

the Dept. of Transits.

To show how uncoordinated the offices are in the Govt. Ibarra and I renewed my tourist card which in my judgment should take only a few seconds but it took us 2 day and contact with 7 officers. On the second day at one of the higher levels of immigration department we were informed that the card did not have to be renewed until 6 months! It is just unbelievable how technical and confused some of the departments are. In the office of the Ministerio de Educacion I noticed that of the 5 people at desks - one read a newspaper, one wrote a love letter, one talked continuously to the fourth member and the 5th chatted with someone from another office. One man could do the work of 4 or 5 people in these governmental offices. These people are living on good wages and doing nothing while the rest of the population is starving. As I see it, these political parasites should be cremated and a new honest and efficient ^{and intelligent} crew installed. Ibarra says that the director of the Zoot will get money for 100 bags of feed but actually will buy only 10 or 12 bags and pocket the rest of the money. It is the feeling of many of the large Finca owners that it is not wise to give Guat. too much money as it is sure to fall into the hands of dishonest politicians. It seems so remarkable that Guatemala has copied and parroted in the fields of science, literature, dress and customs but has not revised its archaic administrative

procedure

One of my first trips since the last letter was to El Salvador. I have one locality record in that Republic. Thanks to 2 state cops ^{which} I gave a ride too to the border or frontier custom station. When I picked them up I told them that if they would arrange to get me over the border I would give them the lift.