

tion of county problems cannot be attacked as undemocratic; the choice lies with the voters. Oklahoma might try this recourse, since it offers some prospect of revitalized government on the county level without reduction of the number of counties.

State Grants—Perpetuation of Obsolete Forms and Procedures

Certainly any attempt to put the state in position to cope effectively with modern problems cannot overlook the great need for modernization of the county as a political subdivision. To account fully for the county's successful resistance to all suggestions of fundamental reform would be difficult, but, in part, it may be explained by the growing practice of supporting these units out of revenues supplied by the state.

It is possible that we make a mistake when we sustain local government in this manner. A better solution might have been found had we granted to these units powers of taxation, sufficient in extent to enable them to finance the costs of their own operations and activities.

There is no compelling reason for limiting the taxing power of local government to the ad valorem, or general property, tax. In any event, state aid, to the extent that it is granted in Oklahoma, may account, in part, for the perpetuation of obsolete, costly, and inefficient forms and procedures on the local government level. If funds are available, particularly if they seem to come from the outside, it will always be difficult to focus the attention of the public upon the most obvious defects in the administrative practices, or the general adequacy, of these political subdivisions.

Certain functions, or public services, may properly be financed jointly by two or more governments. *But the existence of one ought not depend upon the bounty of the other.* Local responsibility is the basis of vital local government, *a condition which imposes responsibility for raising revenue as well as spending it.*

"... True Barriers of Our Liberties ..."

Some observers regard with doubt all attempts to revitalize state government and its subdivisions. It is maintained that the role of the States must necessarily decline, and that, having served their purpose in our political development, they should be allowed to "wither away." This point of view has great appeal to those who find, in dependence upon the federal government, easier solutions to our immediate problems. It is approved by others who, rather impatiently, regard the States as obstacles which block the development of more "mature" social policies and administrative practices.

No one, I suppose, will deny that the States have too often dealt ineptly with

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A Sooner's Impressions of Brazil's Newest State

By GASTON LITTON

Of all the places in the world which might interest a native son of Oklahoma, the state of Paraná in the south of Brazil would be most likely to win top rating.

There must be many countries in the world which have wooded areas similar to Oklahoma's beautiful eastern counties, prairies like our western plains, mild and changeable climate comparable to that which brought forth Will Rogers' oft-quoted quip. Yet to one native son, no region so closely resembles his own Oklahoma and those pages of Oklahoma's history beginning in the 1880's as Brazil's state of Paraná which has just celebrated its centennial.

The parallel of similarities covers many points. One of these is the almost overnight settlement of vast sections of the state. Like those portions of Oklahoma which were colonized in a day by the various land openings, Paraná has had an equally swift settlement. Long dormant economically and largely forgotten in the national scheme of things, Paraná was awakened from its tranquil existence by a discovery that rich lands along the northern border were capable of a coffee yield seven times that of the older, soil-eroded coastal regions.

During World War II, when Brazil was our top ally among the Latin-American nations, a staying hand halted the colonization for several years. The cessation of hostilities in Europe opened up the flood gate of emigration from the war-torn areas to the New World. There was literally an almost overnight transformation of a rich hunter's paradise into hillsides of coffee trees which began to break peak harvest records in five years.

The new settlers from Europe were matched by large numbers of Japanese who moved into the region from nearby states. There was also a considerable influx of Brazil's own basic population. Railroad lines were laid into the area, highways were commenced, airplane landing fields were cleared in the brush—to move in this new population and to take out the mount-

ing thousands of sacks of coffee beans—harvested by the new settlers.

Looking at the map of Paraná today one finds many reminders of the various ethnic groups which also swelled Oklahoma's population. German communities are noted, and there are sizable segments of Polish, Italian, Bohemian, Ukrainian, and Syrian immigration. Travelling about the state of Paraná, an Oklahoman is reminded of Okarche, Krebs, Prague, Corn, and other communities which had a distinctly European ethnic beginning.

Another striking similarity is noted in the obviously adventurous spirit of the people. There is throughout the state of Paraná a definite willingness to take a chance, an attitude of give and take, ample evidence of resourcefulness and ingenuity.

Paraná is larger than Oklahoma by some 23,000 square miles. Its surface fluctuates in elevation more than Oklahoma's. Paraná has a small front on the Atlantic and a few mountain peaks and high plateaus, with an average elevation of some 2,000 feet which exceeds Oklahoma's average elevation by some 700 feet. The soil is fertile, watered by numerous rivers. Two of the world's most spectacular waterfalls—the lovely Sete Quedas, a series of seven cataracts, and the mighty Iguassu, forty feet higher and more powerful than Niagara—attract many tourists to the state.

A large part of the state is covered by a forest containing a great variety of fine woods, including a species of pine which is becoming well-known in world markets today. There are some 900 miles of railroad in operation in the state, the most important line being one that links the city of Rio with the Uruguayan capital. There are nearly a thousand miles of highways connecting the principal cities.

Agriculture is the chief business—coffee and *herva maté* (sometimes called Brazilian tea) being the principal exports. Potatoes, beans, corn, wheat, rye, manioc, and bananas are also grown in considerable quantities.

Many of the people of Paraná today, like

those who pioneered our state, suffered hardships and privations which have tempered their judgment. Time and again in conversations with these people here and there throughout this young state, I was reminded of how much they seem to have in common with old-timers in Oklahoma whom I had met in years of criss-crossing the state in pursuit of historical materials.

Paraná, which recently inaugurated a world coffee exposition at a new fairgrounds at the edge of its capital, has almost 2½ million inhabitants. When the first Polish immigrants late last century rolled in covered wagons over hills dotted with Paraná's famous umbrella pines to establish homesteads, Paraná was unimportant and empty. Now it is economically number four among Brazil's twenty states.

Paranagua, the port city some 40 miles from the capital of the state, is dispatching point for nearly a fourth of all of Brazil's coffee export. Londrina, which was a village thirty years ago, is the fabulous center of the coffee country in the northern part of the state with nearly 70,000 population. It is reliably reported that over 100 airplanes and 250 busses carry passengers and business to and from Londrina each day.

The key city of the state, and one of the finest modern cities of all Brazil, is Curitiba located on a 3,000 foot plateau a few hours inland by train that makes a tortuous climb from the seaport of Paranagua. Curitiba is a strong convention city, now drawing away much of the traffic from Rio de Janeiro and São Paulo, which are known to some Oklahomans who have attended international meetings there. Curitiba's climate, an almost perpetual spring, is a great boon to the city's bid for tourists. Nearby scenic attractions help to draw groups, large and small. Last year, the major conventions held in Curitiba included the second national congress of folklorists, which was privileged to view a movie on one of our Indian dances filmed in color by the OU photography unit. The rectors of Brazilian universities also held their annual meeting in Curitiba, and another educational group, physical education instructors, inaugurated their first national congress in the city.

The highway departments of Brazil's twenty states sent delegates to an annual congress which met in Curitiba in the spring (our fall). Several hundred were registered for that week-long meeting. A highlight of this congress was a special exhibit illustrating most graphically the strenuous national effort to develop in the shortest time a network of hard-surfaced roads adequate to the nation's pressing transportation needs. Paraná's highway planning and development are in the hands

of competent men, new at their job but resourceful and undaunted by the obstacles facing them.

Curitiba is often referred to as the "city with a smile." That is not wholly an invention of a propagandist, for Curitiba is noticeably a city of youth. It is the seat of the University of Paraná, founded about twenty years after our University opened. The city also boasts of schools of law, veterinary science, and chemical technology which are separately maintained. The state-supported *Colegio*, housed in one of the most impressive school buildings in Brazil, is a day and evening high school giving free education to the boys and girls of Paraná. Public-supported primary schools are numerous, some of them being housed in functional buildings designed by the characteristically forward-looking Brazilian architects. Several of the teaching orders of the Catholic faith maintain day and boarding schools separately for boys and girls.

Being the seat of the state government, Curitiba accommodates an increasing amount of official business. This activity has grown so fast that the government has been reduced to renting much of its office space. Facing the prospect of mounting rental costs and the inconveniences of widely-scattered government offices, the present state governor inaugurated an extensive program of public works. A vast civic center with housing for each of the three branches of the state government is now under construction. This building program also includes numerous schools and a state theater, in addition to a hand-

some three-story state library building. These projects are nearing completion, with the dedication dates of various ones scheduled during 1954.

The state library building, one of the major aspects of this public works program, reflects the direct and active interest of the governor who believes firmly in the organization of knowledge and the availability to the public of all of the organs of communication. As a member of the national Brazilian senate some years ago, the governor of Paraná acquired an appreciation of professional library service and determined that the staff of the state library should consist of local people given the best possible technical training. Concurrently with the initiation of the library building project, the governor dispatched to Rio de Janeiro an emissary to secure technical assistance in preparing the library staff. Two experienced Brazilian teachers of library science were recruited in Rio de Janeiro and sent to Curitiba. An inquiry at the American Embassy started the ball rolling on an invitation which was extended to me, to assist in this training program.

This participation of a Sooner in the technical problems of one of the American republics was facilitated under a program which was recently strengthened by the Smith-Mundt Act. Under this legislation the Federal Government is privileged to honor certain requests for technical assistance. Selection of American specialists to go abroad on these assignments is handled by the Department of State. The particular unit within the Department which administers the Educational Exchange Service is staffed by three top educators, each known

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From 1937 to 1947 he was Archives Assistant at National Archives, Washington, D. C., except in 1941-42, when he was on loan to University of Panama as librarian and professor; in 1945, when he was special representative of American Library Association to advise re-organization of National Library of Brazil; and 1946-47, when he was on leave to serve as Director, American Library, Managua, Nicaragua.

From March 1, 1953 to January 1, 1954, he was Visiting Professor of Library Science at the University of Paraná at Curitiba, Brazil, under the Department of State's International Educational Exchange Program. These impressions of Brazil's newest state were written for the Quarterly.

and highly respected in our country's academic circles.

The course in library science at Curitiba, employing the Brazilian and U. S. librarians, was scheduled to be offered at the University of Paraná. The University proved to be under such pressure for classroom space for its 3,500 students that it became necessary to find quarters for the course elsewhere. An offer of space was made by the Brazilian-American Cultural Institute, an organization founded at the outset of World War II to combat anti-American and pro-Nazi feeling. The Institute occupies the entire seventh floor of a downtown office building. Its floor space includes an auditorium, a library, a snack bar and lounges, classrooms, and other facilities employed in the Institute's intensive English-teaching program.

The Institute is centrally located in the downtown area and it proved ideal for another reason—its 5,000 volume library became a model laboratory for the library science students. The book collection includes basic reference works—encyclopedias, dictionaries, yearbooks, and other tools studied in the course. The library served in other ways to provide laboratory experience for the students.

Library science had first been offered in Brazil some forty years ago. A school for the training of librarians was set up at the National Library in Rio de Janeiro about the time of the first World War. For many years this school has provided trained librarians for the capital city. São Paulo, center of a most progressive region of Brazil, set the pattern for modern library service in the 1930's when a fine building with more than 20 floors of stacks was built under Dr. Rubens Borba de Moraes, recently named director of the United Nations library. This city, named for St. Paul, showed what Brazilians could do. They began at once the co-ordination of all municipal library services and facilities, becoming in a short time one of the few Latin-American cities to become a model of modern library services. A library school was also opened in São Paulo, which has made major contributions in training people locally for library positions in that great metropolis.

Library schools, duplicating the original core curriculum in library economy developed in the United States, were founded in two or three other cities of Brazil. The country is vast, however, and graduates usually found employment near home, and cities lacking such schools were left without trained personnel. Not nearly enough personnel has been trained for service in the more than 3,000 libraries recently registered in a census taken by the National Book Institute of Rio de Janeiro. Many of these

libraries are located in state capitals and other large cities in the western and southern states—such as Paraná—which are getting off to a late start in training people for their library jobs.

The library course which we initiated in Curitiba in March 1953 ran the full academic year, conforming in all respects to the regulations of the University of Paraná, ending about the middle of December. Graduation ceremonies were held at the University in the Salon Nobre of the College of Engineering, with the presence of the United States Consular Agent, Dr. Francisco M. Albizú, who had been a patron of the course throughout. A fine group of alert and ambitious young librarians has been prepared through this joint effort of the governments of the United States and the State of Paraná.

During the second semester of 1953 a short and intensive course was offered for the special benefit of teacher-librarians. Taking advantage of the period set aside in the regular course for the students to do "practice work" and observation in specially-chosen libraries, the teaching staff conducted an intensive program of lectures and laboratory exercises in which nearly eighty persons participated. These students came from the states of Paraná and Santa Catarina and represented both primary and secondary schools; several were employees of Paraná's ministry of education who work with schools.

Films and film strips were employed in both courses, and particular emphasis was given to exercises which enable students to learn by doing. A number of sessions were given over to work in the state library, where students sorted and classified pamphlets and other publications, cataloged, and classified unprocessed material under supervision. Students held several round table discussions, which were recorded and broadcast as part of the cultural program honoring the state's centennial.

Teaching was handicapped to a certain extent by the paucity of material in Portuguese. Two of the basic tools of cataloging and classification have been adapted and translated into the language of Brazil. A number of supplementary instructional materials also exist in Spanish which can be used with little difficulty by those who know Portuguese. However, Brazilian library majors today are in much the same situation as that of Latin-American students of medicine a generation or two ago who were obliged to learn French because so much of the fine material was available to them then only in French. It is surprising that funds in a small amount have not been set aside by some internationally-minded person with an eye for tax exemp-

tions, who recognizes the opportunities in translating into Portuguese and Spanish some of the basic library science texts existing only in English. A major contribution could be made to the cause of learning and of good neighborliness by a joint co-operative translation project, if a patriotic Oklahoman should step forward with such funds.

Although Brazil is larger in area than the United States, its population numbers scarcely one-third that of our country. Its known natural resources are vast; much of the country, however, has not yet been mapped or studied by specialists. Brazil's total potentialities are not known. Co-operative projects, such as the joint United States-Brazilian commission now at work in the Amazon area, are searching out products and resources of mutual value to the two countries. Under the Point Four Program co-operative agricultural projects are going forward in several of the Brazilian states. One day these efforts will bring about a closer dovetailing of Brazil's products with our needs, producing greater agricultural interdependence between the two great nations.

Everywhere one goes in Brazil one finds a deep curiosity and sincere interest in the United States. The American specialist in Brazil must be always on call. It is an experience which must be something like that of the professional man in early-day Oklahoma towns. The American abroad must conduct a sort of one-man informational bureau on the United States. There is great interest in American manufactured products, by Brazilians who are thinking of possibilities as local agents of our firms which are not as yet represented. Students in the Brazilian universities, still largely decentralized into the particular faculty or school in which they may be studying, are curious about American campus life. Architecture and building, fields in which Brazilians have made notable contributions, stimulate about as many questions as one hears concerning transportation, highway construction, and the American automobile industry.

The people of Curitiba demonstrate in many ways their desire to be good neighbors. They celebrate Pan-American Day, which in 1953 was marked with appropriate ceremonies at the Catholic Faculty of Philosophy. The archbishop of Curitiba presided at an evening program where the writer discussed the library of American universities as an instrument of inter-American solidarity. Noticeable interest was aroused among teachers and students

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(4) Wider spacing of wells has made it possible to get commercial production out of fields with small per-acre recoveries.

(5) Longer life for wells and reduced producing costs have added greatly to the recovery of oil.

Those are all impressive achievements. Yet the unasked and unanswered problems in petroleum engineering still remain legion. And the solution of many of these problems may very well become a matter of economic necessity. It is estimated, for instance, that out of all the oil found in the United States from 1859 to date, some 40 to 60 billion barrels cannot be recovered by any method or process now in use. This fact alone should spur us to technical efforts several times greater than the efforts we have been able to muster in the past.

As for working conditions, the young engineer will find that reasonable work schedules are usually the rule. Because of the nature of the service he renders, however, the engineer is not inclined to be clock-conscious.

The physical demands on a petroleum engineer are certainly not extreme. Extremely aggressive and effective safety programs prevail throughout most of the major oil-producing organizations. Many oil companies also have relatively liberal benefit programs covering such items as vacations, savings plans, retirement, sickness and accident benefits, and so on.

Much has been written and said about what industry expects of the engineer. Most of the desirable qualities in an engineer are traits that make for success in any field of endeavor, and they are neither unreasonable nor difficult to acquire. To mention a few:

The engineer should have a fundamental interest in the work he is doing. He should have a sound educational background. He should have vision, which entails the ability to anticipate problems and solutions. He should have character and integrity. He should be skilled in human relations, which is just another way of saying he should be able to work as a member of the team. He should have tenacity—the ability to take defeat and still stay in there and pitch. And he should have drive—the will to get things done.

If he has those qualities, he will make his mark not only as an engineer but also as a leader. General George Patton once remarked that an army is like a piece of cooked spaghetti. You'll never move it very far, he said, by standing behind and pushing. You have to get out front and pull it. In many ways, that same principle holds true in the business world.

I should like to repeat, in conclusion, something I have told young engineers before:

For the engineer who can meet the requirements of modern industry, for the man who can accept and carry responsibility, there will always be great rewards—rewards both in the material things of life and in the spiritual satisfaction that comes from creative endeavor. And there will be no dead-ends to his career. He can move as far as his abilities and his personal qualities will carry him—and this often means into the ranks of top management.

But whether he accepts the responsibility of management or elects to remain an engineer must depend on the person himself. There are men—Kettering is an example—whose basic challenge is to continue as an engineer. Somewhere down the line each engineer must analyze his own ability and decide whether he wants to work through people as a manager or stick to reducing theories to practical use.

The important thing is for the engineer to find his own place in society—to find the place where his peculiar talents can accomplish the greatest good. His recompense will be not only in monetary returns but also in the more soul-satisfying rewards of universal respect and admiration.

A Sooner's Impressions

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of English in a series of sketches on American poets, which I developed in co-operation with a bi-lingual colleague of the state library, Miss Theresa de Amorim. English and Portuguese interpretations of representative works of American poets were recorded at these meetings and later broadcast.

Assignments to collaborate in a foreign cultural project, although particularly enjoyable to the recipient of such an invitation, must be justified on a high plane of technical need and as a contribution to international good will. The need for technical assistance in the Latin-American nations in certain fields is high. Their strong local support of projects involving technical assistance leaves no doubt as to their friendly receptivity. Thorough intelligent co-operation, when it is requested and when our country can provide it in an atmosphere of mutual give and take, can greatly strengthen other ties with the sister republics of the Western Hemisphere.

Brazil, our biggest neighbor and most constant ally, is currently buying about 34% of her imports from us. The United States is taking about 54% of Brazil's exports. We have been taking over 60% of Brazil's total coffee export. Some 53% of the foreign investments in Brazil represents

United States capital. Brazil has twice allied herself with us in world wars. Her people are friendly. This friendship is vital to us. It was a personal pleasure and privilege to have had, for a few brief months, the opportunity of contributing to the cause of good relations through the library-science program at Curitiba in Brazil's newest state. It was a pleasant surprise to discover that Paraná in 1953 bore such striking resemblance to Oklahoma and the Sooner spirit.

Greater Role for States

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evolving social and economic problems. They have at times, perhaps, impeded the convenient and prompt execution of national policy. But these limitations, obvious because of their nature and the immediacy of their impact, ought to be weighed carefully against the less dramatic, long term advantages of our federal system. It could be shown, I believe, that this system has served as an important restraint upon impulsive, opportunistic, or violent leadership in Washington. And it is highly probable that, in this manner, it will serve us again.

Thomas Jefferson, after citing other defenses, concluded that "... the true barriers of our liberties are our state governments" There may be many, in view of our experiences, who will question the soundness of this early observation. But to others, it would seem a grave misfortune should the time ever come when we may look to but one capital for a redress of our grievances, or an expression of our political convictions. The test of our federal system lies not altogether in the prestige, the power and glory, of the central government but in the vitality and effectiveness of the States and their local units.

HISTORY REPEATS ITSELF

From the regulations concerning the behavior of audiences at the theatre in Cincinnati, May 1, 1830:

III. The practice of cracking nuts, now abandoned in all well regulated Theatres, should be entirely avoided during the time the curtain is up; as it must necessarily interfere with the pleasure of those who feel disposed to attend to the performance.

Frances Trollope, *The Domestic Manners of the Americans* (1832); ed. by Donald Smalley. New York, 1949. Page 133, note 5.

Ever crunched popcorn or goobers at the cinema?