We've always remembered, as the years rolled by, that no one in our graduating class at New Bern high school had a longer name than Christopher Sylvanus Beker, Jr.

He was inclined to be slow and deliberate, and still is, but he was an outstanding student and carried a lot of good sound thinking between those ears of his.

After graduation from the United States Naval Academy he rose eventually to the rank of Rear Admiral. Now retired, and living in his native New Bern, he has interesting views on the plight of this troubled world.

"I consider war useless," says Chris, "and it would be entirely unnecessary if people were educated and believed in God. As a Naval officer with a limited education, I have been forced to accept the following philosophy-"My country right or wrong." Thus I have accepted the leadership of the civilian authority and carried out their dictates.

"It is my belief that all wars are fought over either religion or money. Money or power is synonymous. Let us take a quick look at the Revolutionary War. In school we were taught that the basic cause of this war was taxation without representation.

"The British Parliament repealed all taxes except the tea tax in an attempt to forestall this war. Tea and coffee are in a class with cigarettes—most people who use the items consider them neces-sities—but we fought a war to remove the tax and thus far a stamp tax has never been placed on tea or coffee.

"I doubt if I would have been a willing volunteer for this war. The Revolutionary War, as we justified it, established two principles. The right of self determination of the people of a country, and that all people are born free and equal under the law.

"This year we celebrate the 100th anniversary of the Civil War. I believe we should mourn the lack of communication and understanding that existed between the North and South in that era, and to this day the North still fails to understand the basic problem of the South.

'In school we were led to believe that slavery was the basic and controlling issue that led to

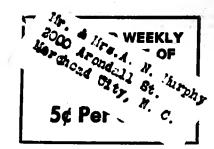
from the Union. "North Carolina voted against in. I believe this action of the by oft-played recorded bedlam. Union Army spurred our legislature to secede. Thus we became the last state to join the Confederacy.

"World War I, it seems to me, was fought to keep the Kaiser from gaining too much power, and power is money. It started on a small scale because a Duke was assassinated. We joined, it was rock 'n' roll has gone the way of said, to fight a war to end all wars. We helped to win that war.

'President Wilson had a plana League of Nations to govern the Lloyd Lane, Sue Jo Lowery and world. He sold his plan to all their assistants, while June Ipock principal nations except his own and Jimmy Murray have done an We did not join the League of excellent job on the lighting. Nations and it became ineffective. There's nothing amateurish about Net result-World War I set up a this phase of the evening's musical situation in its parceling out of menu. territories that was to lead to Elois World War II.

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The NEW BERN



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MUSIC IN THE AIR—Informality reigns when New Bern High school's happy warblers present their Pop Concert each May. Friday night's presentation, in the high school auditorium, promises to be the best yet. Pictured here is

a well remembered scene from last year's pleasing performance, with the high school choir in the spotlight.—Photo by

Friday Night's Pop Concert Will Be Easy on Your Ears

Friday night, at 8 o'clock in the the Civil War, when in fact South New Bern High School Auditorium Carolina refused to pay an increased import tax on cotton goods, which brought that which brought about her secession the Union th

There won't we dare say, be so secession in January, but in June much as a single jarring note she seceded, having refused to bouncing off the Auditorium raftraise troops against her neighboring states. My grandmother told me that during this period Union patrols would pass a farm and stroll along A Melody Lane that order all able bodied men to fall has almost been obscured of late

> Strangely enough, the kids themselves will have just as much fun presenting their annual Pop Concert as you will listening to it. For weeks they've been slaving under their diminutive conductor, perfection-minded Donald Smith, to master a delightful assortment of songs that will still be around after all slightly silly fads.

Staging for the performance is being handled by Danny Kellum,

Eloise Stilley is the pianist for the choir. Louise Whitty will be "World War II was another war at keyboard for the girls glee club, to stop a man from gaining too and Jan Marshburn for the boys much power. We in the military glee club. Other instrumentalists, knew that it was coming, and we appearing with the choir, are Donna White and Betty Biggers.



WHAT'S MY MOVE? A New Bern Cardinal Playing Chess. -Photo by Billy Benners.

If you're fed up with a steady | Soloists for the choir are Carol include "It's A Grand Night For Lovely" by Porter; "Wish You diet of rock 'n' roll, and convinced Nelson, Lyle Robinson, Kay Phil- Singing" (from State Fair) by Were Here" by Rome; "I Got Rhy-New Bern teenagers aren't even on singing terms with the sweet and sentimental, this is for you.

New Bern teenagers aren't even lips, Jane Knowles, Johnny Pauza Rodgers; "Do I Love You?" (form Girl Crazy) by Gershwin; "You And I" by Willson; "I shwin; "You And I" by Willson; "I Enjoy Being A Girl" (from Flower Flow Drum Song) by Rodgers; "Anyone Would Love You" (from Destry Rides Again) by Rome; and "Fine and Dandy" by Swift.

> Soloists for the girls glee club are Sherrill Jayroe, Emma Humphrey, Mary Elizabeth Fox and Lyle Robinson, There's a double trio too, featuring Sharon Smith, Claudia Blandford, Sherry Provo, Judy Darnell, Christine Lamm and Carolyn Clark.

> For its portion of the program, the glee club will offer "While Hearts Are Singing" by Straus; "Where Or When" by Rodgers; "Ten Minutes Ago" from Cinderella) by Rodgers; "With A Song In My Heart" (from Spring Is Here) by Rodgers; "Where Are Y'Goin'?" Gearhart; "The Sound Of Music" by Rodgers.

Soloists for the boys glee club are Lloyd Lane, Eddie Barnard, William Reel, Wayne Mumford, Donald Davis and Wyatt Laughinghouse. In addition, there's an ensemble featuring Michael Cogdale, Wyatt Laughinghouse, Stroud Tilley, Wayne Mumford, Donald Davis, Lloyd Lane, John McCotter, Byron McCoy and William Reel.

Selections will include "A Real Nice Clambake" (from Carousel) by Rodgers; "Down The Open Road" by Haney; "Wagon Wheels" by DeRose; "Happy Days Are Here Again" by Ager; "If You Were The Only Girl" by Ayer; "Do You Ever Think Of Me" by Burtnett; (Continued on Page 8)