

Brazil Has Some Horatio Alger Stories, Too

By Judith Martin

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BRAZILIAN Ambassador Juracy Magalhaes has finally been publicly asked the question he's been waiting for—"the one I would have planted someone to ask me if I could"—by a Marquette University student.

"If I were a Brazilian—poor as I am—could I ever hope to become, say, an ambassador?" he was asked at a college lecture.

And so Ambassador Magalhaes recounted to the students his own background as the fifth of 12 sons of a bookkeeper. In 1923, at the age of 17, he and three equally poor friends were on their way to military school by ship when they glimpsed, for



Mrs. Martin

Ambassador to U.S. Was One of a Dozen

the first time, an ambassador and a general. The officials were Americans, there to greet Mrs. Theodore Roosevelt, widow of the President, who was visiting Rio.

Of the four young boys watching these ceremonies from the third class deck, all became major generals; three, governors of Brazilian states, and one is now Brazilian Ambassador to the United States.

WHEN the Magalhaes gave a dinner in honor of their American counterparts, the United States Ambassador to Brazil and Mrs. Lincoln Gordon, Mrs. Gordon was busily at work in the drawing room.

Spotting AID Administrator David Bell, Mrs. Gordon took the opportunity to suggest to him that

Alliance for Progress programs in Brazil be administered through that country's energetic women. Health and hygiene could be taught through school teachers, she said; and a day care center for working women was another suggestion.

Mrs. Gordon has been active with Brazilian women's groups, including those involved in the anti-Communist demonstrations which touched off the revolution ousting former President Goulart.

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