

COCA-COLA FIGHT HAS BEEN SETTLED

Bringing to an end litigation which has been pending in federal court for more than a year, the controversy between the Coca-Cola company, of Delaware, and the bottlers of coca-cola has been settled was announced Tuesday by Attorney Jack J. Spalding, of Spalding, McDougald & Sibley, who brought about the agreement and signed it for the bottlers. The agreement was signed for the Coca-Cola company by Eugene M. Stetson, of New York, vice president of the company.

The litigation between the Coca-Cola company and the bottlers, involving more than \$25,000,000 in property and annual sales of about 18,000,000 gallons of coca-cola syrup, began in March, 1920, when the Coca-Cola company announced that it would thereafter disregard all contracts to furnish syrup at the price then in effect. The bottlers then took court action against the company. The case, originally filed in Fulton superior court, passed from that tribunal to the federal court here. The proceedings were then taken to the federal court in Delaware, where the Coca-Cola company was chartered.

The long standing controversy was settled when an agreement was made for a basic price to be paid for the syrup by the bottlers. The principle of arbitration was sanctioned in case of unusual economic conditions resulting from war, disaster or other unforeseen events. Retail bottlers will pay a basic price of \$1.30 per gallon for syrup, based on 7-cent sugar. In the event of an increase in the price of sugar, said to be the controlling factor in pricing the beverage, then the price will be adjusted in proportion.

It was contended in court by the bottlers that their contract with the Coca-Cola concern was perpetual. A decision was rendered in the Delaware court in favor of the bottlers. The Coca-Cola company took the fight to the circuit court of appeals. The judges of the appellate court intimated their belief that the case should be settled out of court. Each side then took steps towards an agreement.

After one conference failed to reach an amicable settlement, the bottlers designated Mr. Spalding and the Coca-Cola company authorized Mr. Stetson to enter into negotiations. They framed their agreement after several weeks of consideration to the matter and secured the signatures of the 1,500 or more bottlers throughout the nation. The contract of settlement has been approved by the federal court of appeals and the Delaware district court, according to a wire received by Mr. Spalding from John A. Sibley, a member of his firm, who went to Philadelphia to handle the case before the appellate court.

Recent enterprise in the Pacific shows that shark catching may be commercially profitable. Shark liver oil has been found to possess valuable medicinal properties. As a fertilizer shark meat is superior to dogfish. The head of the shark contains glue of valuable quality. Its fins are a delicacy much prized by the Chinese. The teeth are sold for good prices in many parts of the world for the manufacture of ornaments. Lastly, there is the skin, which is an inch in thickness and can be manufactured into the finest waterproof boot soles in the world.