

Mss.

A Klink, John J., Jr. 1840-1892
K65 Papers. 1861-1987. .33 cu.ft.

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Newspaper clippings, 1892,
1965-1967, no date

DEAD AT RIO JANEIRO

A Louisville Man Becomes a Coffee Planter and Dies Possessed of Considerable Wealth.

Marries a South American Lady, Who Inherits His Accumulations Solely, and Is Left Childless.

REMEMBERED AT HOME.

Mrs. Elizabeth Klink, widow of the late John Klink, who was the junior partner of the old-time jewelry firm of Vogt & Klink, Third street, now residing at 525 East Gray street, received news yesterday of the death of her son, Mr. John J. Klink, at his coffee plantation, near Rio Janeiro, South America, on March 24. Deceased was 52 years old, married, but there are no children left to mourn his loss.

Mr. Klink left Louisville twenty-five years ago, to east his fortune in South America, and after purchasing a fine plantation began the culture of coffee, at which he proved an unequalled success. He then married a native of that country and has always flourished finely, until attacked with the fatal illness (supposed to be yellow fever) that caused his death. His estate is valued at from \$100,000 to \$150,000, all of which will go to his widow.

John J. Klink was born and raised in Louisville, living in the East End, and received his education under the late Prof. Browder, at the Floyd and Chestnut-street school.

When the tocsin of the late war sounded he cast his lot with the South, joining the Third Georgia Cavalry, serving during the entire war and surrendering at Washington, Ga., June, 1865. He then returned home and engaged in business with Julius Barkhouse, but while there made up his mind to emigrate to Rio Janeiro, which he did, and never returned. He was a brother-in-law to Mr. Jerry B. Collins, of the Louisville Water Company, and Mr. Wm. Kline, the well-known Fourth-avenue confectioner. There are many men in business circles who knew him well, particularly residents of the eastern portion of the city.

The remains were laid to rest at his adopted home, and the grief-stricken mother, who is extremely old, is accepting her loss as complacently as possible.

The senior Mr. Klink and his partner, Mr. Vogt, once had a very fine jewelry store at one side of what is now the Turf Exchange, while the late Wm. Kendrick had his fine store on the other, and the public used to think the two firms were rivals, but they both prospered flourishingly.

A Credit to Third Street.

Early tomorrow morning a large force of men will begin tearing away buildings 415 and 417 Third street, to

SUNDAY MORNING, MAY

DIED IN BRAZIL.

A Former Citizen of Louisville and President of the Rio Janeiro Council.

First of a Large Family To Pass Away — Ex-Fireman Joe Baldwin Dead.

Mrs. Elizabeth Klink, who lives at 525 East Gray street, has received information of the death of her son, John J. Klink, at Rio Janeiro. This news will be received with regret in Louisville, where Mr. Klink was well known. He was a brother-in-law of William Klein, the Fourth-avenue confectioner, and of J. B. Collins, of the Water Company. He was born in this city fifty-two years ago, being the eldest of twelve children, seven girls and five boys. Singularly enough, he is the first to die.

Mr. Klink was the son of John J. Klink, of the old jewelry firm of Vogt & Klink. The father died twenty-seven years ago. Mr. Klink grew up in this city, and when the war came on fought for the South. He was a member of the Third Georgia Cavalry. Immediately after the war he became a drummer for Barkhouse & Co., and soon made a large acquaintance, both in this city and throughout the State. He did not remain at this long, and but a year or so after he had taken off his gray uniform left with a party of civil engineers for Brazil. He liked that country, married, settled down, and ultimately went into the coffee-growing business there. He was successful, and leaves a fortune to his wife. He had no children. He owned a large plantation near Rio Janeiro. Soon after the recent trouble in Rio Janeiro Mr. Klink was elected President of the City Council. It has not yet been learned exactly when Mr. Klink died or of what he died.

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Aus dem Leben geschieden.

John J. Klink nahe Rio de Janeiro gestorben.

Ableben eines geachteten hiesigen deutschen Bürgers.

Aus Rio de Janeiro in Brasilien traf gestern hier die Nachricht ein, daß Herr John J. Klink, ein Louisviller, dort auf seiner in der Nähe der Stadt belegenen Farm am 24. März aus dem Leben schied. Die Trauerkunde, welche an die Mutter des Verstorbenen, die in 525 Ost-Graystraße wohnende Frau Elizabeth Klink, gerichtet war, traf die hochbetagte Dame schwer. Seit 25 Jahren hatte sie gehofft, ihren Erstgeborenen noch einmal sehen zu können, und häufig hatte er in seinen Briefen ihr dieses freudige Ereignis in Aussicht gestellt. Der grimmige Schnitter, welcher unerwartet an ihn herantrat, hat alle Hoffnungen des Mutterherzens mit einem Schnitte vernichtet.

Herr John J. Klink wurde hier im Jahre 1840 geboren, verlebte seine Jugendjahre hier und wurde, als er das Jünglingsalter überschritten, Geschäftsreisender für die Firma Barkhouse & Co. Als der Krieg ausbrach, trat er in die südlische Armee ein und diente während desselben mit Bravour im 3. Georgia Kavallerie-Regiment. Sobald der Krieg beendigt war, begab er sich nach Rio de Janeiro und ließ sich dort dauernd nieder. Seine Unternehmungen waren von Erfolg begleitet; er erwarb sich eine werthvolle Plantage in der Nähe dieser Stadt, verheirathete sich mit der Tochter einer angesehenen Familie und erfreute sich eines solchen Ansehens, daß er für einen Termin zum Präsidenten des Councils in Rio de Janeiro erwählt wurde.

Obwohl es ihm in der Fremde sehr gut erging, hatte er, wie bereits angedeutet, doch den sehnlichsten Wunsch, noch einmal nach der Heimath zurückzukehren, um seine betagte Mutter und Geschwister zu sehen. Stets kamen Hindernisse dazwischen, und so blieb er unersfüllt. Zahlreiche Schulkameraden und Freunde werden sich beim Lesen dieser Zeilen seiner wieder erinnern, obwohl ein Vierteljahrhundert seit seiner Abreise verschwunden ist. Außer seiner Mutter hinterläßt Herr Klink hier von näheren Verwandten mehrere Brüder und Schwestern. Herr J. B. Collins von der Louisville Wasserwerksgesellschaft und Herr William Kline sind Schwäger des Verstorbenen.

Chas. Muehl.

Slice of the South flourishes in Brazil

AMERICANA, Brazil (AP) — The conversations often are in English — and with a Southern accent — but on the Fourth of July in this little bit of Dixie in Brazil there aren't any fireworks or picnics.

"We keep our values and traditions but July 4 isn't a holiday in Brazil," said Judith MacKnight Jones, a descendant of an Alabaman who fled the South in the aftermath of the American Civil War and settled here 116 years ago.

Others like him came from Georgia, Mississippi, the Carolinas, Tennessee and Texas and settled Americana to grow cotton and watermelons.

JONES, 66, speaks with a drawl, but it is tinged with a Brazilian accent. And her husband, Jim, symbolizes the way the South has blended into Brazil: His family came to grow cotton but he now raises water buffalo.

"We speak English at home but we're Brazilian. My mother country is Brazil. My grandmother country is the United States," said Mrs. Jones.

She is the historian of the immigration from America. An English translation of her book, *Soldier Rest — A North American Epic Under Brazilian Skies*, is being prepared.

After a lunch topped with Brazilian papaya and a specialty of the Deep South, sweet potato pudding, the Joneses sat in the living room of their brick bungalow.

They talked about their Confederate forefathers:

IN THE 1860s, the emperor of Brazil, Dom Pedro II, cultivated dreams of Brazil as the world's cotton country. He invited the Americans who made cotton king in the South to come to Brazil, where slavery was still legal. Several thousand decided to try.

Records are imprecise, but Mrs. Jones said at least 3,500 made the trip.

"They were lawyers and doctors and professional people, many of those immigrants, but they were destitute. They came here and picked up an ax and started clearing land," Mrs. Jones said.

About 80 percent returned to the United States, and the only successful settlement was Americana, in southeastern Brazil, 75 miles north of the city of Sao Paulo.

IN 1866, Col. William Hutchinson Norris, Mr. Jones' great-grandfather, came to this partially settled region because its rolling hills and soil were similar to his home in Selma, Ala. He stayed and sent for his family.

They were joined both by settlers who had failed in other parts of Brazil and by more U.S. emigrants. Mrs. Jones estimates a permanent community of 100 families flourished.

The Confederates taught the Brazilians how to cultivate cotton and today the country is a major world producer.

Americana, now with a population of 122,000, is the heart of the country's textile industry, producing a major part of the \$1 billion worth of cloth exported each year.

COTTON WASN'T the Confederates' only contribution. They planted pecan trees and watermelon. The settlers also introduced the iron plow and the harrow to Brazil.

But Mrs. Jones said she considers the cultural contributions the most important.

The Southerners — Baptists, Methodists and Presbyterians — spread their faith, and Americana is today a Protestant stronghold in Roman Catholic Brazil.

The settlers also built schools, laying the basis for what is now Mackenzie University. Today, Americana has one of the highest literacy rates in Brazil.

Confederates who hoped to 'rise again' in South America

[1960's]

By Thomas E. Griffin

IT WAS MORE than a century ago that a band of foreign colonists arrived at the tiny Amazon river port of Santarem.

They were from the southern United States, fleeing from the turmoil brought on by four years of civil war. In a month of travel from the Gulf coast of Alabama to the Brazilian settlement, the colonists had come 5,000 miles. But the distance could be measured in more than months and miles; the contrast between Alabama and Amazonia in 1867 was perhaps as great as any one could imagine.

In the late 1860s, 10,000 emigrants packed their bags and followed immigration agents into Mexico, Venezuela, Nicaragua, Brazil, and other Latin American nations, most of which were still cleaning up the devastation of their own internal strife.

Four thousand of the expatriates headed for Brazil, where slavery was still legal. Some adapted successfully, and their descendants are still there. The colony established at the Amazon River port of Santarem was less fortunate.

To the defeated citizens of the Southern

Confederacy, Brazil loomed as a panacea — a solution that would end suffering once and for all. Conditions in the U.S. South had begun to deteriorate during the final years of the Civil War, and surrender offered little relief. Farms, factories, and cities lay in ruin. Poverty was everywhere. For the colonists led by Lansford Warren Hastings, salvation awaited in the Amazon tropical rain forest.

UNLIKE OTHERS conducting the disenchanted to the shores of Brazil, Lansford

The Saturday column

Warren Hastings had had experience as a successful immigration agent and real estate promoter. Unfortunately, he was also an adventurer with few principles and was something of a huckster. Some 20 years before the Santarem colony episode, his ambition had been to wrest California from Mexico and become head of state there. To attract a following and realize his dream, he had written "The Emigrants' Guide to Oregon

and California" in 1845. It had been this guide, along with his personal direction, that had prompted the California-bound Donner Party to attempt a winter crossing of the Sierra Nevada Mountains. The result: one of the West's most infamous disasters; the cold and lack of food forced the emigrants to cannibalize their fallen comrades.

Hastings's taste for grandiose schemes had also involved him in the cause of Confederate independence. Although not a Southerner, he had proposed to lead 5,000 gray-coated soldiers in an attack on the Southwest. His talents as a guide would not go to waste either, as the troops were to be brought in as a fictitious Mexican Immigration Society. However, the war ended without implementation of the plan. For Hastings, the armistice brought a new opportunity to promote immigration to new places; a destroyed land and a defeated people combined with a seemingly attractive outlet, the unsettled Amazon Valley.

AFTER SIX MONTHS and 10,000 miles of travel in Brazil, Hastings returned to the South with a colonizing contract in hand and rapidly assembled his notes for the publica-

tion of his second book, "The Emigrants' Guide to Brazil" (1867). It was less a guide than an advertisement meant to serve as a catalyst for the discontented. Although somewhat more accurate than his earlier guide to the far Western U.S., the work is laced with error and exaggeration. Hastings brushed aside concern that adjustment to the tropics would be difficult. Pointing out that the transition to the radically different environment took "30 minutes," the promoter assured the reader: "Without capital and with very little labor, the immigrant can at once secure a climatic competency."

By July 10, 1867, Hastings had persuaded 110 persons to set out for Santarem. As few could afford the cost of the voyage (about \$110 a passenger), they sailed courtesy of the government of the State of Para. Their ship, the iron side-wheeler Red Gauntlet, provided less than luxurious accommodations.

When the group landed in the Virgin Islands for refueling, Clement Jennings, who was on board, wrote that the "the plans all went wrong. It seemed that Hastings did not

Continued on page 17

MRS. KLINK DEAD.

Mrs. Elizabeth Klink, widow of the late J. J. Klink, died of general debility yesterday at her home, 525 E. Gray street. Mrs. Klink was eighty-five years of age, and had been in ill-health for the past year. Her advanced age made her recovery impossible.

ery impossible.

She was born in Hasselhurst, Baden, Germany, March 1, 1816, and came to this country with her parents in 1832.

The year following she married J. J. Klink, a jeweler, and fourteen children resulted from the union.

She is survived by eight children, Mrs. Elizabeth Klein, Mrs. William E. Wilson, Mrs. H. F. Lion, Mrs. J. P. Smith, Mrs. D. Abraham, Mrs. C. W. Frantz, Jr., Mrs. J. B. Collins and Mr. Ed W. Klink.

The funeral will take place from the

residence at 2 o'clock tomorrow afternoon. The interment will be in Cave Hill Cemetery.

PENDENNIS CLUB'S ANNUAL MEETING.

The annual meeting of the Pendenis Club will take place on the evening of November 5. The officers will be elected and a banquet will then follow.

Confederates abroad: An ill-fated emigration to Brazil

Continued from 1st Tempo page

have money to pay off his crew." The U.S. consul ordered the former Confederate gunboat sold to pay the seamen. "That left us stranded, but Hastings managed to get in touch with Brazilian officials and transportation was provided on the regular steamers." In September, 1867, Hastings and the disenchanted Southerners arrived at Santarem, 1,000 miles up the Amazon River.

THE MOOD OF THE colonists was reflected in Jennings' assessment "that something was fishy about the whole business." What greeted the settlers was not what had appeared on the pages of Brazilian travel accounts. Neither did it seem to match the promises found in Hastings' "Guide." To make matters worse, the liberal government provisions agreed to in the colonizing contract had not been implemented. There were no roads, no shelters, no tools, and only six weeks' worth of the promised six-month food supply.

Hastings, who had been more interested in quantity than in quality, recruited a number of ex-soldiers whose chief skills were not in farming but in combat. Night after night, the drunken Civil War veterans brawled in the streets of Santarem. Fortunately for the sake of Santarem, these "roughs" eventually drifted away.

Those who remained were craftsmen and farmers. Balthazar Nelius, a boot-maker from Alabama, was among the first group of Southern expatriates to settle at Santarem in 1867. Nelius found that living and working condi-

tions fell far short of Hastings' claims. One by one members of his family succumbed to fever and dysentery. Even more exasperating to the shoe-maker was his realization that "very few people wear shoes . . . and even this few do not pay for them."

THE INTENTION OF the government of Para was that the Santarem colony be a model for the future immigration of small-scale agriculturists. But even excluding the many unemployed soldiers enlisted by Hastings, some of the immigrants with honorable intentions were not farmers.

Those few who had farmed Southern soil were unprepared for tropical agronomy. Hastings had failed to mention the inevitable agricultural differences. The colonists were confronted with conditions that made their previous experience worthless. Incessant rainfall and the lack of a winter season to kill off disease were but two of them. Ignorance of the marketplace, exacerbated by high tariffs and price fluctuations, created additional obstacles.

The first crops planted were corn and rice rather than cash crops, for the colonists didn't have money to buy their food. Coffee and cacao, with their long gestation periods, were at first out of the question. Those colonists who survived the initial shortages established sugar cane plantations. Even then, customs duties, transportation costs, and declining commodity prices made sugar production uneconomical. They turned to the production of Amazonian white rum, *cachaca*.

Problems were not solely economic. Inadequate leadership was assured as

Hastings soon left to recruit more settlers from the United States. Family tradition has it that he died at sea, but the colonists claimed that it was a case of "a rat abandoning a sinking ship."

Not only were the Portuguese language and the Amazonian culture alien, but fellow colonists were isolated from one another on farms. Women at the colony most readily noted the negative effects of solitude. Perhaps the most difficult adjustment was dietary. Fish replaced ham as protein.

Although most of the immigrants rapidly sank, some like R.H. Riker, former railroad president, Arch Dobbins, former plantation master, and R.J. Hennington, a Methodist minister, managed to overcome the odds. The prosperity of their farming and milling operations was assured by their foresight in arriving with pockets full of money.

UNQUESTIONABLY the most successful Southerner at Santarem was R.J. Rhome. Not only did he benefit from ample funds, but from another factor — slaves. Taking advantage of a Brazilian law that allowed foreigners to own slaves if in joint partnerships with a Brazilian, Rhome built up the "finest plantation on the Amazon."

Rhome's prosperity, the ideal they had all hoped to achieve, was an anomaly. All but 50 of the woefully unprepared colonists abandoned the Brazilian hinterlands. Many moved to Belém. A few drifted south to Sao Paulo to join the most successful Southern immigration undertaking in Brazil, the

colony at Santa Barbara. And some had their wishes to leave fulfilled. By order of Secretary of State Hamilton Fish, U.S. vessels were to take on any destitute immigrants. In the summer of 1869, 50 ex-colonists left for home.

After the initial failure, the colony diminished in numbers but not in accomplishments. In addition to sugar cane, cotton was raised as a cash crop. R.H. Riker's son David married a Brazilian woman. Their 14 children spoke Portuguese. By 1910, David and his brother Herbert had amassed substantial land holdings, including a rubber plantation with 25,000 trees.

In 1925, 12 to 15 colonists were reported living at Santarem. One of the last 20th Century holdouts was Clement Jennings. Lured to the colony as a 16-year-old by Hastings' promise of the "gold to be had," Jennings rolled with the Amazonian boom and bust economy, first as a sugar producer, then as a rubber transport operator, and finally in 1929, as a rancher on a 2,000-acre spread just outside of Santarem.

As late as the 1940s Jennings, David Riker, Herbert Riker, and Amelia Vaughan Machado were reported to be living in Santarem. This would make them in their 80s or 90s — remarkable considering the hardships they had faced. Today, the rain forest has reclaimed the site Hastings selected 115 years ago, leaving only the gravestones on a nearby hillside cemetery to mark the transient presence of the Southerners at Santarem.

Reprinted from *Americas*, a monthly magazine published by the General Secretariat of the Organization of American States in English, Spanish, and Portuguese.

Way Down South of Dixie

Descendants of unreconstructed rebels live in Brazil

By BRUCE HANDLER

AMERICANA, Brazil (AP) — In a small clearing amid the lush farmland of Southeast Brazil stands a stone monument boldly emblazoned with the diagonal crossbars of the U.S. Confederate flag.

A few steps away, in a humble graveyard, lie the remains of sons and daughters of the Old South who left their defeated, battle-ravaged homeland after the Civil War to seek new lives in the tropics.

This is the center of what once was Vila Americana — American Town — Brazil. Here was where, over 100 years ago, American Southerners briefly transplanted the traditional society of prewar Dixie to Latin America.

Reunions Each Three Months

The descendants of those immigrants — Joneses, Gergusons, Carrs — remain in Brazil, some in their fifth generation in this country. Although many speak English, their main language is Portuguese. They are every bit as Brazilian as their neighbors named Silva, Oliveira and Souza.

Brazil's Confederate families assemble here every three months to visit their ancestors' graves and renew old friendships. In a little red brick chapel by the cemetery, a Protestant minister conducts services — in Portuguese — from a pulpit covered with a large Confederate banner.

Later, there is an old-fashioned picnic. Between mouthfuls of fried chicken and chocolate cake, the people swap stories about what life was like in Vila Americana.

After the South fell in 1865, many families decided to leave the country rather than face occupation by the Union Army. Mysterious, romantic-sounding Brazil, which still allowed slavery and was ruled by an emperor, seemed a good place to go.

About 2,000 Southerners emigrated to Brazil in 1866-67 and founded outposts in areas ranging from the Amazon jungle to Parana state, not far from Paraguay and Argentina. Most of those early settlements failed. Frustrated and usually



Associated Press

A BRAZILIAN Presbyterian pastor, Sylas de Nucci, leads a worship service for descendants of U.S. immigrants before an altar draped with a Confederate flag.

broke, many Americans went back home. Some died in Brazil.

One of the first Southerners successfully to establish himself in the new land was Col. William Hutchinson Norris, a former Alabama state senator, who left his home near Selma in 1865 and bought a 600-acre farm in Sao Paulo state.

Norris grew cotton, rice, corn and vegetables. He made money, and word of his good fortune spread. New arrivals from the U.S. South bought adjoining property. Other Americans in Brazil

whose earlier colonies had folded also moved to the area. This was the beginning of Vila Americana.

Southerners continued coming to Vila Americana in regular but decreasing numbers until after the turn of the century. Exact records are unavailable but it is estimated that the community had over 500 residents in its heyday.

The general occupation was farming, although some men practiced medicine and a few went into business. The women made cheese or sold eggs to pay for household expenses. Families were large, and nobody was wealthy. There was little contact with the Portuguese, Roman Catholic society of the rest of Brazil.

The living descendants of the Confederate immigrants, however, are not steeped in the ways of the Old South.

"We've quit fighting the war," said James R. Jones, president of the American Descendancy Fraternity, which keeps up the cemetery and chapel and organizes the picnic meetings.

"Why do we have that Confederate flag in the church? Oh, that's just for old times' sake," he said.

Despite the fact that they were mostly humble farmers and relatively few in number, Brazil's Confederate settlers made several important contributions to their adopted country. They are credited with the introduction of the plow and harrow — Brazilian farmers were using only simple hoes at that time — the kerosene lamp, modern school organization, pecans and watermelons — the latter including a juicy variety known as "Georgia rattlesnake."

Americans are said to have fought with Brazil against Paraguay in the war of the Triple Alliance — 1865-1869. One historian notes, however, that the Brazilian army court-martialed and shot two Ameri-

can boys for signing on as mercenaries with Paraguay.

Progress eventually caught up with Vila Americana and assimilated it. In 1874, the Brazilian government began a full-scale immigration drive and opened the nation to millions of Portuguese, Spaniards, Italians and Japanese. Slavery was abolished in 1888. The monarchy toppled a year later.

The Old Ties Remain

Despite strong — often vehement — parental objections, the children and grandchildren of the Confederate settlers started marrying outside their nationality. The younger generations tired of rural life, left Vila Americana and moved to distant cities.

New cultures and new industries poured into the Vila Americana region. The city of Americana was founded in 1924. Today it has a population of 45,000, and an additional 35,000 people live in the surrounding farmland.

But among the American descendants, the ties to Vila Americana remain.

"Those are my parents, and over there is Uncle Marvin," Prudente Mac Knight, 43, director of a Rio de Janeiro finance company, said softly during his latest visit to the Confederate cemetery.

"And when my turn comes, I've left strict instructions. I'm going to be buried here, too."

94X52

Mar 19, 1965

EXILE DIXIE . . . Confederates' descendants live in Brazil

By FRANCIS B. KENT

L. A. Times-Washington Post Service

Americana—On the Fourth of July, a date without significance to most Brazilians, there will be an old-fashioned box-lunch picnic in the piney woods here.

The picnickers, who will dine on such non-Brazilian fare as biscuits, Southern-fried chicken and pecan pie, are as Brazilian as they come—but with a difference.

Their names are Jones, Vaughn, Bryant, Ferguson, Dunn. They are the descendants of Confederate Army men, who, appalled at the prospects of Reconstruction, settled in Brazil just after the American Civil War.

Some still have relatives in Alabama, Georgia, Mississippi and the Carolinas. But their roots are here and some of their children speak only high school English or none at all.

Mrs. James R. Jones, whose great-grandfather was among the first to arrive, still has the soft, slow sound of rural Alabama in her voice. She works at keeping the "Americans" together.

She heads a group that looks after the graveyard where the old colonels and captains are buried. She maintains a museum here and plans to write a history of Americana, the town the rebels built about 70 miles from Sao Paulo.

"It will be difficult," she said. "Written records are scarce."

Historical material on the subject is indeed scarce. In his book, "Bandeirantes and Pioneers," the Brazilian sociologist Vianna Moog says of the immigrants:

"Here is a still incompletely clarified chapter of the history of the two Americas. One might

say a blank chapter, so great is the scarcity of positive data about this strange episode, so great the silence about it."

Even in the Library of Congress, Moog adds, "which overlooks nothing in the way of publications of interest to the United States, not more than a handful of articles can be found" on the subject.

One Of Several Colonies

It is known, however, that Americana was only one of several such colonies in Brazil. Others were started far to the north, in Amazon Country, and in the southern state of Parana, but nothing remains of those.

Americana dates back to 1865, the year Grant and Lee met at Appomattox Courthouse and wrote an end to four long, bitter years of war.

It is known that Col. William

Hutchinson Norris, a former state senator who led an Alabama regiment in battle, turned up here on Dec. 27, 1865. Not long afterward families began to arrive.

Land was cheap and it was remarkably similar to the red-dish soil of home. Cotton would flourish, and it did, along with such alien produce as watermelon and pecan trees.

In all, perhaps 2,000 or 3,000 Americans settled in the rolling hills of Sao Paulo state.

Among them, according to Mrs. Jones, was a freed slave, remembered only as Steve, who produced an enormous number of children.

Today not more than a doz-

en of the original families remain in Americana. The others have either scattered or died out.

Mrs. Jones' daughter, for example, recently married a Syrian immigrant, Najib Akel. The young couple moved to Whittier, Calif., where both hope to continue their studies in chemistry.

Still, the four-times-a-year reunions are generally attended by up to 150 men, women and children. At each meeting a date is set for the next one.

Originally the immigrants were chiefly farmers, as they had been at home. But they went into other pursuits, including manufacturing and

weaving. Mrs. Jones' husband, who says his name is either James or Jaime, "depending on who asks," is a dentist.

Of the possessions brought in by the settlers, little remains. Mrs. Jones has a few items, including a wrought-iron stand for a flatiron, a hand-embroidered blouse and some old photographs.

Among her proudest possession is a photograph, made just before World War I, of nine of the original settlers. They appear in the drooping mustaches or beards they wore as youths when they rode with Jeb Stuart or slogged their way north to Gettysburg with Robert E. Lee.



Americana dates to 1865.

The South Has Risen Again—In Brazil

Confederate colony of Americana plans events to celebrate 100th anniversary

AMERICANA, Brazil — One of the thin old gravestones, worn by weather, in the cemetery near here is for Napoleon Bonaparte McAlpine and it says "Soldier rest! Thy warfare o'er." Another old stone is for Mrs. Beatrice Oliver, who died here in July, 1868, and it's cut on the tablet that she was "born in Georgia, U.S.A."

Mrs. Oliver, Napoleon Bonaparte McAlpine, and many of the others in the cemetery were citizens of the Southern Confederacy who exiled themselves from the United States after the War Between the States, and founded this town, now a prosperous farming and manufacturing community near the industrial metropolis of Sao Paulo.

Americana will commemorate its first centenary in 1966, and the children will hear more than the usual number of stories of the war and the pioneer years of Americana. The first sons of the original families were named Lee. The boys still play a Civil War game, often won by the Confederate side, but the youngster who portrays Jackson or Lee today may have a Portuguese surname.

Climate Like Alabama's

There are McKnights and Bowens, McMullens and Olivers among the 42,000 citizens of Americana, however, and these were the original Confederates who came here to settle nearly 100 years ago in an area which seemed to them to have a climate much like Alabama's. They grew the striped Georgia watermelon, the so-called Georgia Rattlesnake, and it is today a popular product in the Sao Paulo markets, the first watermelon introduced to Brazil.

The chapel in which they worshiped is at The Campus, the farm of Georgians Anthony Oliver and Beatrice E. Oliver, who rest in the Cemetery of the Americans, made from one of the most attractive corners of their farm. Beatrice was the first American to die in the colony.

The chapel is used for regular gatherings by the Confederates' descendants, who come from Santa Barbara, Campinas, Sao Paulo and Rio de Janeiro in addition to Americana.

A museum near the chapel has swords, flags, tintype photos, household articles and other mementos of the Southerners. The mistress of the museum is Julia Norris Jones, whose husband is the grandson of Col. William H. Norris, first leader of the colony at Americana. Col. Norris, born in Oglethorpe County, Ga., Sept. 17, 1800, also lies in the Cemetery of the Americans. He lived until 1893.

There was more than one group of



This boy in Americana, Brazil, has a sword carried by an ancestor in the Civil War.



Unhappy Confederates who immigrated to Brazil following the Civil War built this railroad station in their town of Americana in 1900. The area was a remote farming community when settled 100 years ago.

unhappy Southerners who headed south to Brazil in 1866 after the territory had been reconnoitered by two Confederate officers named William Bowen and Frank McMullen. They secured a land grant at the headwaters of the Juquia River from Brazil's Emperor Pedro II.

Upon the death of McMullen, who was the leader, the immigrants split up into several colonies. Some went back to the United States.

Col. Norris was the first head of the colony at Americana. The first full-time

teacher at Americana was M. M. King, a Yankee from Canton, Ohio, who succeeded in winning the confidence of the Americans.

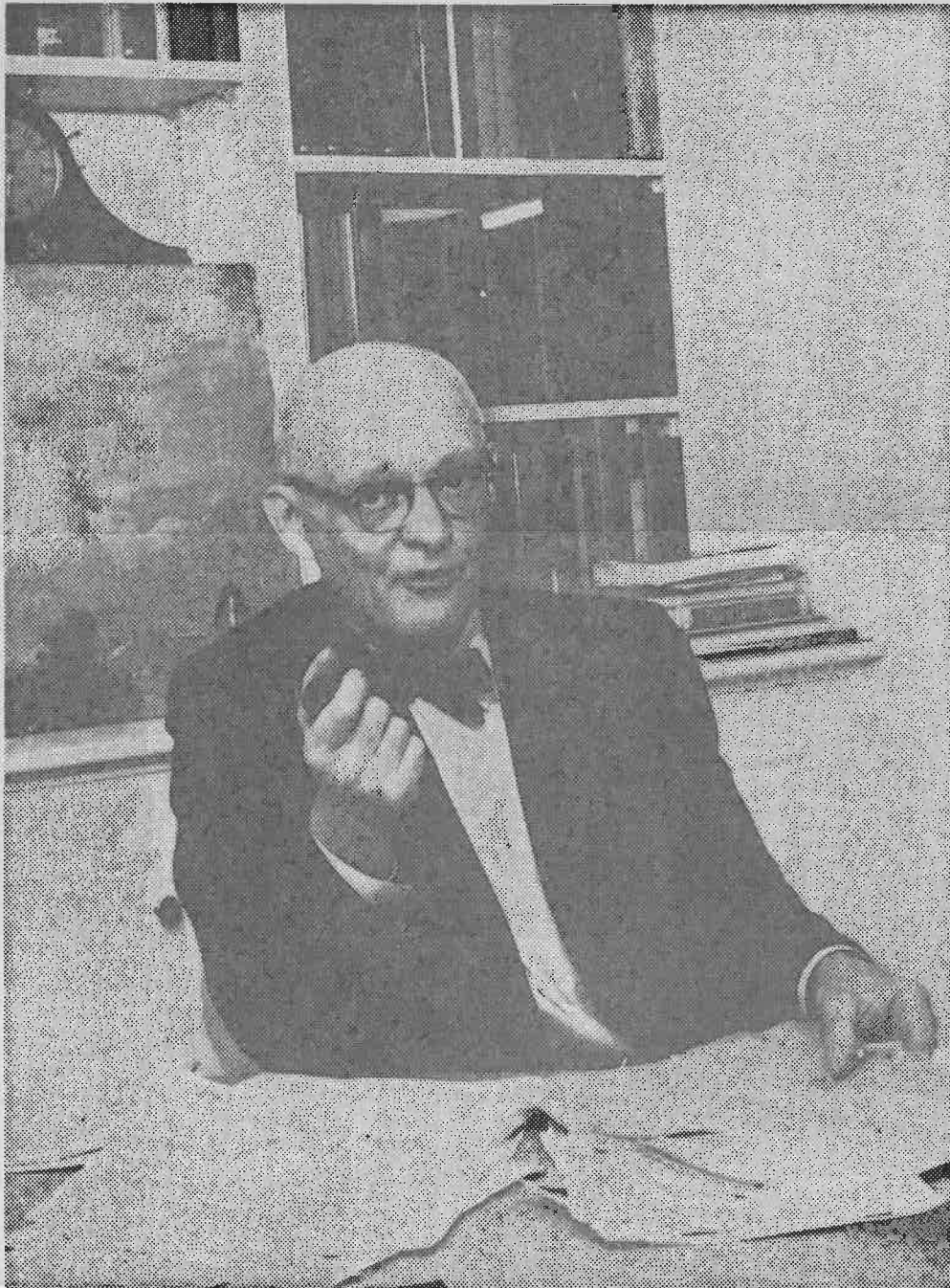
The Georgia watermelons were one of the colony's first money crops. The Southerners, who found the soil and climate similar to their homeland, also met with success in raising coffee, cotton, tobacco and sugar cane. Soldiers of the Confederacy continued to arrive throughout the 1880s, and by the turn of the century the colony was prosperous.

Textile mills and other plants sprang

up in the town during the rapid industrialization of Sao Paulo in the 1930s, and today, the city manufactures textiles, farming tools and tractors.

Members of the new generation were, of course, Brazilian citizens. But ties with the United States remain. Many of the city's younger people go to colleges in the United States and marry there. There are several events being planned for 1966, when Americana will mark its 100th year.

Confederate Emigration Is Hobby



Rockwell Hall Smith Holds Fragile Old Letters, Documents
He Collects Data on Emigration of Southerners After Civil War

Staff Photo



By Emma Livingstone

For the past 15 years, Rockwell Hall Smith has been collecting clues, following leads and filing away facts about Southerners who emigrated to foreign countries after the Civil War.

In a four- or five-year period after the Civil War, between 8,000 and 10,000 Southerners voluntarily exiled themselves and left their homeland in what Smith says is estimated to be one of the largest mass emigrations ever made from the United States.

His current search is for families that may have fled to Canada.

SMITH, OFFICE MANAGER of a local camera shop, is a lineal descendant of three Confederate fam-

Times-Dispatch **Accent on Women**

A-8 Tues., July 25, 1967

ilies that settled in Brazil. He admits he got interested in his hobby almost by accident.

"It all started when a second cousin of mine, King Bookwalter, and I got curious about our Confederate background in Brazil. We felt somehow there was a real danger in losing this heritage unless we made some effort to preserve it," Smith said.

The late Leroy King Bookwalter lived on land he deeded for a Confederate cemetery, chapel and museum a few miles outside of Americana, Brazil.

ONCE SMITH started collecting data, he found the exodus had been to many places besides Brazil.

While it was no mystery why the Southerners left—to escape Reconstruction, where

letter written on tissue-thin paper from a great-grandfather, James Denford Porter, Smith went on to gather stories, reprints, pictures and books on the emigration.

"It's not hard to know why the people fled," said Smith.

Smith points out that while he could find a great deal written in Brazil on the emigration efforts, it took some digging to turn up a comparable amount of concrete information in the United States.

"Those were defeated people," said Smith. "Defeated people seldom keep many records."

However, he has discovered letters, pictures, articles and books containing fascinating tales of pioneering efforts, adventure and hardships.

"WE KNOW THEY settled in Brazil, my home," Smith said. "But there were also settlements made in Venezuela, Honduras, British Honduras and in Mexico. I have a lead in Nova Scotia, which I've never been able to explore."

Those Southerners of less pioneering spirit, who refused to accept the post-war South, simply became expatriates and moved to England, France or Italy.

Among those who emigrated were Matthew Fontaine Maury, Thomas Jefferson Page and his son, Philip Nelson Page, Dr. Henry M. Price of Colonial Heights and R. R. Collier of Petersburg.

MAURY LED THE third and last serious effort to settle in Mexico. A friend of Emperor Maximilian, Maury established a settlement called Carlotta in Tuxpan.

Thomas Jefferson Page, born in Mathews County, was a grandson of Gov. John



Renovated Confederate Memorial Chapel Is In Sao Paulo, Brazil
Confederate Flag Flies at Gate Denoting Origin of the Church

Page and Gov. Thomas Nelson of Virginia. As a naval officer, he explored parts of the LaPlata River in Argentina, the Parana and Paraguay Rivers. When news came that the war was lost, Page was on his way back from Europe. He promptly turned his ironclad, the Stonewall, over to Spanish authorities in Havana, Cuba. For awhile, he lived on a cattle farm in Entre Rios, but the Argentinian government asked him to supervise the building of four ironclads in England. He later retired to Florence in 1870 and died in Rome in 1899.

PHILIP NELSON PAGE, his son, served as a lieutenant under the command of General Robert E. Lee. He also commanded a company of young boys from the Virginia Military Institute, who were slaughtered in the battle of New Market.

Before he left the country in 1865, Page visited Lee to say farewell. He quoted Lee as advising him that he was making a mistake.

Dr. Price and Collier in a widely-publicized venture, elected to colonize a 240,000-square-mile tract in Orinoco Valley in Venezuela, called Price's Grant.

SMITH ESTIMATES that more than 2,000 persons may have settled in Brazil. They were made welcome by Dom Pedro II, who made no bones about the fact he wanted to take advantage of the southern planters' agricultural know-how to develop the

ply disappeared into the crowded harbor towns, but others followed their leaders into far-flung regions, Smith said.

Settlements sprang up in Juiquia, Cananea, Campinas, Santa Barbara, Rio Doce, Lake Juparano, Linhares and in Santarem far up the Amazon.

Some flourished only briefly while others lasted until the turn of the century, but one by one they declined. Only Santa Barbara, now Americana, survived the passing years and intermarriage with the South Americans.

Today, Americana is a town of between 40,000 and 50,000 inhabitants. In December, it celebrated its centennial.

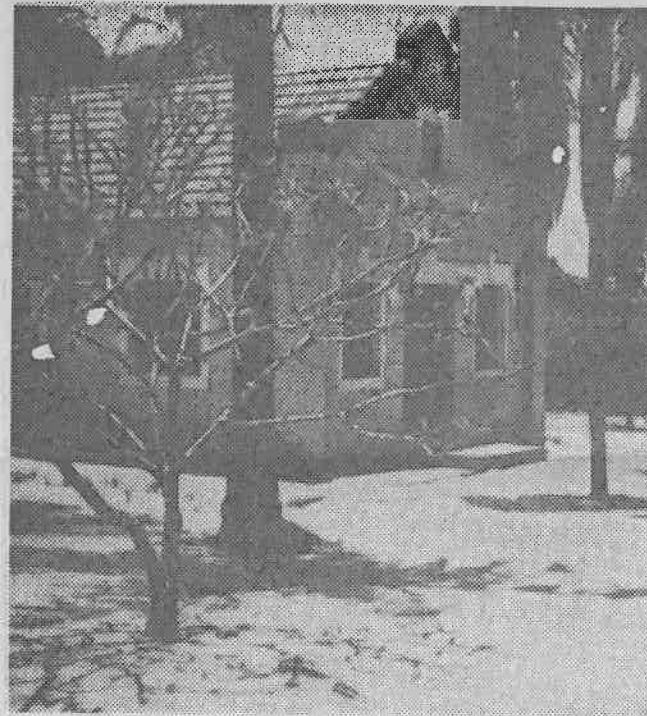
The United Daughters of the Confederacy recently received a request for information from a Mrs. James Jones in Americana on formation of a chapter in the town and for many years

Insured Are Thinner, AMA Article Reports

© New York Times Service
NEW YORK — Insured

data furnished by insurance companies, Seltzer and Meyer question whether this

L. K. Bookwalter Lived in Simple House in Brazil
He Deeded Land for Chapel, Graveyard, Museum



Campo Church Is Located Near Town of Americana
It Is Called Hopewell Church by Americans

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James W. Miller
Southern Pioneer

Chapter to Meet

The Manchester-Richmond Chapter 1078, Women of the Moose, will meet at 8 p.m. today at the chapter lodge, 6100 Midlothian Pike.

FROM HIS OWN family papers, which includes a long

"You collect and keep alert for clues," explained Smith.

His first big find was a long historical article written in 1935 by Professor Lawrence F. Hill of Ohio State University, "The Confederate Exodus to Latin America," which Smith said he found full of valuable leads.

are getting fatter, according to an article in the current issue of the Journal of the American Medical Association.

The authors, Dr. Carl C. Seltzer and Dr. Jean Mayer, write: "The weights of insured persons are not representative of the weights of the general population; they appear to be appreciably lower."

Since many public health theories have been based on

politan Life Insurance Company studies showed weight increases for men between 1941 and 1963, but weight decreases for women, except the very tallest.

On the other hand, they say a comparison between a Department of Agriculture survey of 1939-40 and a Public Health Service survey of 1960-62 shows 5 to 9-pound increases for women of all heights.

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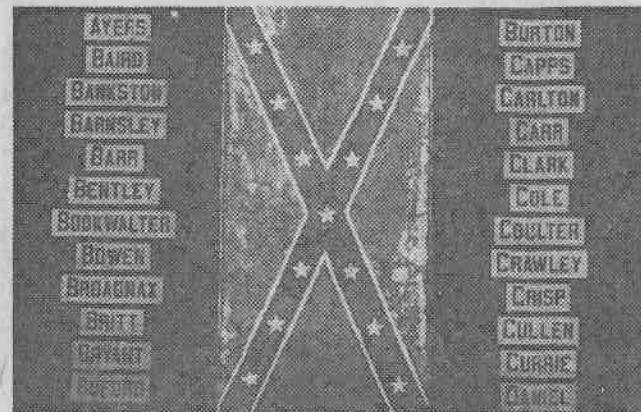
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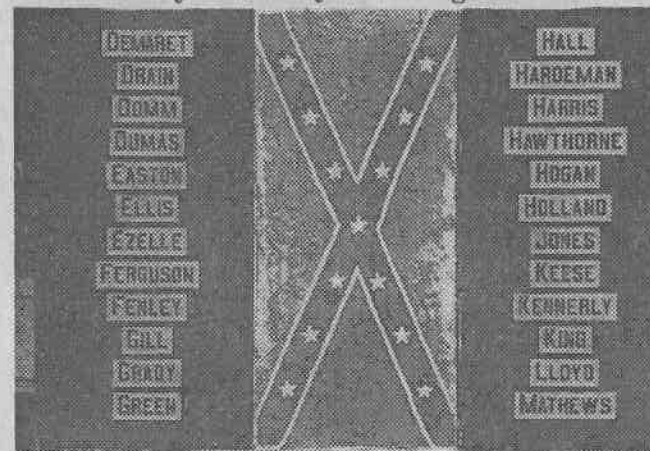
14½ TO 26½



**FIFTH STREET, OPPOSITE
JOHN MARSHALL HOTEL**



Family Names Ayers Through Daniel



Demaret Through Mathews Are Shown

Times-Dispatch *Accent on Women*

B-10 Wed., Nov. 8, 1967

Southerners Started Colony

Latin American Village Tells Story

By Emma Livingstone

After more than 100 years, traces of the many post-Civil War efforts of Southern fami-

lies to colonize outside the United States can still be found in Mexico, Central America and South America.

Today, travelers can find American street names in remote Latin American Villages. Children still play a Confederate game called Lee.

And in the state of Sao Paulo, of Brazil, just outside the town of Americana, is a Confederate park with a Memorial Chapel called Hopewell and a tall monument marking the founding of the settlement in December 1865.

ON THE MONUMENT are

was called the Fazenda Machadinho (which means little hatchet farm)."

The settlement started with 26 families who were personally greeted on their arrival in Rio by Dom Pedro II, according to Smith.

"From the beginning they were determined to recreate their homeland in environment and atmosphere," Smith said.

THEY BROUGHT with them everything they thought they might need. No western-bound wagon train could have looked stranger than the southern people

bors fried chicken, beaten biscuits, ham and other Southern delicacies.

The nondenominational Hopewell Church, according to Smith's research, was built in 1867 and was situated on part of the Bookwalter farm, which originally had belonged to a man named Anthony Oliver. His wife, Beatrice, was the first person buried in the cemetery at Campo, which means field.

SMITH CAN REMEMBER attending basket dinners at the church. In 1955, an aunt, Miss Mary Dillon Hall, the oldest daughter of Charles Moses Hall, wrote to Smith:

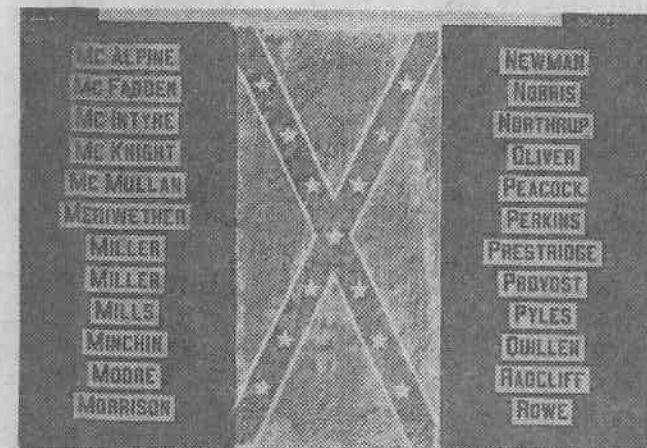
Emerson (now a minister in Cramerton, N.C.), Rockwell and Carolyn (now the wife of the Rev. William Ward) in Columbia, S.C., were privately tutored by their mother, but it was tradition that the boys return to the United States to attend the University of Virginia.

A LONG FRAMED picture of the front lawn of U. Va. hung in the front hall, Smith said.

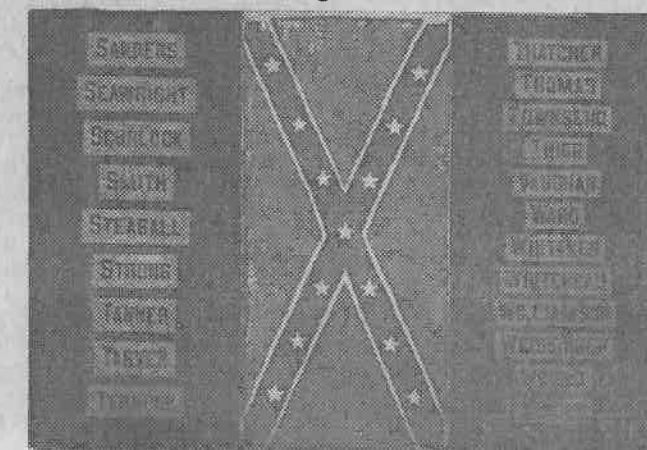
Dr. Smith insisted that his children be bilingual, and they spoke English to each other and Portuguese to their Brazilian friends and the servants. "It was a matter of



Photos From Collections of Rockwell H. Smith of Hanover County and Dr. James Jones of Americana, Brazil
In December 1966, Descendents Dedicated Monument Erected in Front of Church
Jones: 'It Gives Us Renewed Faith in and Devotion to Our Confederate Heritage'



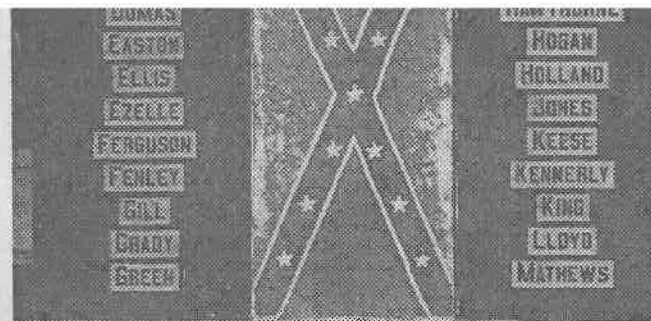
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And Sanders Through Yancey Give Record



James Denford Porter
Civil War Veteran



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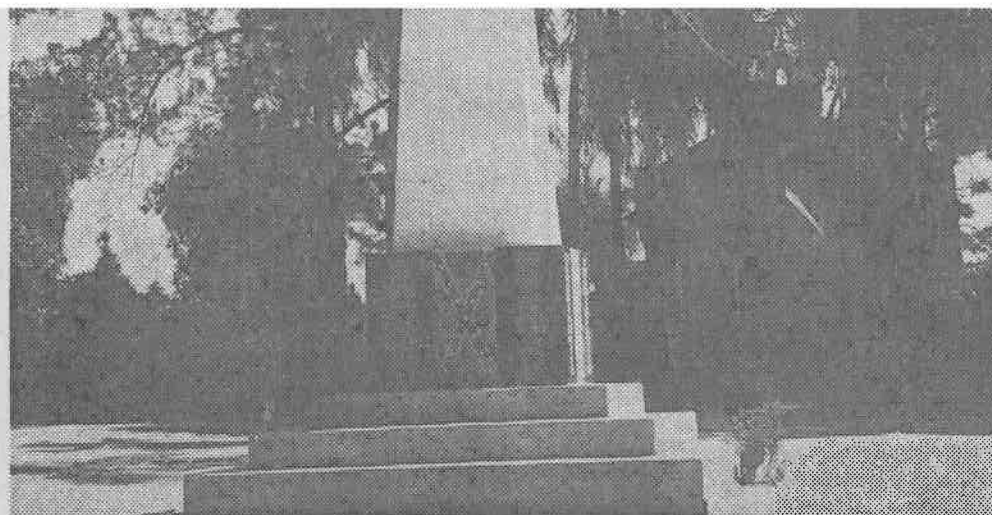
And in the state of Sao Paulo, of Brazil, just outside the town of Americana, is a Confederate park with a Memorial Chapel called Hopewell and a tall monument marking the founding of the settlement in December 1865.

ON THE MONUMENT are listed 94 names of American families who settled there. A city park dedicated to the early Americans is in downtown Americana, which was named Villa Americana, by an Italian — not an American.

Rockwell Hall Smith, a Hanover County man, who was born at Campinas about 20 miles from Americana, has made a hobby of collecting information about this emigration.

He expresses belief that Americana succeeded where other colonies failed because of the careful pre-planning of the settlers, the ideal climate, soil, political stability and the determination of the emigrants to succeed.

"It was all carefully surveyed," he explained. "In the early 1860s, Col. William H. Norris and Dr. Robert Norris of Alabama bought 20 square miles of land on what



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"From the beginning they were determined to recreate their homeland in environment and atmosphere," Smith said.

THEY BROUGHT with them everything they thought they might need. No western-bound wagon train could have looked stranger than the southern people bumping through the Brazilian countryside with the women in buggies. The servants drove the wagons that were loaded with furniture, trunks and farm equipment and the men walked or rode horses.

"One of the settlers was Joseph Whitaker who introduced the Georgia Rattlesnake watermelon to Brazil," said Smith. "It was almost an instant success and became a source of income." One year, however, the entire crop was confiscated because it was suspected of being the cause of yellow fever.

The newcomers are said to have introduced the American-styled plow as well as kerosene to Brazil. They served their Brazilian neigh-

bors fried chicken, beaten biscuits, ham and other Southern delicacies.

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SMITH CAN REMEMBER attending basket dinners at the church. In 1955, an aunt, Miss Mary Dillon Hall, the oldest daughter of Charles Moses Hall, wrote to Smith:

"They (the settlers) all planted cotton and corn and beans and lived happily, never seeing the Brazilians all around them. They went to church in the big plank building and had basket dinners and dances and revivals. . . . Such a lot of happy people."

Smith's father, the late Dr. J. Porter Smith, who was a Presbyterian missionary and faculty member at the Presbyterian Seminary in Campinas, preached there many years.

"Ours was a good life in Brazil," said Smith. "We grew up with a feeling of kinship for the United States and the South, and we kept our heritage."

The Smith children, Warfield of Richmond, Charles

Emerson (now a minister in Cramerton, N.C.), Rockwell and Carolyn (now the wife of the Rev. William Ward) in Columbia, S.C., were privately tutored by their mother, but it was tradition that the boys return to the United States to attend the University of Virginia.

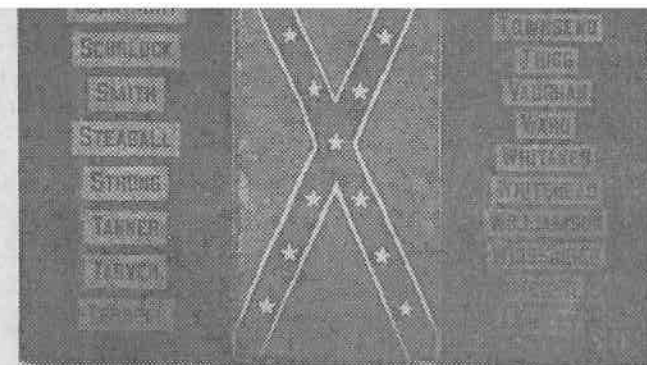
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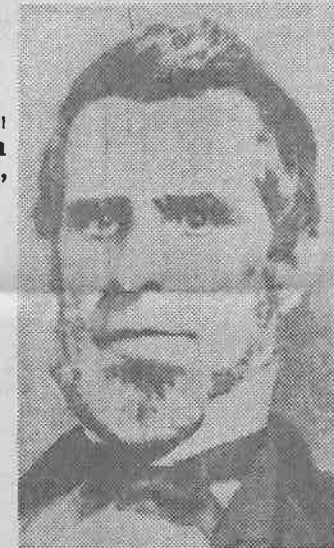
Dr. Smith brought his family to Richmond when he joined the faculty of Union Theological Seminary.

Villa Americana became incorporated Americana in 1938. By 1955, many of the original families had intermarried with Brazilians, and the southern heritage was almost lost. The little chapel on the Campo all but fell into ruins.

However, in December 1954, his cousin Leroy King Bookwalter, and several other descendants, including Dr. James Jones, and his wife Julia Norris Jones, formed the Fraternidade Descendencia Americana and dedicated themselves to preserving their Confederate background.



And Sanders Through Yancey Give Record



James Denford Porter
Civil War Veteran

The lost Confederates

In the 1860s, 7,000 expatriates fled to Belize to carve out a new South — today their descendants live suspended between two cultures

By WILLIAM DUNN

News Staff Writer

"My father and his contemporaries had this intense dislike for the Union. This was passed on to me. My people were landowners. My aunts talked bitterly about the fires the Yankees set, the crops the Union troops burned as they moved through. Above all, we were Southerners, proud Confederates. This was drilled into me. I always felt I would stay that way."

Ian Pearce,
descendent of
Confederate soldier Levi Pearce.

BELIZE CITY, Belize

IAN PEARCE'S words are dramatic, powerful — the thoughts are genuine but strange, considering the source, the place and the time.

They are not out of some dusty, long-forgotten Civil War history book. The time is now. Ian Pearce, at 52, is today a prosperous Houston dentist, but he was born here, in this forgotten Central American country once known as British Honduras, into an obscure community of Confederate expatriates who left America after the Civil War rather than live there in defeat.

In all, perhaps a dozen such exile communities sprang up in mountains or uncharted jungles throughout Latin America in the late 1800's. Their settlements now have a tragic quality. They were a courageous though misguided attempt to recreate the Confederacy, to preserve the life of Southern gentlemen farmers and belles on plantations and in towns, which they gave names like Americana, New Richmond and Lizzieland.

Several thousand Confederates joined in the experiment and tried to hold on to the "separation-of-races" ethic in this land of Caribbean blacks, Latin and Mayan browns. Of course, it started them on a collision course with self-extinction.

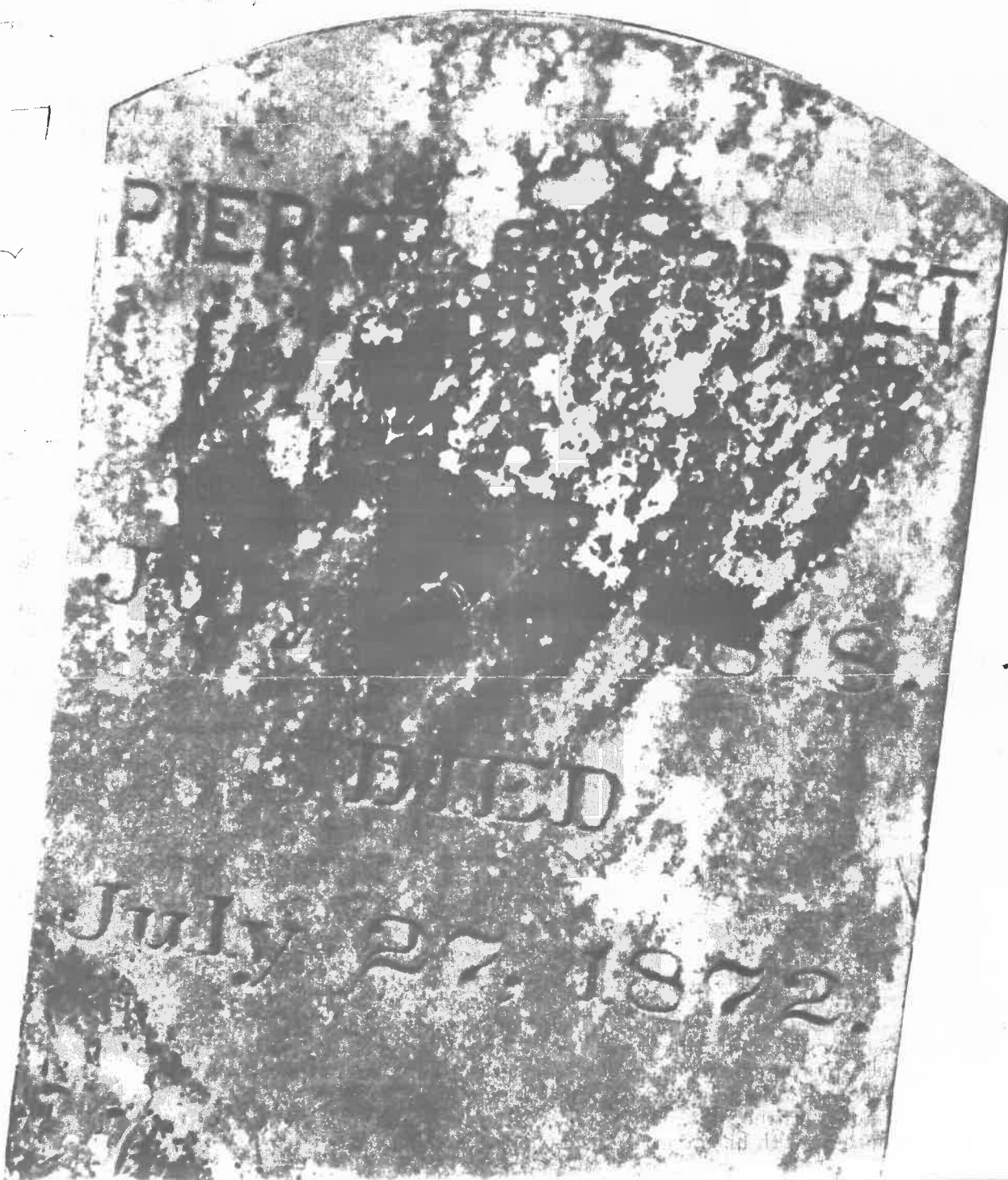
Today, 113 years after Lee surrendered to Grant at Appomattox Court House, a dwindling number of their descendants are here and elsewhere in Latin America living daily with the consequences of their forebears' drastic choice of exile.

These people, numbering a thousand or so at most, are stuck in a fascinating world, stalled somewhere in the previous century. Their feet are planted in two cultures from which they have created a third that is a blend of the cultures of the old South, the Spanish and a little bit of the British.

Some have American-sounding names, some Spanish, others have both. They are usually bilingual. Some, like Dr. Pearce, speak English with distinctly Southern accents. Others speak in the sing-song cadence of Caribbean blacks. All eat local food that is a blend of the local Spanish and seafood cuisines. But most admit that a favorite dish is Southern fried chicken with grits and cornbread.

Down in Americana, Brazil, the *Fraternidad Descendencia Americana* faithfully meets twice each year, on the second Sunday in April and the second Sunday in January, to pay tribute to the Civil War's Confederate dead. An 80-foot obelisk stands in the Americana town square as a tribute to them. Also, they celebrate Thanksgiving as well as local holidays and a few cherish Confederate as well as Belizean flags.

Continued on Page 14



Continued from Page 8

It is no wonder that Wallace Carroll Young, 41-year-old great-grandson of Confederate exile Pierre Charles Perrett, can say, "I am Belizean. This is my country. But the American South has a magic hold on me."

Belize is a British protectorate and has been since 1862. Three years before the end of the Civil War, Belize successfully petitioned England to become a colony, and so gained Britain's protection from neighboring Guatemala which has repeatedly threatened to take Belizean territory.

Life throughout this country has changed little since those early days. The country remains poor, lushly green, fertile and very hot, its people largely black. Snappy British troops like the 27th Gurkha Regiment and the Royal Welsh Fusiliers are still posted here.

The beaten Confederates and their families began arriving soon after the first British troops, helping to create a paternalistic colonial attitude among the whites, absent in the rest of Central America.

Starting in 1865, about 50 Confederates a month sailed into this city's port aboard the British-subsidized steamship, *Trade Winds*, and her ill-named sister ship, the *General Sherman*, both out of New Orleans. Many of the Confederates found the city unpleasant and too bustling. Pierre Perrett of Texas and others pushed south about 150 miles to Punta Gorda in this country's Toledo District. There, they bought land for as little as 25 cents an acre.

Punta Gorda is on the Bay of Guatemala. It is thick with jungle and swamp and must have reminded the town's founder, Levi Pearce, Ian Pearce's great-grandfather, of his native Mississippi. Pearce, a Methodist minister, arrived there in 1867 leading a group of Confederate Methodists eager to homestead.

"They were tired of fighting. They wanted to return to the way it was," says another Perrett descendant, Anita Johnston Wade, who lives outside Punta Gorda.

"All the help in Belize was hired and lived on the plantations," says Dr. Pearce. In addition to sugar-growing, logging the mahogany forests quickly became a major exile industry.

What social life there was in the foreign jungle revolved around newly-formed clubs and lawn parties attended by other Confederates and English colonials. There was little contact with the local Spanish and blacks, in the old days at least, except for work.

In the retelling, it sounds all very gay and happy. But it was not always. Throughout the early years, there was constant hardship and occasional violence. On Sept. 1, 1872, in the Belizean town of Orange Walk, exiles J. W. Price and O. E. Boudreaux stumbled into a bloody shoot-out between local Indians and a British detachment of West Indian soldiers. They aided the British troops and escaped unhurt, but 17 other Confederates were shot dead and many more wounded.

"The Confederates encountered disease, heat and starvation. Many quickly became homesick," says Judith MacKnight Jones, a 62-year-old Brazilian citizen. A descendant of Alabaman exile Napoleon Bonaparte Capline, she is the

author of *Soldier Rest*, one the few thorough books published on Confederate expatriation.

In Punta Gorda, a cholera epidemic in 1868 claimed the lives of several Southerners. Similar experiences elsewhere led to the ultimate abandonment of Confederate communities like Lizzieland in Brazil and New Richmond in Belize.

Of the estimated 7,000 or so drawn to Latin America right after the war, about 80 percent of them were beaten by the tropics and returned to the South within a few years.

Those left behind, says Jones, were tougher, "stubborn Southerners" determined to succeed. The Confederates who did stick it out eventually succeeded because they came to illiterate, unskilled regions with generally good educations and skills which they passed on to their children. Confederates were the first to introduce modern farming methods and tools throughout much of Latin America.



Belizean Wallace Young, shown with his family above, is the great-grandson of Confederate exile Pierre Charles Perrett.

Then as now, the descendants have tended to be middle or upper-class. Many long ago gave up the old plantation life to establish successful small businesses. Pierre Perrett's great-grandson Wallace Young, a refrigeration contractor in Punta Gorda, earns \$250 a month, which is easily three times the national average family income.

Law, medicine and accounting are professions popular with Confederate descendants. James Jones, husband of author Judith Jones, is a triple threat — lawyer, dentist and rancher. Dr. Jones traces his roots back to Colonel William Hutchinson Norris who founded the town of Americana, largest of the Confederate communities with a few hundred descendants still there today.

A strong tradition among many Confederate descendants has been to educate their children in the United States, more specifically the finer universities of the South like Vanderbilt, Washington and Lee, the University of Texas and Ole Miss.

The reason, concedes one descendant, is not

just education but also to find husbands and wives from among "our own kind," which means white only.

"They were just determined not to mix with the local people. Some say that was one reason why the community has faded. They wouldn't mix," says Dr. Pearce. He met his wife, Fay, at the University of Texas. Although they never went into exile, Fay's forebears also fought for the Confederacy.

Dr. Pearce's first extended period away from Belize was in 1943 when as a 17-year-old he enrolled as a freshman at the University of Texas on the advice of his American cousins.

"It was quite a cultural shock at first," recalls Dr. Pearce of those early days in the United States. "I was overwhelmed. But I had the feeling all along that eventually I would come to live in the South." While his mother still lives in Belize City, Dr. Pearce settled permanently in Texas after World War II.

Others before and after him have experienced a similar attraction to the South. Typically during their college years, they are seduced by the post-bellum South and the better opportunities they find there. So, on graduation many abandon the country of their birth for America, their ancestral homeland.

Some of those settling in the States change their citizenship to American. Some do not. (Dr. Pearce is an unusual case. Although born in Belize, he has always had American citizenship because his father was born in Mississippi during a brief family visit there from Belize.)

Gradually over the last century, the constant trickle of Confederate descendants heading back to U.S. colleges has further aggravated the depletion of Confederate ranks in Latin America. But the future of the group, this oddity of American history, is being salvaged by a new generation of descendants who are staying put in Belize, Americana and elsewhere. "I would not like to live there (in the United States)," says 25-year-old Anita Wade in her Caribbean accent. "The idea I get from other people is of a hustling, bustling place not like my Belize."

Many of the younger generation have reached a new understanding in racial matters — that is the ultimate irony. "I thought about it sometimes, long and hard. And I decided I didn't care (about color)," says Wade smiling shyly. This great-great-granddaughter of a Confederate exile is married to Clement Wade, a 27-year-old school principal, a Belizean, a black man.

Punta Gorda long ago learned not to care about such things.

"I was born, went to school and grew up here with them (black and hispanic Belizeans)," says Wallace Young. "I guess my reaction to color is different, more understanding than the older generation." Young is married to a woman of Mayan descent. And their 19-year-old daughter, Odette, has married a black man.

Yet, oddly, the Confederate connection continues to be a source of pride.

Says Anita Wade: "Sure! Of course, we are proud to be descendants of the Confederates. In many ways, they were courageous. And we are proud of who we are."

24x55

Confederates' Descendants Keep Tradition in Brazil

By WARREN HOGE

Special to The New York Times

AMERICANA, Brazil — "I declare, I love to sit here and watch those poinsettias when they're so vivid like they are now," said Judith Jones, 64 years old, in a Southern accent as soft and sweet as a fresh slice of watermelon-rind pickle.

She sat contentedly on the front porch of her home here as her husband, James, 69, and her 98-year-old mother, Lizzie McKnight, chatted in tones just as wisteria-scented as her own.

All three were born and raised in Brazil. Mr. and Mrs. Jones did not even visit the United States until they were in their 30's, and they have been back only once. Mrs. McKnight made her one trip when she was in her 60's, and her late husband, John Calvin McKnight, never got there.

They are among some 400 Brazilian descendants of a group of Confederates who decided at the end of the Civil War to get as far away from the Yankees as they could and came here.

Insisted on English

The original pioneers and succeeding generations insisted that English be spoken in the home, and the language passed down to the present family members carries the Southern inflections of the first immigrants. The sounds have been faithfully maintained, and it is a dumbfounding experience to sit in a Brazilian living room and hear a Brazilian, Bessie Ruth Ferguson MacFadden, 65, say in a Texas hill country drawl that the only time she ever spent in the United States was between the ages of 9 months and 3 years.

Mrs. MacFadden's husband, Charles Benjamin MacFadden, 73, said the name had been McFadden, but that as families immigrating to the United States often altered their names to accommodate the new land, so he had changed the "Mc" to "Mac" to make the name intelligible to Brazilians.

Names such as Bookwalter, Cullen, Hawthorne, Meriwether, Northrup, Peacock, Radcliff and Thatcher, along with biblical passages in English, adorn the headstones of graves in the colony's cemetery, sequestered in a eucalyptus grove in the middle of a sugar-cane field and reached through a maze of dirt roads.

The settlers had to create their own burial plots because local cemeteries refused to accept non-Catholics. An obelisk with a Confederate flag painted on it stands at the entrance and bears the names of the first Americans who came here, beginning in 1866.

They chose Brazil because the land was good for raising cotton, Emperor Dom Pedro II was eager to have Americans with agricultural know-how come here and the country still had slavery.

The first leader of the colony was a former Alabama politician named Col. William Norris, who did the negotiating with Dom Pedro. The Emperor ex-

empted the young from military conscription, granted citizenship to the new settlers, sold them land for as little as 22 cents an acre, helped pay for transportation from the United States and even tasted the food they were served in the hostels where they were billeted on their arrival.

Some Southerners settled in other parts of Brazil, but the village first called Vila Americana and later shortened to Americana was the only one to take root.

Textile Center of 120,000

Americana today is a thriving textile center of 120,000 people, and the so-called "colony" makes up a very small part of the population.

For years the colonists kept to themselves, and Mrs. Jones recalled that it was considered a "disgrace" to marry outside the group. "Even when I got married," she said, "my mother and father said how glad they were I was marrying my own kind."

The American cemetery averages three or four burials a year, and the younger generations do not appear inclined to keep up the century-old tradition of restricting conversations in the home to English.

Every three months a group headed by James Jones holds meetings in a hall next to the cemetery with a bountiful spread of fried chicken, cornbread, biscuits, cakes and pies that attracts many tourists. Jimmy Carter and his wife, Rosalynn, came here in 1972, when he was Governor of Georgia, and Mrs. Carter discovered the grave of a great uncle, W. S. Wise of Edgefield, S.C.

Mrs. Jones has written a book in Portuguese about the colony and hopes to transfer from her home to a museum boxes of memorabilia, including a portrait of Jefferson Davis, \$5 bills issued by the Confederacy and currency minted by the State of Florida, bullets from Civil War battlefields, swatches of old quilts, sepia photographs of pioneer families, a six-volume roster of the Confederate soldiers of Georgia and period clothing.

When Mr. and Mrs. Jones discussed their first trip to the United States, in 1951, they both repeatedly referred to having gone "back" there. "I had the distinct feeling that I had been there

before," Mr. Jones explained when the curious reference was pointed out to him. During their three-month stay they were constantly asked what Southern state they were from. "The state of São Paulo, Brazil, we told them," Mrs. Jones said.

In Florida, they visited Mr. Jones's brother, who tried to persuade them to stay in the United States. They flirted with the idea all the way home to Brazil. "But when I walked down the gangplank here and looked up to the blue sky and saw the green and yellow Brazilian flag against it, I got a lump in my throat," Mrs. Jones said. "At that moment I had no doubt what country I belonged to."