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"Plowville '54" Born in Neighborhood Groups -- Neighbor group meetings among farmers south of Lake Benton were the "birthplace" of the ideal farming operations to be shown at Plowville '54, September 17-18. Ivan Kerr, one of the project's key farmers, helped get a group of 12 farmers together for several meetings with Lincoln County Agent Lloyd Hanson and Soil Conservation Agent Arnold Claassen. "Father" of this year's Plowville event was a county conservation field day in 1951 on the Norman and Floyd Berger farms.

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Contour Strips Do Double Duty -- On the Ernest Hollander farm in Lincoln County, contour strips are doing "double duty." First, water and soil losses from a few heavy rains were small. Second, strong winds in June, 1953, damaged young plants and eroded many larger fields in the area. But, Hollander reports no damage on his contour-strips. You'll see some of them at Plowville '54, September 17-18. Eighty acres of strips will be on display.

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Another Good Story from Goodhue -- The Fred Huneke of Goodhue County have a herd of Holsteins that gave an average 405 pounds of butterfat in the first 10 months of the testing year. They're doing it on a ration of good alfalfa-brome hay and hay silage plus plenty of grass-legume pasture during pasture season. Huneke strip-crops and has a four-year rotation of corn, grain and two years of hay to build and hold his soil's productive ability. He also adds protein supplements, commercial fertilizers and lime in just the right amounts.

This ideal operation began seven years ago, after Fred got out of the Army. He has built up a farm, developed one of the county's top dairy herds and his family have lived comfortably and well from the very beginning. How do you do that? "Well," says Arnold Wiebusch, Goodhue County Soil Conservation Agent, who wrote this story, "good farm and home management."