

The political will of the business elite of nineteenth-century Brazil was expressed most clearly and forcefully through its organized interest groups (also known as pressure groups). Traditional advisory and regulatory prerogatives, lack of competing interest groups, and unexcelled access to government gave Brazilian business interest groups in the nineteenth century power unequaled by such organizations today. They affected development mainly by influencing the scope and direction of government support. This book examines their role in development and, through them, the business elite that they represented.

Business interest groups assumed much responsibility for the welfare of Brazilian agriculture. They tried to upgrade the quality of agricultural exports and helped market them, fought export taxation, and attempted to arrange cheap, ready rural credit. Several groups also tried to ensure agriculture's labor supply by defending slavery. Through their prerogative of advising on tariffs and through participation in the debate over economic liberalism, business interest groups strongly affected the pace of industrialization. By introducing new systems of communications, they helped determine Brazil's communications infrastructure. They also aided the young Brazilian state in economic and urban integration. Lastly, the most important of the business interest groups, the commercial associations, also may be seen as institutions through which ties of dependency to better-developed nations overseas were maintained.

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EUGENE RIDINGS

Winona State University



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To Neill Macaulay

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Abbreviations and usage

AACB	Arquivo da Associação Comercial da Bahia, Salvador
AACP	Arquivo da Associação Comercial de Pernambuco, Recife
AACRJ	Arquivo da Associação Comercial do Rio de Janeiro
AACS	Arquivo da Associação Comercial de Santos
ABC	Arquivo do Barão de Cotegipe, AIHGB, Rio de Janeiro
ACD	<i>Anais da Câmara dos Deputados</i>
ACIRJ	Arquivo do Centro Industrial do Rio de Janeiro
AEB	Arquivo do Estado da Bahia, Salvador
AHI	Arquivo Histórico do Itamaraty, Rio de Janeiro
AIHGB	Arquivo do Instituto Histórico e Geográfico Brasileiro, Rio de Janeiro
BN	Biblioteca Nacional, Rio de Janeiro
HAHR	<i>Hispanic American Historical Review</i>
JLAS	<i>Journal of Latin American Studies</i>
LABA, UCL	Latin American Business Archives, University College, London
NA/DS	United States National Archives/Department of State
PRO/FO	Public Records Office/Foreign Office
RMACOP	Brazil, <i>Relatório do Ministério de Agricultura, Comércio, e Obras Públicas</i>
RMF	Brazil, <i>Relatório do Ministério da Fazenda</i>
SH/AN	Seção Histórico, Arquivo Nacional
SPE/AN	Seção do Poder Executivo, Arquivo Nacional
USRC	<i>United States Reports from Consuls</i>

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Abbreviations and usage

Usage

Modern Brazilian Portuguese spelling is used in both text and citations. Date of actual publication is used when citing *relatórios* (annual reports), even when most of the events discussed in the reports took place the previous year.

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Value of the *Mil-reis* against the Dollar
and the Pound, 1834-1905

Year	Dollar	Pound (in pence, d)
<i>Exchange at 43 $\frac{1}{8}$ d</i>		
1834	.79	38 $\frac{3}{4}$
1835	.80	39 $\frac{1}{4}$
1836	.78	38 $\frac{7}{16}$
1837	.60	29 $\frac{9}{16}$
1838	.57	28 $\frac{1}{16}$
1839	.64	31 $\frac{3}{8}$
1840	.63	31
1841	.61	30 $\frac{5}{16}$
1842	.54	26 $\frac{13}{16}$
1843	.52	25 $\frac{13}{16}$
1844	.51	25 $\frac{3}{16}$
1845	.52	25 $\frac{7}{16}$
1846	.55	26 $\frac{13}{16}$
<i>Exchange at 27 d</i>		
1847	.57	28
1848	.51	25
1849	.52	25 $\frac{7}{8}$
1850	.58	28 $\frac{3}{4}$
1851	.59	29 $\frac{1}{8}$
1852	.56	27 $\frac{7}{16}$
1853	.58	28 $\frac{1}{2}$
1854	.56	27 $\frac{5}{8}$
1855	.56	27 $\frac{9}{16}$
1856	.56	27 $\frac{9}{16}$
1857	.54	26 $\frac{5}{8}$
1858	.52	25 $\frac{9}{16}$
1859	.51	25 $\frac{1}{16}$
1860	.52	25 $\frac{13}{16}$
1861	.52	25 $\frac{9}{16}$
1862	.53	26 $\frac{3}{16}$
1863	.55	27 $\frac{1}{4}$
1864	.54	26 $\frac{3}{4}$
1865	.51	25

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Value of the Mil-reis

Year	Dollar	Pound (in pence, d)
	<i>Exchange at 27 d</i>	
1866	.49	24 $\frac{1}{4}$
1867	.46	22 $\frac{7}{16}$
1868	.34	17
1869	.38	18 $\frac{13}{16}$
1870	.45	22 $\frac{1}{16}$
1871	.49	24 $\frac{3}{32}$
1872	.51	25
1873	.53	26 $\frac{3}{32}$
1874	.52	25 $\frac{23}{32}$
1875	.55	26 $\frac{7}{32}$
1876	.51	25 $\frac{11}{16}$
1877	.50	24 $\frac{9}{16}$
1878	.47	22 $\frac{15}{16}$
1879	.43	21 $\frac{3}{4}$
1880	.45	22 $\frac{9}{32}$
1881	.44	21 $\frac{29}{32}$
1882	.43	21 $\frac{5}{32}$
1883	.44	21 $\frac{9}{16}$
1884	.42	20 $\frac{11}{16}$
1885	.38	18 $\frac{19}{32}$
1886	.38	18 $\frac{1}{16}$
1887	.46	22 $\frac{7}{16}$
1888	.51	25 $\frac{1}{4}$
1889	.54	26 $\frac{7}{16}$
1890	.46	22 $\frac{9}{16}$
1891	.30	14 $\frac{29}{32}$
1892	.24	12 $\frac{1}{32}$
1893	.24	11 $\frac{19}{32}$
1894	.20	10 $\frac{3}{32}$
1895	.20	9 $\frac{5}{16}$
1896	.18	9 $\frac{1}{16}$
1897	.16	7 $\frac{23}{32}$
1898	.15	7 $\frac{3}{16}$
1899	.15	7 $\frac{7}{16}$
1900	.19	9 $\frac{1}{2}$
1901	.23	11 $\frac{8}{8}$
1902	.24	11 $\frac{31}{32}$
1903	.24	12 $\frac{9}{32}$
1904	.25	12 $\frac{7}{32}$
1905	.32	15 $\frac{57}{84}$

Sources: Julian Smith Duncan, *Public and Private Operation of Railways in Brazil* (New York: Columbia University Press, 1932), p. 183; Centro Industrial do Brasil, *Brazil: Its Natural Riches and Industries* (Foreign Edition). Volume 1: *Preface-Productive Industry* (Paris: Librairie Aillaud, 1910), p. 232.

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Brazil, with cities. *Source:* C. H. Haring, *Empire in Brazil: A New World Experiment with Monarchy* (Cambridge, Mass.: Harvard University Press, 1958)