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CONSULADO GERAL DOS ESTADOS UNIDOS DO BRASIL.

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MINISTÉRIO DAS RELAÇÕES EXTERIORES
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A Secretaria de Estado das Relações Exteriores cumprimenta atenciosamente o Consulado Geral do Brasil em Nova York e, atendendo às recomendações constantes da Circular número 1.153, de 13 de março dêste ano, tem a honra de remeter, em anexo, um recorte do "Journal of Commerce" desta cidade, publicado pelo Senhor William C. Martin, Presidente da firma William A. Camp & Co., sôbre a atual produção brasileira de castanha.

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Nova York, em 27 de abril de 1951.

MTJ.

Cons. Geral em Nova York/ 51 /1951/Anexo Único

—JOURNAL OF COMMERCE, N. Y., THURSDAY, APRIL 19, 1951—

Brazil Nut Crop Estimate Lowered

Early-Season Forecast Overoptimistic, Martin Says; Sees Prices High

While an accurate estimate of the new Brazil nut crop will not be possible before early June, it seems fairly well established that the crop will not reach the early gocernment estimate of 35,000 short tons, William C. Martin, pre ident of William A Camp & Co., said here yesterday on his return from Brazil.

On the basis of present forecasts, Mr. Martin said, a crop of 26,000 to 28,000 long tons is in prospect, with Manaos yielding between 12,000 and 13,000 tons and from 14,000 to 15,000 tons coming from Para. The Manaos crop, he said, should be divided into about 2,000 tons of small and mediums, with 10,000 to 11,000 tons of large washed.

Cost Factors

"Present prices," Mr. Martin said, "seems high to me, but the large shippers point out that there is no compensation (or barter) on nut this year (that is where the shippers in Brazil made their money last year) and that the cost of living and production has gone up by leaps and bonds, estimated to be an increase of from 400 to 500 per cent on everything they have to buy."

The producer, even on the basis of current apparently high prices, is receiving only about 60 per cent of what he realized last year, thanks to the barter system, Mr. Martin added.

Last year, he pointed out dollars brought a 75 per cent premium, sterling only 25 per cent. This year the English are paying 130 to 140 shillings per hundredweight (112 pounds) whereas last year they paid 170 to 180 shillings.

Purchasing Policy

"The largest exporters in Para," Mr. Martin said, "recommend American buyers holding off buying a month or six weeks longer, to see if prices cannot be lowered. They bluntly stated that they doubted if shelled prices would go down below a 50c basis for the assortment.

"Heavy losses are being taken by exporters who sold shelled to the S. during December - January, 1950-51."

Final size of the crop, Mr Martin emphasized, will be determined by the amount of water in the streams in Brazil, and by the markets for gums, rubber, etc., which are produced and transported by approximately the same means and in the same districts.