

Exchange Student Compares North, South American Methods of Living

For the first time in its history, Miami has on the campus an exchange student from Brazil, Samuel Benchimol.

Benchimol, or "Sam" as he prefers to be called, is a veteran having served two years as a second lieutenant in the Brazilian Army. Brazil was actively engaged in the war with an army of 50,000 in Italy serving under General Clark's Fifth army besides a considerable air force which patrolled the South Atlantic.

Doing Graduate Work

He received his degree from the University of Manaoas and is now doing graduate work here. Benchimol also holds a teaching fellowship and instructs a class in beginning Portuguese. He is majoring in sociology and minoring in economics. He has published a book on the people of Amazonia, the northern region of Brazil, which won the prize of the Brazilian Congress of Geographers.

"I am surprised that so many students take Spanish and nobody studies Portuguese when it is the language of the biggest country in South America," Benchimol commented.

After flying into Miami, Florida, Benchimol went to Chicago by train and then came down to Oxford. "Miami is a very beautiful city," he said "but Chicago—" He was quite impressed by the variety of the countryside and by the beauty of our campus.

Rubber Goes To U.S.

There is no meat shortage in Brazil, but at present there is a shortage of wheat. According to Benchimol this is because Brazilian rubber formerly exported to Argentina now goes to the U.S. "The Argentines have a saying that since Brazilian stomachs are so full of rubber they have no need for wheat," he chuckled. "But the people of my country and the Argentine are



Pictured above is Brazilian exchange student, Samuel Benchimol, who is majoring in sociology here at the University. Benchimol is a veteran of two year's service with the war-time Brazilian army.

friendly, it is just the governments which have trouble," he said. "That is because Brazil is the most friendly to the U.S. Your country was the first to recognize our independence and we do not forget—it is a traditional friendship, you see."

Because of the war some Brazilian women have begun to work in offices and shops although there are just a handful compared to the number of women who work in this country, was Benchimol's observation. He thinks that Brazilian industry was given a big boost during the war especially in rubber, textile and small manufacturing fields.

Country Has Problems

"But my country has three big problems," he reported. "We need people, capital, and technicians. Brazil is the only country which is still encouraging immigration. Now there is a movement to settle many of the displaced persons of Europe in Brazil. We are a big country, bigger than the U.S. but we have only 40,000,000 people."

Speaking of politics Benchimol said, "Yes, it is true that Brazil has been under a dictatorship for many years, but now, at last, we have a democratic government. Commun-

ists? It is a strongly organized party and they have elected one senator and 15 representatives. I think that they are growing, but we do not worry."

Students Active In Politics

As in other South American countries students take a much more active part in politics than they do in this country. Benchimol described the activity of student political groups, and said that the movement which finally overthrew General Vargas, the dictator, started among students. He added that sometimes students are even elected to the state House of Representatives.

"During the war we had a bad time with spies because we have large groups of Japanese, Germans and Italians," he remarked. Brazil lost a large part of its merchant fleet to German subs in the war years, according to Benchimol. This helps to account for the present wheat shortage. But when he was asked about rationing in the war period, he replied "Rationing? What is that?"

"Everything about this country impresses me," Benchimol said "the large country, nice people, and pretty girls, too."

On The Air

5:15 WMOH 1450 kc.

Mon. Oct. 28 FRIENDLY IN-SECTS . . . Prof. M. W. Boesel of the zoology department.

Tues. Oct. 29 VISITS TO WORLD NEIGHBORS: URUGUAY . . .

Mrs. Glenn Barr and Ruth Nicholson, Miami senior.

Wed Oct. 30 MUSIC WE SHOULD KNOW: 'CELLO MUSIC . . .

Elizabeth Potteiger, 'Cellist; Louise Glasgow Erickson, ac-