

to compete at national level

Maryland, New Jersey, and Virginia.

Also, during the year of 1977, the team of Shelka and Leslie managed to win 53 first place and championship ribbons. And in 1978, the mare has already been named the Region 16 Champion Half-Arabian Park Horse. Region 16 covers the area of New York and the New England states.

Leslie related that the park class in a horse show is judged on the brilliance of the performance of the horse, at a walk, trot, and canter. Also taken into consideration is the quality of the horse, the confirmation, the manners, and the suitability of the horse to the rider.

"There aren't too many really good park horses," Leslie stated. "They must have natural ability and coordination."

At the national horse show, there will be three judges choosing the top horses among the 50 to 70 animals that are expected to be entered. To even place, Leslie explained, a person must be marked on two out of three of the judges' cards. Then an elimination is held to pick the champion and reserve champion park horse.

And how does Leslie think she will do? "Optimistically, we're hoping for a placing in the top ten," she smiled.

"But then I guess everybody thinks they're horse is good. But I know we'll do our best."

Besides, Shelka, at home she and her sister Lynn, 13, work with four other horses.

Leslie claims that a lot of her skill with the horses comes from her riding instructors, who helped her get to where she is today.

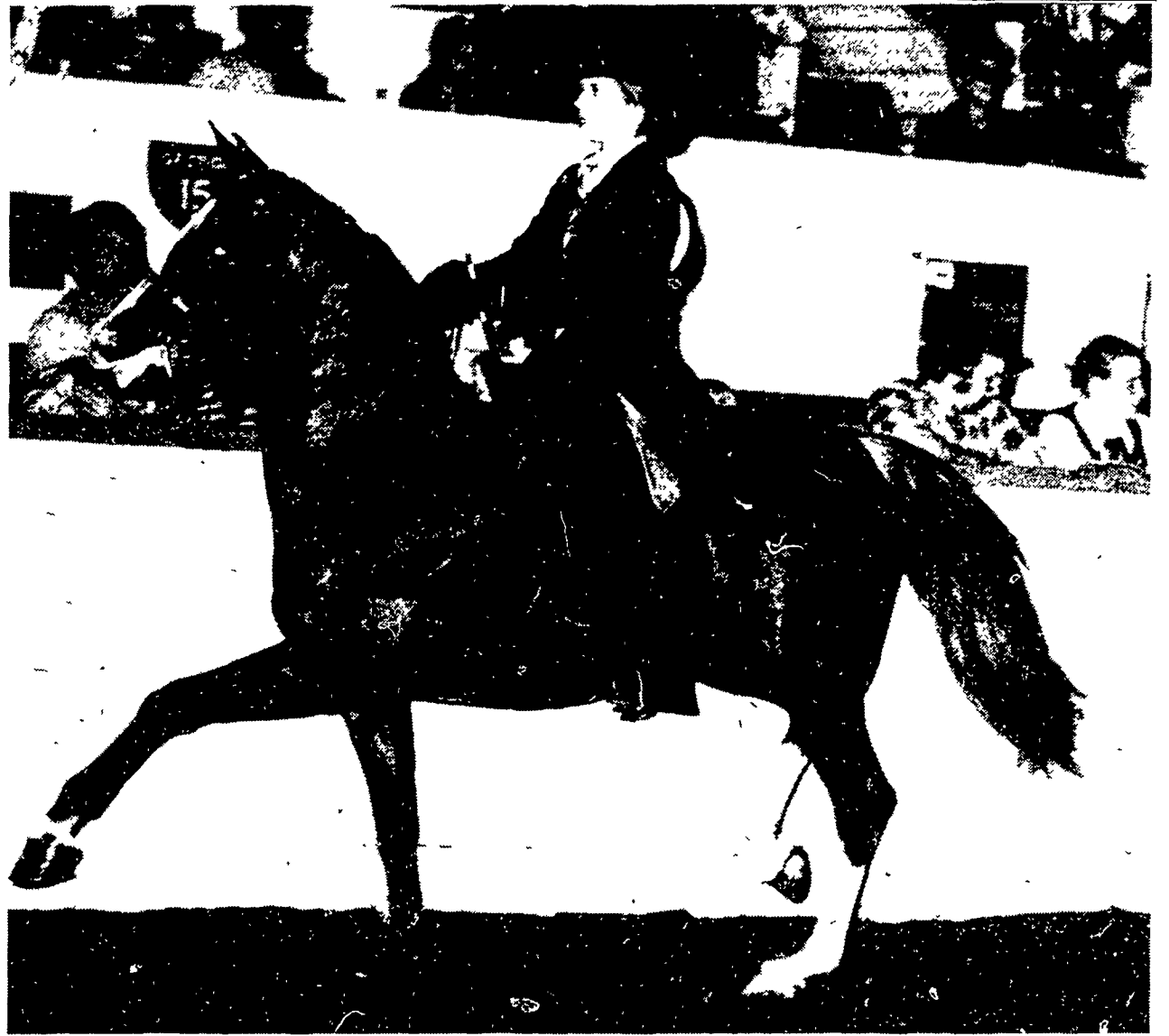
"Without the help of such people as Natalie Immel Kline, Mrs. Richard Dady, and Mrs. Barbara Lauger, I never would have been able to learn everything that I needed to know."

Thinking about the future, Leslie commented, "Horses are my life at the moment. I plan to go to college and study animal husbandry, and I want horses to always be a major part of my life. Somehow, I'm going to find a job that deals with horses."

This Summer Leslie is working at the Esshibin Equestrian Center owned by Ricci Desiderio, in Chester, N.J. There she is working horses and at the same time, tightening up on her own horsemanship skills.

She has been a member of 4-H for four years and has travelled and competed in the state competition, both in the English pleasure class and the Saddle seat equitation. She thinks that the pleasure or the park class would be her favorite to compete in.

And later this month, Leslie and Shelka will have their chance to compete in the park class at a national level for the first time. And Leslie will do her best to see that she and Shelka do their best as they compete against the competition nationwide.



Leslie Sherman, seen on her mare Shelka, on to show at the Arabian National Finals shows her winning form as the two of them compete in a recent park horse class. They will go

Winners named

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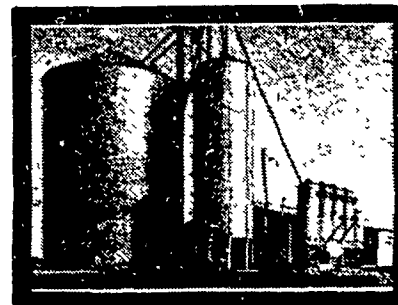
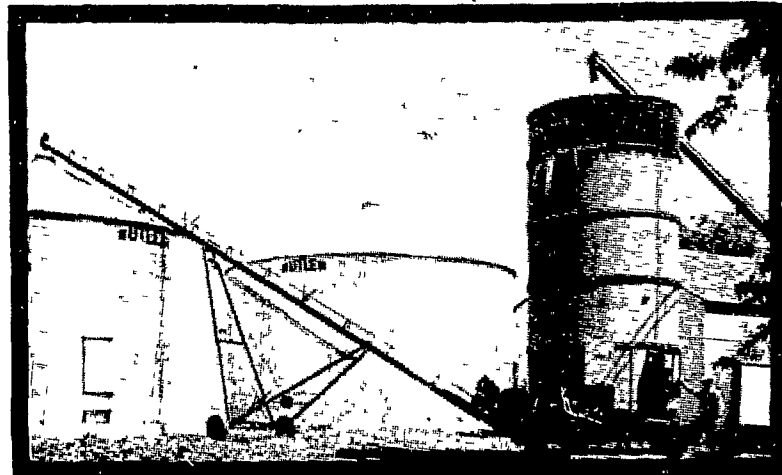
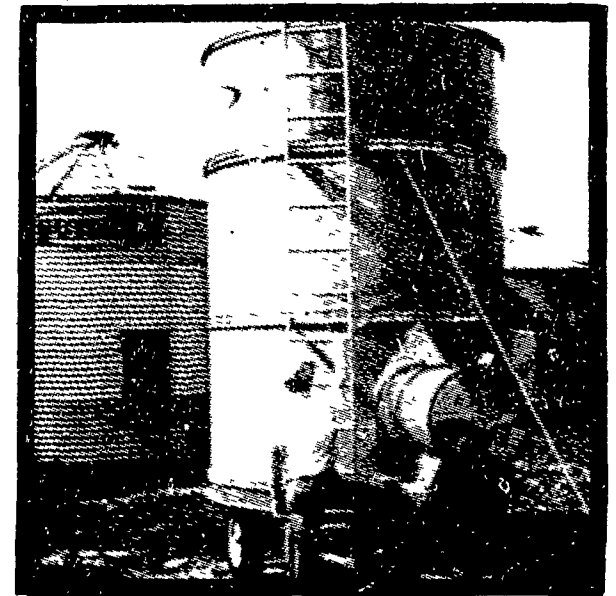
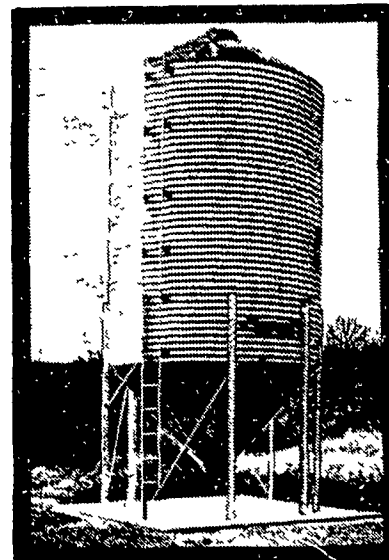
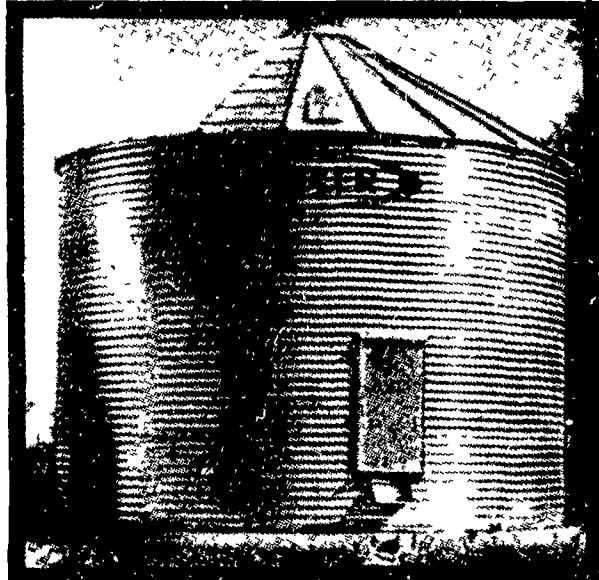


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