

# 3,000,000 Bushels of Peaches Start Rolling to 400 Markets

By GAYNOR MADDOX  
NEA Feed and Markets Editor  
SPARTANBURG, S. C. —(NEA)—  
More than 3,000,000 bushels of fresh peaches are just starting rolling out of Spartanburg County, S. C., to over 400 markets in the U. S. Twenty-nine years ago this gently rolling Piedmont area at the

foot of the Blue Ridge Mountains barely managed to produce enough of the "queen of fruits" to fill one freight car.  
The dreaded boll weevil sparked this \$10,000,000 annual crop. In the 20s, the boll weevil ravaged the extensive cotton acreage of this and adjoining counties, threatening

to bankrupt the planters. The farmers looked for new crops and with the help of experts from the State Agriculture College started planting peach trees.

Today Spartanburg County has not only outstripped Georgia in production of high quality fresh peaches, but has become the largest fresh peach producing and shipping area in the U. S. California outproduces it, but the California crop is almost entirely canned, not shipped fresh.

The boll weevil awakened these progressive Southerners to the need of a diversified economy. They have found their soil can also produce grapes in commercial quantity, and for the past two years grapes have been drinking in the Carolina sunbaths alongside the soft-fleshed peaches.

Their first commercial crop, from only 17-month-old vines, is giving one ton per acre of Fradonia and Concord grapes. By the third year, according to the agriculturists at the State's Clemson College, the vines will produce around five tons an acre and Spartanburg County will become a threat to New York State's Finger Lakes region, the best grape-producing area east of the Rockies.

Recently, they have gone in heavily for the production of tomatoes, too. They found they can raise two crops a year, early and late, and hit the market when there is little other competition. They ship most of them to states south of Georgia.

And cotton has come back. The textile industry is the number one moneymaker in this area. There are 44 plants in Spartanburg County, employing 22,000 and the mills are scattered over the rolling countryside, not clustered around cities to add industrial confusion.

The dairy industry is growing rapidly. Today, for the first time, South Carolina produces enough milk for its own needs, and has ceased importing it from the west.

The raising of beef cattle is becoming steadily more important under ideal conditions where year round outdoor grazing is practical. As you drive past cotton fields and peach orchards, you see white-faced Herefords grazing

contentedly. Almost any place you stop, you'll find an agricultural scientist from Clemson College consulting with farmers.  
"But right now, and for the next eight weeks, the fresh Elberta peach crop is the main interest. Paul Black, president of the South Carolina Peach Growers' Association, is one of the drivers

forces behind Spartanburg's efforts to get to the national markets "fastest and with the bestest peaches." At the Sunny Slope Farms at Gaffney, Louis Cagliano, one of the most progressive and adventurous growers, showed me how he hydro-cools peaches for shipping.

From orchard to refrigerated truck in two hours, the peaches are crated, defused, graded, sized, packed in paper-lined baskets by hundreds of skilled high school girls and boys with a few school boys helping. The final stage is an ice water bath. The peaches, still hot from the orchard, about 90 degrees, are run slowly for 20 minutes through an 8-foot tunnel where chlorinated ice water drenches them. When they emerge and are rushed into the

cool trucks, their temperature has dropped to 45 degrees.  
Cagliano explained that this hydro-cooling makes it possible to allow the peaches to ripen two days longer on the trees. The result is more-perfectly ripened fresh fruit on your table.

At the Cudd Orchard outside Spartanburg, Mrs. Vera Cudd Hughes, the only large scale woman producer, showed us her peaches being waxed to preserve their freshness. The peaches roll slowly through a mist of vaporized edible wax and emerge

smooth, protected against bruising and with a seductive peachy complexion.  
During July and August, fresh peaches are the biggest selling fruit, after citrus fruits, apples and bananas, in most American markets. But to get them to those

markets in a tree-fresh state is the big headache for the grower. Around Spartanburg I saw progressive Carolinians using science, cooperation and advanced business methods to rush their Elbertas out in refrigerated trucks and freight cars to arrive fresh.

# Diplomats Take Over Korea Where Soldiers Left Off

By JOHN M. HIGHTOWER  
WASHINGTON (AP)—Diplomats took over the battle for Korea today, and with the lifting of the pressures of open war a new set of problems and dangers arose to plague Allied and Communist governments alike.

Foremost among these on the Allied side is the threat of an eventual angry struggle between the United States and Britain over admission of Red China to the United Nations.

For the Communists, there is speculation already about the impact of the armistice on relations among Russia, Red China and North Korea—a situation about which Western governments know little but hope for much.

It is too early to tell yet whether the uneasy truce that settled over Korea's shell-burned hills means the beginning of a new and more peaceful era in the world-wide conflict between the Communist and free nations. But officials here have no doubt that it poses many problems which were beyond action while the fighting raged.

The first arena of the diplomatic struggle over these problems is due to be the United Nations General Assembly, at a special session in New York next month. The Assembly's primary task will be to set the stage for a political conference on Korea—and perhaps wider Far Eastern issues. That conference, under the truce terms, must convene by late October.

In these sessions the major objective of the United States, and presumably of other friendly nations, will be to see the Korean unification which both sides failed to win in the war.

The Western Allies conceive of this as unification under a non-Communist government. That means they want the Reds to give up North Korea, and in return, unification which both sides failed to win in the war.

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peace in Indochina. France and the United States are now working on plans to step up the Indochina effort, with this country bearing a greater share of the burden. But the French are deeply interested in what diplomats call an honorable end to the conflict, and should peace spread from Korea into Southeast Asia, it could radically alter France's attitude toward Communist China.

In the strictly limited Korean truce there is, of course, no hint whatever that peace will spread. The United States, Britain and France, in fact, have recognized two alternative dangers in the armistice.

One is that the Reds may build up new power in North Korea—especially forward airfields—resume the war, hoping that the United States and the 15 other United Nations will forces there will not make a second time, the extensive military effort which they responded to the first aggression more than three years ago. Against this possibility the three Western Powers served notice that if the armistice is violated they will go to war again.

The second danger foreseen when Dulles, Bidault and Acting Foreign Minister Lord Salisbury met here two weeks ago was that the Red Chinese, having secured their flank in Korea, would divert their major forces to Indochina in a ruthless bid for control of Southeast Asia. The Reds were told this would be considered a violation of the spirit of the Korean truce.

President Eisenhower and Secretary Dulles have said repeatedly that the United States would be the first step in bringing peace to all Asia and relaxing cold war tensions throughout the world. If the masterminds in the Kremlin really pull the strings on the Red Chinese government at Peking, and if the Kremlin wants to push its peace offensive by diplomatic action, the Korean truce may be the forerunner of many historic readjustments in Communist-Western world relations.

But no one this side of the Iron Curtain knows the state of relations between Russia and Red China. Many informed officials doubt that Russia does pull the strings or that China's Red rulers accord the same esteem to Premier George Malenkov that they held for the late Joseph Stalin. If this is true, it could lead to trouble between Peking and Moscow, for Moscow is more accustomed to dictate to satellite governments than to treat them as equals.

The problems and relationships which will go into the Korean political conference are so complex that the negotiations could easily last for months—or even for years if the lengthy truce talks are any guide.

But South Korean President Syngman Rhee, who agreed with the utmost reluctance not to obstruct the truce, has stated flatly that he wants no such drawout talk and that if necessary he may resume the war.

Rhee has set for himself a 90-day limit on the conference. If it has not agreed on Korean unification in that time, he has threatened to resume fighting and he has demanded that the United States go to war again with him. The United States has rejected this demand and has refused to promise Rhee material and moral support if he violates the truce. However, as a compromise measure the United States promised that, under certain conditions it will walk out of the truce after 90 days and consult with him on what to do next. The conditions are that the United States should decide that the Reds are negotiating in bad faith and that they are using the conference as a cover to infiltrate South Korea or otherwise make trouble for it.

The shooting has ended in the Korean War, but the truce has an uneasy future and real peace in a unified country may still be a long way off.

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