

# Brazil: 3 Student Impressions

by Grady Elmore

"After going steady with the girl for three or four months, if the boy is real nice he might hold her hand at a movie," says Joao Freitas of Brazilian dating customs.

Freitas, a native of Rio de Janeiro, came over from State College, where he is majoring in textiles, to join Haroldo Jezler and Barry Farber as panel members for YMCA World Relatedness Commission—Cosmopolitan Club supper-forum Monday night. The forum was on "Brazil and the World Today."

Jezler, who hails from San Paulo, Brazil's second largest city, is a graduate student in public health here. Graduating from the University of Sao Paulo, he came to Carolina last September on a one-year fellowship from the Department of Intra-American Affairs.

Farber, new editor of The Daily Tar Heel, recently spent two weeks in Brazil's capital, Rio, attending an international student assembly.

The geography and people of Brazil were described by Jezler; dating customs, the street carnivals, and Brazilian education were discussed by Freitas, and Farber commented upon his impressions of Rio de Janeiro.

"Dating customs of my country are old-fashioned," said Freitas, "but gradually they are being remodeled." He referred to the ratio of sexes as being instrumental in bringing about the change. "The joke down there is that we have seven girls for every boy; if that is true somebody has 12 because I only have two."

Since seeing American girls, Freitas says it is not true that the girls of Brazil are the most beautiful in the world. "It is hard to decide," he reflected.

Jezler told the forum gathering that Brazil is slightly larger than the continental United States, although its population is only 50 million. Brazil has only 21 states, the largest of which is three times the size of Texas, he pointed out.

"Ninety percent of the people are living along the coastal strip," he said. "It is a country of extremes; while the coast is dotted with modern cities, there are parts of the interior where no white man has ever been." Today the country is endeavoring to improve these backward regions

## Jezler, Farber, Freitas Participate In YMCA-Cosmopolitan Club Supper

of jungles and mountains, said Jezler. "There is still a long-range plan to move the capital from Rio to a more central location."

The people are not like the glamorized Hollywood interpretation, he continued. "They aren't like Carmen Miranda."

Barry Farber, speaking of his trip to Rio, said he was first impressed by the transportation system in that city. "They have a half-school-bus, half-jet-bomber contraption to carry you about," he said. "Stop lights are there just to impress tourists, I'm sure." He related an instance when he was thrown out of one of the vehicles as it turned a corner. "I woke up to find the driver standing over me; I thought he was anxious about my condition, but found out he only wanted his fare."

Rio de Janeiro is the most beautiful city in the world, Farber declared. "I don't think I'll ever live to see a more beautiful place."

Freitas spoke concerning the

famed street carnivals of Rio and other Brazilian cities. These festivals last from noon Saturday until the following Wednesday at 6 a.m., he said. "Then they are over, except for the hangovers. The jails are opened, letting the people out to go to mass."

Dances there are not like the usual 9-to-midnight ones in this country, but usually start at midnight and continue all night, Freitas said.

The government of Brazil under President Vargas was discussed by Jezler and Freitas. Dictator of Brazil for many years, Vargas was overthrown in 1946. Recently he was elected president.

"I lost money betting against Vargas," said Freitas. "I didn't expect him to win." Questioned as to Vargas' popularity, Jezler pointed out that it was a free election, so "obviously many people like him."

Education in Brazil is modeled after the European plan, Freitas commented.

Shakespeare died in 1616.

## Mississippi Show Has UNC Artists

The third Annual Exhibition of "New Approaches to Drawing", which features the drawings of five University students, opened Sunday at the University of Mississippi.

Four of the drawings are by undergraduate students working toward AB degrees in Art. The students are Kathy Oates, Joanne Liles, Dorothy Smith, and Tom Brame. The other drawing is by George Bireline, a graduate student completing his master's degree in creative art. The exhibition closes May 4.

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