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It's high time one of those so-called experts on child psychology told distraught New Bern parents what to do about Junior's first barbershop haircut.

Perhaps no other juvenile upheaval is ever more violent, and though the storm is temporary, it leaves Mom and Dad emotionally bankrupt. What it does to the poor barber is too horrible to dwell upon.

Look into the clipper welder's anguished eyes, and you'll realize that he suffers more than anyone else. From the sound of things you would think it is Junior rather than parents and barber, who is being subjected to unbearable pain.

However, like all kids in similar circumstances his screams don't stem from real or imaginary hurts. He's a victim of fear, liberally mixed with a seasoning of temperament.

In fact, lots of little boys who get carted to a New Bern barber shop for shearing are more spoiled than scared. Quite a few are terrified, it's true, especially on the first trip, but when a youngster escapes with his ears still intact, his fears should diminish with each succeeding trip to the tonsorial parlor.

However, it's a matter of sad record that plenty of the small fry keep right on acting up. Parents naturally become aware of this unhappy fact, and think up all kinds of excuses to avoid the responsibility of seeing that Junior's overly long tresses don't transform him into something resembling an unclipped poodle.

Ask any local barber and he'll tell you that a child invariably behaves better if Mom isn't present for the ordeal. For one thing, the average mother is quick to give advice on how her offspring's cranium should be trimmed, and most of the advice is impractical and inadvisable.

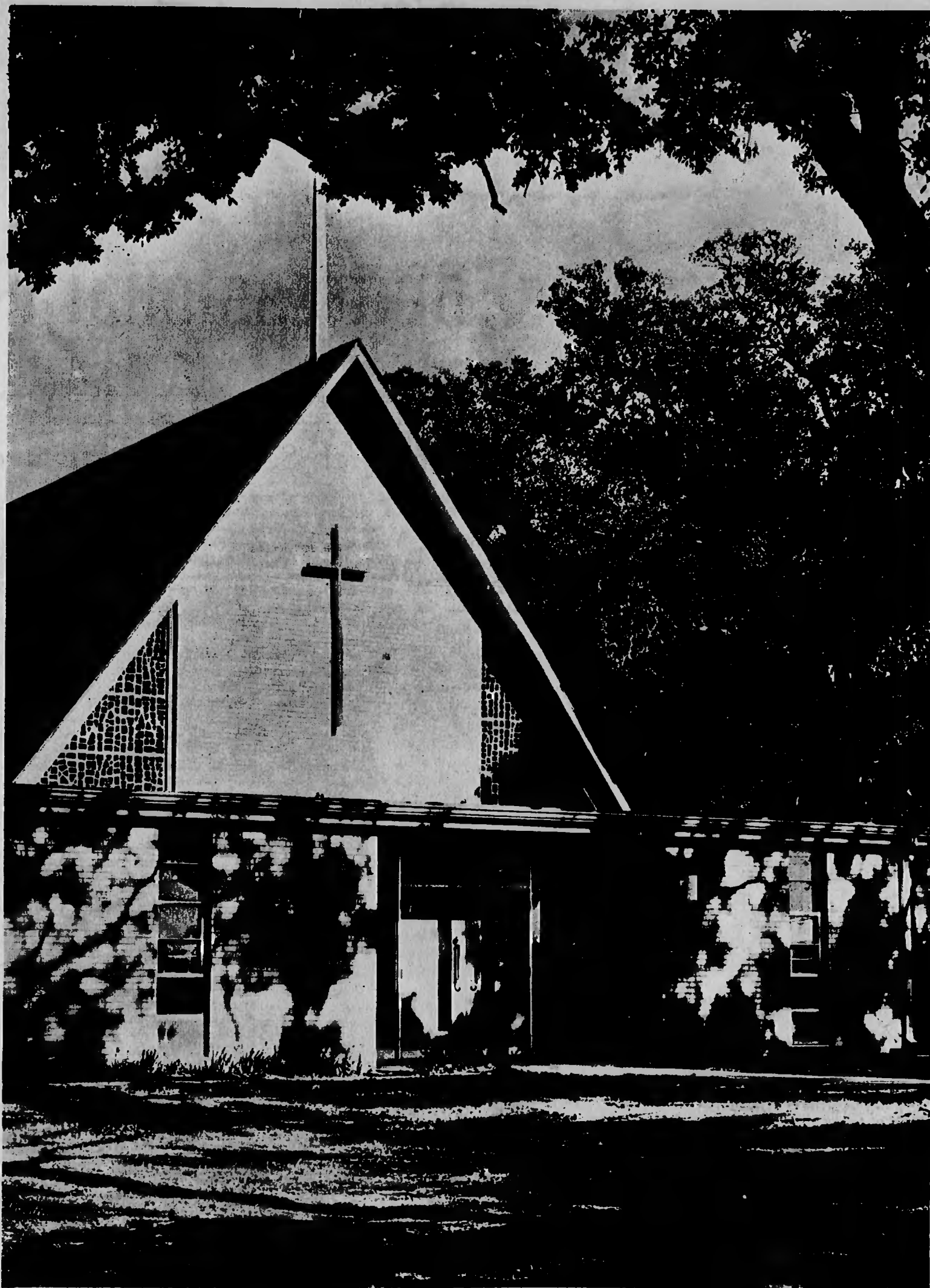
If a barber is a good barber, and most of the ones in New Bern are, he'll do all right by your brat. If he isn't a good barber, giving advice isn't going to help.

Besides, proud Mamas are apt to sympathize with their little darlings, and sympathy at times is the wrong kind of medicine. One of those times is in a barber's chair. The kind of medicine that Junior needs when he acts up excessively at a scissor party is a well applied spanking.

That he will never get, if you're like the average New Bern parent. The barber, in his secret heart, would find deep satisfaction in taking care of both ends of the brat, but he isn't going to volunteer his services for this extra attention.

Of course, barbers have kids of their own, and these little cut up over cut offs just like the young sons of the butcher, the baker, and the candlestick maker. In fact, the greatest commotion this town ever saw in a barber shop occurred when an unhappy barber was chopping off his own little boy's hair for the first time.

It is interesting to note that very few mothers have a similar problem when they take their small daughters to one of New



**ERECTED TO GOD**—Travel east beyond Beaufort and you'll find one of North Carolina's newest and most impressive edifices, the Atlantic Methodist Church. Designed by a New Bern architect, John N. Peterson, A.I.A., it has earned for Peterson one of four Certificates of Recognition awarded at the annual meeting of the Bishops' Committees of Church Architecture held at Duke University. Receiving the award jointly with its designed was the church, represented by Alvin Harris. Winners for 1967 were selected under

the Randolph E. Dumont Design Program, sponsored by the North Carolina and Western North Carolina Conferences of the Methodist Church. Dr. M. Wilson Nesbitt, director of the Work of the Rural Church under the Duke Endowment, said Peterson's design was chosen as an excellent solution to an architectural problem. The Atlantic church seats 240 for worship service, and has a church school seating capacity of 350.—Photo by Billy Benners.