43-11K INSURANCE ADJUSTER
MO. 4,000

JAN 1977

CLIPPED BY BACONS

130

$1.5 billion in lawsuits filed against Monsanto

GREENVILLE, SC — Two class action lawsuits — one for $1 billion and the other for $500,000 — have been filed against Monsanto Company, charging the corporation with negligence in connection with the pollution of two waterways with industrial chemical polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs).

Monsanto is the only U.S. manufacturer, distributor and seller of the chemical. Studies show that PCBs are hazardous for humans and may cause cancer, damage the reproductive and digestive systems and trigger symptoms such as jaundice, fever, fatigue, numbness in the limbs and skin eruptions.

The $500 million suit was filed by fishermen, property owners and businesses in U.S. district court in Atlanta, charging General Electric Company and Monsanto with contaminating Georgia's Coosa river. The $1 billion suit was brought against Sangamo Electric Company and Monsanto as co-defendants, alleging that Sangamo "either willfully, wantonly, negligently, recklessly and/or intentionally allowed PCBs to enter Lake Hartwell . . ."

Liability insurance policies involved are under study to determine coverage.