

MOTION FOR DECREE PRO CONFESSO  
AFTER NOTICE BY REGISTERED MAIL

Filed 1-8, 1934

*Reichman*  
Register.

Recorded in Record,

Vol. Page

Register.

UNITED STATES CORP.

Vs.

JOSEPH S. COULTIER et al

CIRCUIT COURT OF  
Baldwin County.

IN EQUITY

In this cause it being made to appear to the Register that on the 23rd  
day of November, 19 53, a copy of the Bill of Complaint filed in this cause was  
sent to Joseph S. Coultier and Gertrude E. Coultier

Defendant, by registered mail, postage prepaid, marked "For delivery only to the person to whom  
addressed," and return receipt demanded addressed to the Register of this Court; and that on the  
2nd day of December, 19 53, such receipt was duly  
received and filed in this cause:

And it further appearing to the Register that the said Defendant has failed to plead, answer  
or demur to the said Bill to the date hereof, it is now, therefore, on motion of Complainant, ordered,  
adjudged and decreed by the Register that the said Bill of Complaint be, and it hereby is in all things  
taken as confessed against the said Joseph S. Coultier et al

Defendant

This the 7th day of January, 19 54Devin - Smith Register.

Post Office Department  
OFFICIAL BUSINESS

PENALTY FOR PRIVATE USE TO AVOID PAYMENT OF POSTAGE, \$300  
(GPO)

POSTMARK OF DELIVERING  
OFFICE

Return to \_\_\_\_\_  
Street and Number, }  
Post Office Box, }

(NAME OF SENDER)

REGISTERED ARTICLE

392

Post Office

INSURED PARCEL

16-12421



Post Office Department  
OFFICIAL BUSINESS

PENALTY FOR PRIVATE USE TO AVOID PAYMENT OF POSTAGE, \$300  
(GPO)

POSTMARK OF DELIVERING  
OFFICE

Return to \_\_\_\_\_  
Street and Number, }  
Post Office Box, }

(NAME OF SENDER)

REGISTERED ARTICLE

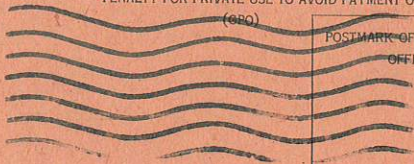
393

Post Office

INSURED PARCEL

16-12421

State Ala





3146  
**RETURN RECEIPT**

Received from the Postmaster the Registered or Insured Article, the number of which appears on the face of this Card.

1 Gentleman & Co.  
(Signature or name of addressee)

2 \_\_\_\_\_  
(Signature of addressee's agent—Agent should enter addressee's name on line ONE above)

Date of delivery 11-29, 1953

3146  
**RETURN RECEIPT**

Received from the Postmaster the Registered or Insured Article, the number of which appears on the face of this Card.

1 J. S. Coulter  
(Signature or name of addressee)

2 \_\_\_\_\_  
(Signature of addressee's agent—Agent should enter addressee's name on line ONE above)

Date of delivery 11-29, 1953

# RECEIPT FOR REGISTERED ARTICLE No. 392

Fee paid 50

11-24, 1953  
(Date)

Class postage paid 1

Return receipt fee 7

Declared value, \$ none

Special delivery fee ✓

Surcharge paid, \$ —

Restricted delivery  
(Accepting employee will place  
initials in proper space)

in person ✓

or order —

Fee paid 70



From Alvin J. Durr  
(Sender)

(Street and number)

(Post office and State)

Addressed to Gertrude E. Coulter  
(Addressee)

22828 Cherry Hill - Dearborn Mich  
(Street and number)

GPO c9-16-12666-5

(Post office and State)

Postmaster, per CLAR