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Conservation Aids Plainview Farmer -- Terraces have paid off well for Bryon Wood, farmer near Plainview in the South Wabasha Soil Conservation District. In 1954 he established two miles of terraces on a 40-acre field that was full of small ditches. The terraces were so successful in saving soil and preventing excessive runoff that Wood decided to put in a complete terracing program. This year he added another two miles of terraces and plans to put in more each year until all his cropland is protected by terraces.

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Memorial Forest is Dedicated -- The Anoka county commissioners recently designated a 40-acre plot as the Charles A. Wickstrom Memorial Forest. Wickstrom, a long-time conservationist, was the first man to receive trees distributed by the Division of Forestry, Department of Conservation of Minnesota, under its tree distribution system. In 1925 these 1000 Norway pines were made part of an initial shelter belt planting in each township of the county. Each year, Wickstrom directly planted or supervised the planting of more than 5000 trees. "Charlie" recently was honored as one of Minnesota's outstanding farmer-sportsmen.

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Soils Need Testing -- Soil tests are easy to take during late summer and early fall. Then results will be available when it comes time to buy fertilizer, says Charles Simkins, University of Minnesota extension soils specialist. Recent research has shown that soil samples taken during the growing season may give a better index of plant food in the soil than when samples are taken from cold wet soil.

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Floodwater Control Proposed -- Officials and farmers in the East Willow Creek Watershed at Preston, Minn., have asked for assistance in floodwater control. They intend to remedy part of the 1,900-acre water shed damage to one particular bridge with a floodwater retarding structure. The bridge is temporarily repaired and replacement with a new bridge is very expensive without this type of control. Both township and farm people think they can cooperate and solve this problem with conservation practices, a floodwater retarding structure, and construction of a bridge that would not wash out. Jerry Gockowski, engineer, and Arnold Askre, farm planner, both with the Soil Conservation Service, have inspected the site and have made preliminary surveys.