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Dodge County in the Limelight ... The eyes of the nation will be on Minnesota September 5-6 when the State and National Soil Conservation Days and Plowing Matches will be held in Dodge County. The Dodge Center and Rochester airports are preparing for 500 or more Flying Farmers from over the nation. The state plowing matches will be September 5 and the national contests September 6. Soil Conservation demonstrations will run continually the two days, and soil conservation air tours will be in progress from daylight to dark over the demonstration area and over parts of four counties. Three buses will operate between the Dodge Center airport and the demonstration area.

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328,000 Trees Planted ... Farmers in the Sherburne SCD planted 328,000 trees this spring, according to J. H. Weis, chairman of the district. The 164 soil conservation cooperators who set out field and farmstead windbreaks and wildlife plantings covered areas that would amount to a 280-acre farm if it were in one tract. The new windbreaks started would extend 54 miles placed end to end. And that isn't all the trees planted in the district. 4-H Clubs and other school group set out another 45,000 on school grounds and in the Sand Dunes State Forest.

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"Preserve the Conserved" ... Speaking at Hay Day at the University of Minnesota's Morris Experiment Station recently, J. B. Williams, professor of dairy husbandry at the North Dakota Agricultural College, recommended putting up silage as the best way of conserving yields of forage crops. "You might say that we are preserving the conservation products -- or to put it into slogan form, 'Preserve the Conserved'," he stated.

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Strip Cropping ... Strip cropping is planting alternate strips of close-growing crops, like grass or clover, between clean-tilled crops, like corn, on the contour, says the Soil Conservation Service. The strip of close-growing crop holds the water and thus helps check erosion in the clean-tilled strip below. The close-growing crop also strains soil out of the run-off from the clean-tilled strip above. Strip-cropping and contouring are companion measures.

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