Tanks for Washing Coffee on a Modern Estate

The total area of the Dumont properties is about 110,000 acres. At present there are 13,135 acres under coffee containing approximately 4,374,000 trees. The cultivation of areas, which, since the frost of 1918, have become unprofitable, is to be gradually discontinued. There will then remain about 12,000 acres, containing 4,000,000 trees. The estates give employment to 4,000 people.

It should be mentioned here that the Cambury Coffee and Cotton Estates, Ltd., in the Arraúquara district, owned by the Cia. Agricola Fazendas Paulistas, a Brazilian Company, has 130,000 acres of which approximately 13,868 are under coffee. These contain 4,617,910 coffee trees of an average age of 11.5 years, of which 4,341,650 are producing and 276,260 are immature but will all be in bearing by 1935, when this property will succeed to the title of the largest coffee estate in the world.

Famous Names in Coffee

After Dumont comes the Prado family which owns the Cia. Agricola São Martinho, 4,200,000 trees, and has three railway stations on their extensive lands, two on the Mogi Guaçu and one on the Paulista Railway. The famous Guatapará Fazendas—3,000,000 coffee trees and 60,000 orange trees—is a model estate in every sense. The owners—the Alves de Lima family—have entertained here many visitors of note. The late King Albert and Queen Elizabeth were guests, as well as various presidents of the republic, the International Parliamentary Congress which sat at Rio, financial missions to South America, several American coffee delegations, and many other notables.

Another outstanding name in Ribeirão Preto is that of Coronel Joaquim da Cunha Diniz Junqueira. The first Diniz Junqueira received the freeholds in Ribeirão Preto in 1820 and the family is one of the most widely known in São Paulo. The principal estate contains nearly 1,000,000 trees.

Among the famous names in coffee imperishably identified with Ribeirão Preto and São Paulo in addition to those already mentioned, are Dr. Luiz Pereira Barreto, who introduced the Bourbon seed; Dr. Martimico da Silva Prado, who founded the Gustapará properties; Comendador Gabriel Junqueira; Tenente Luiz Antonio de Souza Diniz; Coronel Manoel Maximiliano Junqueira; Francisco Maximiliano Junqueira; Joaquim Firmino de Andrade Junqueira; and Coronel Francisco Schmidt.

Among other well-known proprietors of important fazendas in the município of Ribeirão Preto I noticed the names of Numa de Oliveira, D. Francisca Silveira do Val, D. Iria Ferreira e Filhos, Dianas Fenseca Ferraz, Arthur Diedrichsen, Dr. Raúl Pacheco Chaves, Uchôa & Irmão, Martinho Prado, Antonio Penteado, de Andrade, de Carvalho, da Costa, and Sampaio.

Coffee Cultivation

On Dumont or any other of the Ribeirão Preto estates it is possible to follow the plantation story...