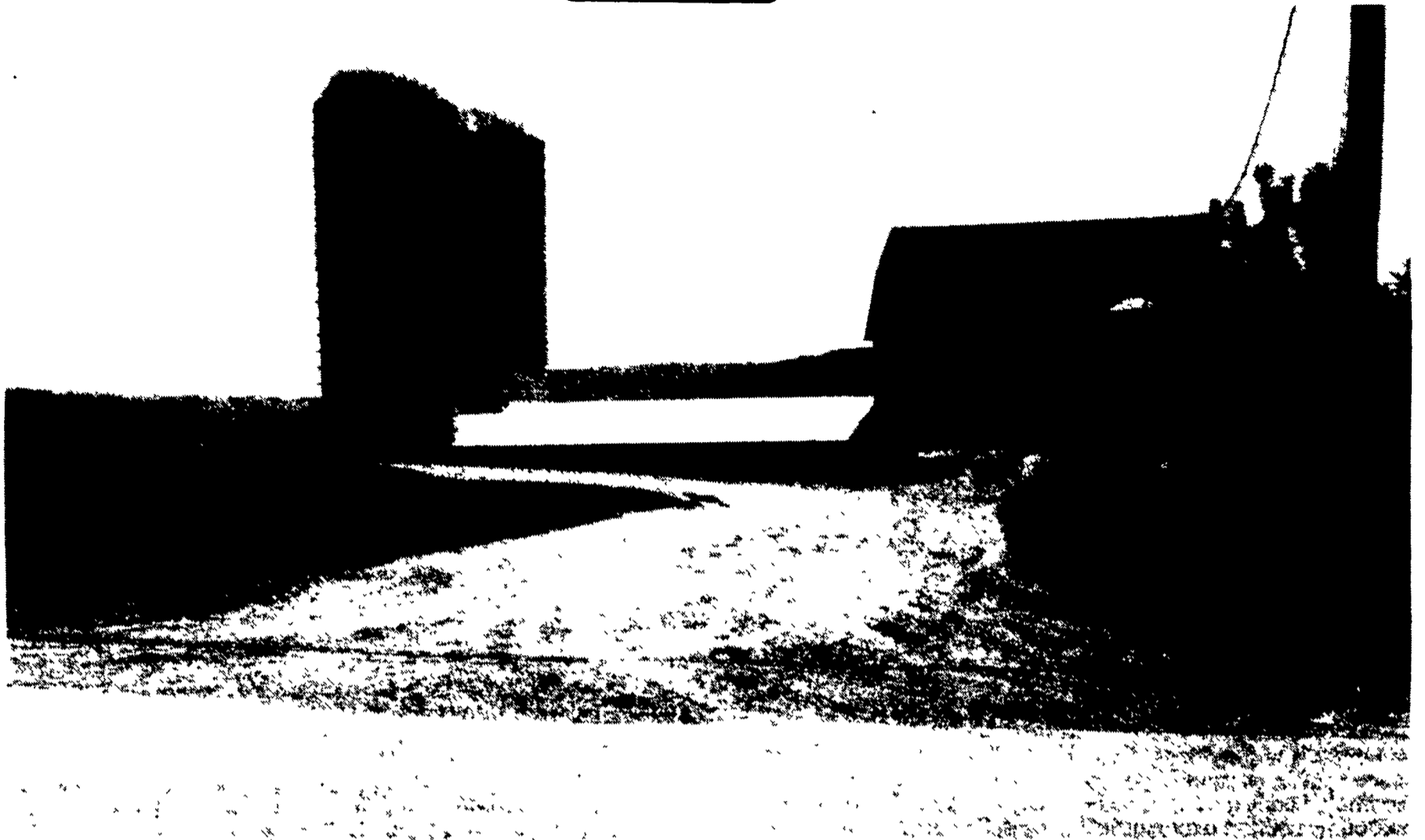


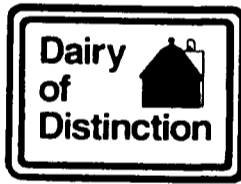
SHIPS-HOLM FARMS



At this new Dairy of Distinction in Susquehanna County, Richard and Mary Ann Shipsky and sons David and Richard Jr. farm 400 acres near Forest City. They milk 68 registered Holsteins that produce 22,000 pounds of milk. Farming for 40 years, Richard believes the most important management technique he uses is to feed the cows eight times a day with an automatic feeder. Each cow is fed to her production needs. This not only insures proper nutrition, it

saves money in wasted feed.

They have a five-generation cow family that includes individuals classified Ex with several generations over 30,000 pounds of milk. Richard doesn't see much difference in the milk price outlook from what he has been hearing all his dairy farming life. The government wants cheap food for the citizens and autos and machinery are produced on high hourly wages so the farmer is in the squeeze.



BUTTON HILL FARMS



This new Tioga County Dairy of Distinction has been in the Button family since 1958. Oliver and Virginia Button and their son and daughter-in-law Craig and Bobbi Button and children Macenzle, 6 and Macory, 4, farm 375 acres just west of Jackson Summit. They milk 70 Holsteins and have a total dairy herd of 160 head. Three silos and some silage put in bags make up the major portion of the ration.

Along with haylage and corn silage they put peas in the silos that average 18 percent protein. Elevators from the silos bring the various ingredients together to feed the cows.

Oliver said it is hard for young people to get into farming but he believes it's a good life. One principle he likes to follow is "pay as you go." He still believes that dairy farming will some day pay very well.