

● Ken Martin

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 Dutch cookin' At the top of every Honduran menu are rice and red beans We have plenty of boiled bananas, plantains, coco's, yams, and uca. They butcher beef every week, but not enough to meet the demand. Most of the food is brought from the mainland Vegetables are very scarce and sometimes cabbage, tomatoes, and onions are available We are fortunate because of our ready supply of seafood . . . shrimp, lobster, conchs, wilks, king and queen fish, red snapper, barracuda, and many other fish

Our primary assignment is to work with the credit union which now is a year old It is already the second largest in Honduras and has net assets of over 130,000 lempiras Two Honduran lempiras equal an American dollar We feel that the credit union is a definite service in that it's encourag-

ing people to save and also making low-interest loans available. We also cash and sell checks Previous to the credit union some checks with as many as fifteen endorsements would be circulating through town. We were honored last year to have our American ambassador with us, John J Jova, to present our official charter.

Living on the cay we are somewhat marooned since we are completely surrounded by water. A dory here is almost as essential as an automobile in the States, if not more so A dory is a dugout with built up sides and a closed bow and stern We have a 20' dory powered by a 7 hp. Biggs engine. The "Judy Yvonne" serves as our Cadillac here.

Most of the men are seamen Many hold high positions with shipping companies in the States. Most of them stay here to shrimp and fish There are two shrimp packing plants here in Guanaja. Last year



ENJOYING THE SUNSHINE AND THINKING OF FARAWAY SNOW are Ken Martin, left, and co-worker Ralph Nafziger. They are standing on the steps of the credit union which they are operating at Guanaja, Honduras.

about 70 boats brought their shrimp here, this year even more are to come We also have been doing some agricultural work, but most of the island is very hilly and rugged; not suitable for intense cultivation We are encouraging improved and better breeds of cattle I feel there is great potential for cattle production here Several farmers are also planning to go into poultry using purebred strains Eggs are selling for 15 centavos apiece (7½ cents American), so poultry and eggs have potential We have experimented with improved pasture vegetables and had success with green beans, cucumbers, and tomatoes. Watermelons and squash also look promising We are bothered by large ants called "wewes", and a lizard type creature called "wush willie". They can strip a plant or its leaves in short order Chlordane is an effective control, and we have been selling that and other insecticides practically at cost.

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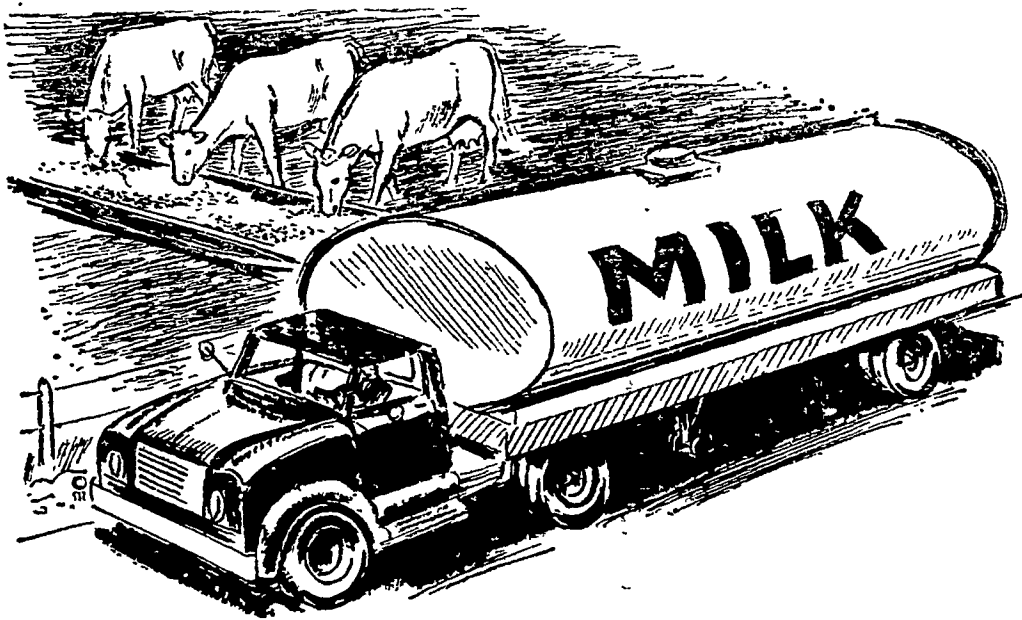
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