

March 16, 1939
312 W. Seminary Ave.
Wheaton, Illinois

Mr. J. N. Vail
Aluminum Company of America
520 N. Michigan Ave.
Chicago, Illinois

Dear Mr. Vail:

The large aluminum drum purchased from you last year has been left in an exposed outdoor position all winter. This spring I find it beginning to corrode. The corrosion appears as small pits which have white crystals like salt over them. They are especially pronounced on bottom underneath and lower part of sides. Only a few could be found inside and none on top. The drum had not been left on the ground; but suspended 40 ft. in the air closed end up.

I have removed the corrosion with sandpaper, washed and when dry painted two coats of aluminum paint. This I hope will prevent recurrence of the trouble. I would like to know just what the action is causing this pitting as I was under impression that aluminum was not affected by the elements of weather.

Yours truly,

Grote Heber