

(Continued from page twelve) regular clerks on duty at the office. They are E. T. Kemer, Herbert L. Sheaffer, Paul D. Edwards, and J. K. Mowery. Substitute clerks are Paul Reed and Henry M. Benner.

More space for the commercial exhibits at the Penna. Farm Show has been sold than on any corresponding period in any year in the history of the exhibition, according to John H. Light, Show director.

This seems to be the month for family reunions. The Brintons, at West Chester; the Baileys, at Steelville; the Waltons, at Nine Points; and the Myers, at Jeffersonville, Montgomery County.

It is noted that on Sept. 29, the first rain since Sept. 6, fell throughout the Lower End, Monday at about four a. m. It came in showers until 7:30 p. m., when a gust came up. It rained in torrents for several hours, accompanied with high winds, sharp lightning and heavy thunder. The long drought had caused many of the cisterns, wells and springs to go dry.

McClure Bros., Quarryville real estate agents have sold for Mrs. Anna M. Ferguson of Kirkwood her 133-acre farm in Little Britain, to Howard Wagner of Quarryville, RD3.

Yule Tree Boom Finds 73-million In State Plantings

HARRISBURG — More than 73 million Christmas trees are now being raised on Pennsylvania farms and tree plantations, an increase of four million or six per cent over a year ago, the State Department of Agriculture said today.

Results of a second annual Christmas tree production survey made this spring by the Pennsylvania Crop Reporting service in co-operation with the Agricultural Marketing service of the United States Department of Agriculture showed that plantings were greater than the combined sales and losses during the year.

Optimistic growers reported in May that they intend to sell 64 per cent more trees this year than were sold in 1957. Much of the increase is expected to come from growers who have not previously sold trees. These early intentions are normally above actual sales figures.

Producers planted 12.3 million trees in the spring of this year or in the fall of 1957. This means that about 18 new trees were planted to every 100 trees on hand

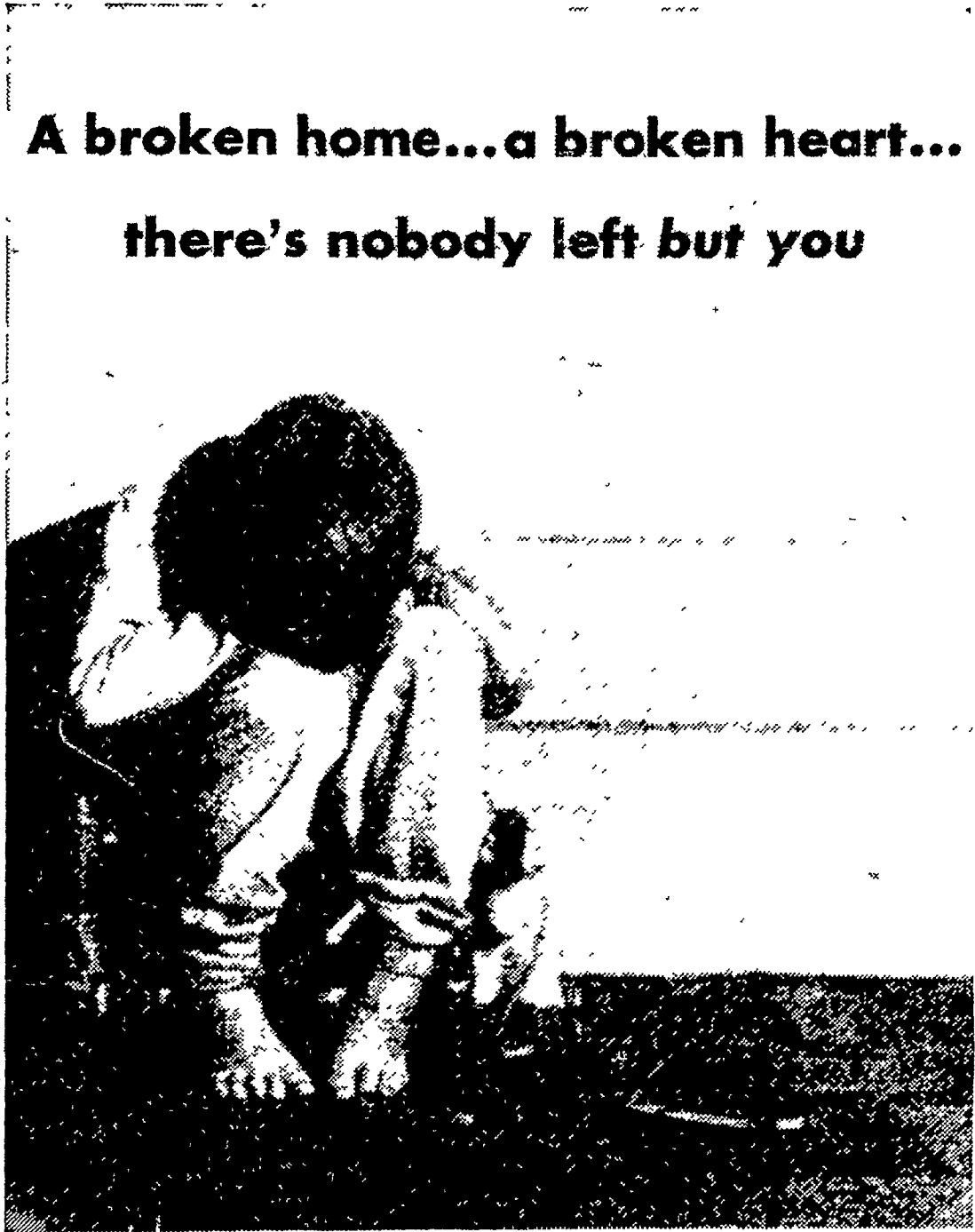
in 1957. Sales during 1957, at 1,090,000 trees, were below the previous year by two per cent, the survey showed.

Plantings decreased in the important western counties during the survey period which accounts largely for a three per cent drop in plantings for the state. Increases were noted in the eastern third and south central portions of the Commonwealth.

Scotch pine is by far the most popular tree being planted. Fully 70 per cent of the Pennsylvania Christmas trees growing are Scotch pine. This species is followed by Norway spruce, 6.1 per cent of the plantings, and by Douglas fir at 5.2 per cent.

The change from last year varied considerably between species. Blue spruce plantings increased over 20 per cent to show the greatest per cent increase followed closely by Douglas fir and white spruce. Red pine, white pine, and Austrian pine were the only species showing declines, with red pine dropping off 13 per cent.

Deer damage was cited most often by growers as the greatest cause of losses in plantations. However, mortality was high due to drought in the southeastern district and was reported as a factor in most regions.



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