The Cooperative Technical

THE Point Four program of bilateral projects in Brazil to which the United States contributes funds and technical services operates under activity authorizations totaling ..... $3,700,000 for fiscal year 1953; expenditures may be considerably less, since not all projects are in full operation. The value of the projects of course, is many times that of the United States contribution, due to Brazilian contributions in cruzeiros and facilities.

These various projects, in which technicians from many United States departments and agencies participate, are drawn together under The Institute of Inter-American Affairs, the regional agency in Latin America for the Technical Cooperation Administration, under the Department of State. The projects have as their planning and programming body in Brazil the Joint Brazil-United States Economic Development Commission.

The Commission is composed of a Brazilian and a United States section, each with a president and a staff of technical advisors. The Commission has divided its organization into sub-commissions for such fields of high priority as railroads, electric power, water transport, agriculture, and technical assistance. In addition to its function as the planning and programming body for the bilateral Point Four projects, the Commission conducts an investment program of basic significance: more than the equivalent of one billion dollars will be called for in the years immediately ahead.

FINANCING

About 70 per cent of the program will be financed from tax funds specially created by Brazil for this purpose. Between 30 and 35 per cent will be financed by the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development and the Export-Import Bank of Washington. These credits will be on a 15 to 20-year basis, carrying approximately 4-1/2% interest. Over the amortization period Brazil will pay between 96 and 120 million dollars in interest to the two institutions so that the cost of the United States section of the Joint Commission can hardly be considered as an expense to the United States.

The Commission celebrated its first anniversary last July. In not much more than a year, loans granted by the banks total approximately $118,800,000; in addition, many more millions of cruzeiros will be provided from tax funds to be administered by the new Brazilian Development Bank.

JOINT COMMISSION

Furthermore, the Commission has completed work on many other projects involving millions of dollars and millions of cruzeiros now under consideration by the banking institutions. And, finally, many other proposed projects are being studied by the Commission, all adding up to an integrated program of projects under priority for economic development of the whole country, including transportation, power generation, port improvements and dredging, agricultural equipment, and industrial expansion.

As the planning and programming body for Point Four, the Commission is concerned with technical cooperation in the fields of health, welfare and housing; education, agriculture, geology, mining, public administration, labor productivity, and a vast program of technical training in these and other fields. The president of the United States Section of the Commission acts as director of technical cooperation for IIAA and TCA. Personnel totaled 2,348 in a recent summary: Joint Commission — 24 United States technicians and staff members and 12 Brazilians on the United States payroll, with 207 paid by Brazilian funds; United States program direction under the country director together with administrative services — 12 United States citizens and 35 Brazilians on United States payroll; agriculture and natural resources — 20 United States and one Brazilian on United States payroll, and 181 on Brazilian payrolls; health, welfare and housing — 22 United States and five Brazilians on United States payroll, and 1,741 Brazilians on joint-fund payrolls; education — 10 United States and 10 Brazilians on the United States payroll and 50 on joint-fund payroll; public administration — two United States and one Brazilian on United States payroll and 11 Brazilians paid by funds of cooperating agencies; and regional technicians, three United States and one Brazilian on United States payrolls.

Point Four cooperation can be described in terms of "services" or joint agencies, and by projects, including the training program as a unified operation.

THE SESP

Among services, the most extensive is the pioneer, SESP, the Special Public Health Service which in 1952 celebrated its 10th anniversary. An outgrowth of wartime needs for better health and sanitation in strategic areas of mutual concern to allied nations, SESP's operations are wide-spread, with the principal centers of activities in the Amazon, Rio Doce, and São Francisco valleys and the states of Bahia, Paraiba, Pernambuco, and Minas Gerais; also, various types of assistance have been rendered to many other parts of the country. Major activities include construction and operation of health centers, subposts, hospitals, laboratories and mo-

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Assistance Program IN BRAZIL . . .

bile dispensaries on launches; construction of water-supply and sewerage systems, and other sanitation works; studies in control of diseases such as yaws, filariasis, and schistosomiasisa, improvement of health services; conduct of an extensive health, education program, and operation of training courses for various types of health and sanitation workers.

The training of Brazilians in public health has been provided in two ways: local training in Brazil includes courses and scholarships given for professional and auxiliary personnel numbering more than 2800 doctors, engineers, nurses and auxiliaries; and training in the United States has been given to more than 250 Brazilians, with 15 more requested for the Fiscal Year 1953. The current SESP-IIAA budget includes 154,000,000 cruzeiros (18.72 to US$1) from Brazilian sources and $300,000 plus United States personnel costs from the United States.

EDUCATION

In education, there are two service-type programs budgeted One is CBAI, the joint industrial vocational service, which has been active since 1948. This program involves a joint effort to improve the national system of industrial education centering around 23 federal industrial vocational schools. Its objectives include: teacher training, preparation and distribution of improved instructional material; modernization and improvement of shop organization and management practices; and establishment of a system for vocational guidance.

Under an agreement signed by Brazil and the United States in June of 1952, CABER, a new service for rural elementary education, calls for a staff of eight United States employees and five local employees assisting the Ministry of Education to provide an adequate educational system for rural people, including: operation of a model teacher-training institution; in service teacher training; preparation of adequate instructional material; and administration at the national and local level. The necessity for this program is the high percentage of illiteracy in the rural section of the republic and inadequacy of the existing traditional school programs to improve this serious condition which constitutes an obstacle to development efforts.

Another project in the field of education is the agreement with SENAI, the privately sponsored national service for apprenticeship and industry training. this agreement calls for four technicians to assist in instructing and demonstrating textile equipment and to make a survey of future requirments.

OTHER PROJECTS

Another joint service is the "Escritório de Produtividade Industrial," the industrial productivity center for medium and small industries, which was launched with the signing of a basic agreement in October. Both governments are to contribute money and other facilities, with the United States providing technicians to help medium and small business find ways to improve production by more efficient operations.

Other Point Four projects in Brazil include:

AGRICULTURE

Fazenda Ipanema: Technicians from the United States Department of Agriculture have been assisting this training center in the state of São Paulo to do two jobs basic to agriculture, and therefore economic development of the huge country.

ONE — The training of "agronomos" or agriculturalists in farm mechanization;

TWO — Training of tractor drivers, including maintenance of equipment.

Vicosa: At the rural university of the state of Minas Gerais, a contract originally arranged by the United States Department of Agriculture with Purdue University has launched two significant programs:

ONE — The first school of home economics at the collegiate level in Brazil.

TWO — A farm extension service of the land-grant college type.

A by-product of the presence of American technicians on this first-rate agricultural training center is further technical assistance in such projects as the traditional "week of the farmer," which draws thousands of dirt farmers from the area each year to help improve methods and raise the rural standard of living.

Rubber: Exchange and research in propagation and production of disease-resistant rubber strains, in the states of Pará and Bahia, with technical advisors from the United States Department of Agriculture.

One technician in Belém is charged with improving strains; another at Belterra helps propagate the improvements; another man makes Belém his headquarters for encouraging farmers and potential farmers to take advantage of advanced knowledge, banking and development facilities, all Brazilian; and another man in Bahia is working with growers in that important area in a similar task to adapt improvements to defeat the disastrous leaf blight which plagues Brazil beyond such difficulties in other rubber-growing sections of the world.

Geological Survey: This cooperative program of providing technical help is carrying on work begun in 1940 between the United States Geological Survey and the DNPM, the Brazilian Department of Mineral Production. Except for investigations of the manganese deposits in the territory of Amapá in 1948 and the bauxite in Poços de Caldas in Minas Gerais in 1952, the iron and manganese investigation in Minas has been the principal project for the USGS in Brazil since 1945. It is a long-range project and may require as much as eight years to complete the field work. Five U. S. geologists are now on the project, so important to basic development.

ADVICE

Mining. In addition to the Minas investigation to evaluate deposits of iron and manganese in their geologic setting, cooperation in mining includes the assignment of an engineer from the United States Bureau of Mines working with DNPM on special problems as they arise.

Public Administration: Two technical advisors are assisting the new Brazilian "Board of Advisors on Technical Cooperation in Public Administration" to set priorities and achieve objectives being set in the fields of public administration at the federal, state and local levels. Already some 20 problems are being considered, ranging from the drought-struck northeast, to traffic problems in the populous capital of Rio de Janeiro.

Training: Current technical trainees now in the United States include railroad leaders, specialists of DASP, the combined Brazilian federal civil service and budget agency, and professors of public administration from the Getulio Vargas Foundation. The country-wide program committee of Point Four projects is at work processing as many as 222 trainees in this fiscal year, should funds be found available to increase the present original authorization for 97, thus indicating the need and importance attached to this basic phase of national development.

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