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Ethel Cook, who will shortly celebrate her 90th birthday, as will her lifelong friend, Mattie Turnbull, says Eddie Paul, Sr., paid her a visit the other day.

He brought her a neatly tied bundle of past New Bern Mirrors, and asked her to see that they reached Ethel's daughter, Elsie (Mrs. Crowe Cooke) who showed much consideration for Ed's wife during her last illness.

Carefully placed on the top of the stack of papers was the issue that carried an editorial about Ethel, Mattie and the third member of their truly ageless group, the late Nita Whitty.

Mabel and Eddie Paul, who remained sweethearts during a marriage of more than half a century, saved their weekly copies of The Mirror through the sunset years. We didn't know they were doing it, but the revelation touched us deeply.

No less touched will be Elsie, who remembers her hometown fondly, and is the sort to appreciate a thoughtful gesture like Eddie's at a time when grief might have made him concerned only with his own loss.

Eddie and Mabel, as newlyweds, first knew this editor as a small boy growing up on upper Pollock street. They used to pass our house, arm in arm, with a happy glow in their eyes that failed to fade in later years.

The little boy they used to smile at in the long ago didn't turn out to be a whopping success. However, life did bring its dividends, and that stack of saved Mirrors, passed along to someone else as something of value, happens to be one of those dividends.

New Bernians who visit New York City during the next theatrical season can attend a Broadway show, grab a bite to eat after it's over, and still get their beauty sleep.

In the past, curtain time has always been 8:30 or 8:40, but from now on things will get underway at 7:30 sharp. This decision by the League of New York Theaters isn't aimed at tourists, but business people who have to get up early.

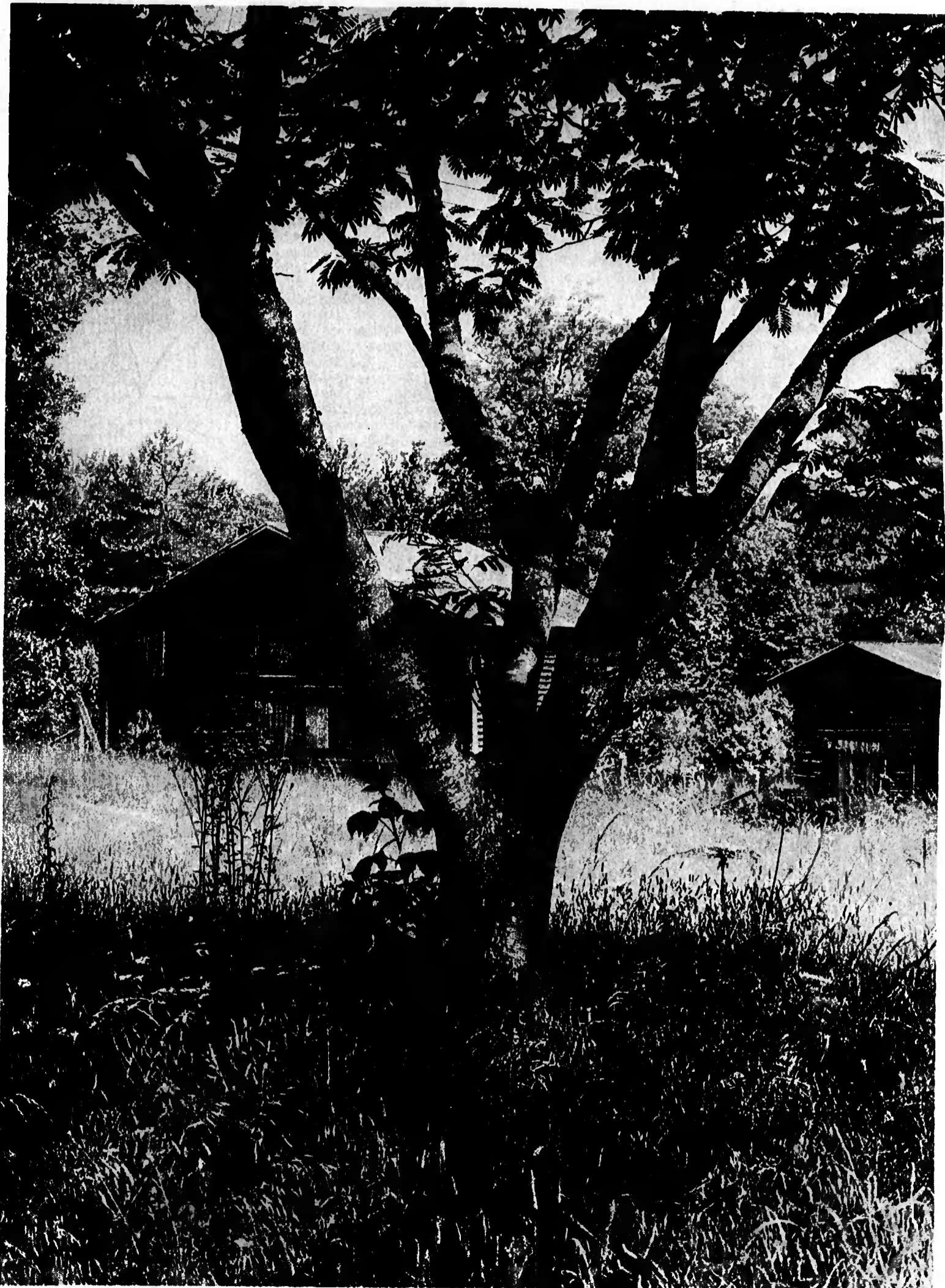
Undoubtedly the new hour will affect theatrical productions in tank towns too. Here in New Bern, and throughout America's polka-dot pattern of smaller communities, amateur thespians often unveil their productions at 8:30, presumably to give the evening a Broadway touch.

Yesterday was when your response to almost anything somebody said was either "It ain't nothing previous" or "So is your old man." And of course you voiced a stamp of approval very cleverly when you quipped "It's the cat's meow."

Yesterday was when having your picture taken proved to be an ordeal. For the self-conscious it still is. Able Lincoln could have sympathized with these timid souls, since he always got tense before the camera too.

Matthew Brady, more than any other photographer, managed to maneuver Lincoln into approximate relaxation, and it

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A THING OF BEAUTY — We take great pride in bringing you this lovely photograph, and express gratitude to the distinguished cameraman who shares it with our Mirror readers. By profession Dr. Bruce Schlein is a 33 year old pathologist at the Durham V.A. and Duke Hospital, with special interests in blood banking and cytology. Interested in photography since medical school, he has given one man shows at U.N.C. at Greensboro, Duke University,

Olden Gallery, and the Ivy Room in Durham. He has won awards at the N. C. State Fair, Allied Arts of Durham, and from Eastman Kodak. As might be expected of one of his exceptional talent, he is a much admired member of the Carolina Designer Craftsmen Guild. Dr. Schlein is the type of friend who would do this kind of favor for the editor of a small town weekly.