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Rock Buys Planter -- The Rock County Soil Conservation District has decided to purchase a tree planter for use in the district, according to Rudolph Nelson, chairman of the district board of supervisors. The tree planter will be available for use by all farmers in the district in 1953. The district will furnish the planter and a crew of two men, while the farmer is to furnish his own tractor and driver. It will be necessary for the district to charge a nominal fee to defray operating costs, but the machine does a two-hour job of planting a windbreak that would take a couple of days by hand.

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Overdraft -- During the crop year 1952, Minnesota farmers removed \$475 worth of nitrogen, phosphate and potash per farm. At the same time, they returned only \$61 of plant nutrients in terms of these fertilizers per farm, leaving a deficit of \$414 per farm, according to Paul M. Burson, professor of soils at the University of Minnesota. These nutrients were removed by the seven major crops of corn, oats, barley, wheat, flax, soybeans and potatoes. The continued removal of nutrients at this rate is the reason that farmers are now encountering difficulty in establishing legume stands and maintaining good yields and are getting crops of reduced quality and lower feeding value, says Burson.

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4-H and the Future -- An article in a recent issue The Conservation Volunteer concludes that the work Minnesota 4-H'ers are doing augurs well for the future of conservation in this state. The article, written by Josephine B. Nelson, extension assistant editor on the St. Paul campus of the University of Minnesota, describes Minnesota 4-H members' brilliant record in preaching and practicing conservation. The Conservation Volunteer is a magazine published by the Minnesota Department of Conservation.

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