

Riding Bamboo Raft Down River Provides Thrills, Look at Country

By ERNEST J. NEILL

PORT ANTONIO, Jamaica — Among the raftsmen of the Rio Grande, competition is keen.

Several miles from Port Antonio, as we approached the city, we were stopped by a native who stood in the middle of the road. Standing in front of the right headlight, he handed us letters showing his prowess as a raftsmen, a picture as endorsement from a recent customer, letters of introduction, and an offer which he said would save us several dollars.

But, he added, the Titchfield Hotel was undergoing repairs, closed to the public, and suggested we stay instead at Mrs. So-and-So's Boarding House. Some time later we were on our way, reaching Port Antonio around 4 p. m., to be surrounded again in the city square by native raftsmen offering hotel recommendations



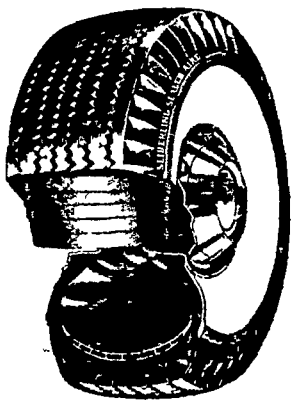
IN THIS PHOTO ARE nine local farm equipment dealers who were among more than 3,500 attending the J. I. Case Co. premiere of the new Case line in Phoenix, Ariz. While in Arizona they visited Good-year Farms, the Valley of the Sun, and went sight-seeing in the scenic desert country. Those attending were Paul Kaylor, Rheems; L. B. Herr Jr., West Willow; Edgar Herr, Quarryville; Everett Young and Herman Brackbill, both of Kinzer; Jared R. Stauffer, Martindale; Naaman Hershey, Manheim; and Robert Brubaker, Salunga.

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hills and down, through side-roads across tributaries of the rushing river.

Finally we reached the docks,

where several bamboo rafts were moored. Sure enough, the youngster who hailed us on the square the night before was there, his raft ready. A bit flimsy — we

thought — five feet wide, 25 feet long, bamboo and bailing wire! We recalled the warnings of the Hobe Sound couple the night before, who told of being caught in rapids, upended slightly, and soaked to the hips.

At the prow two strips of bamboo marked the area for the polemah. Near the back was a luxurious bamboo seat, the railing a bit wobbly — and on the aft deck the inevitable bicycle. Business

(Continued on page 12)

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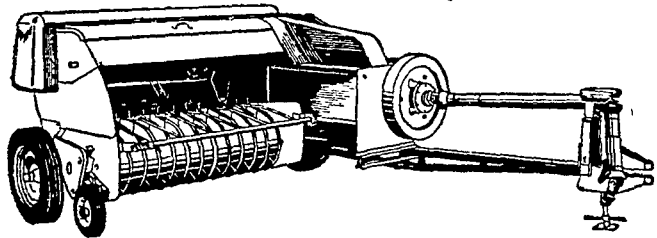
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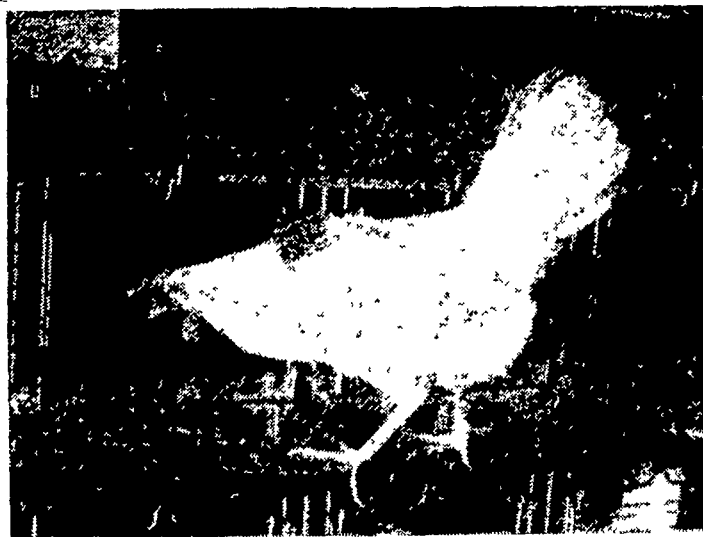
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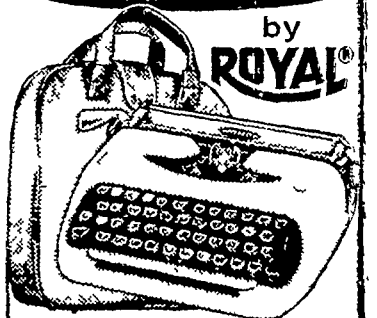


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