

about the death, in the N. C. General Assembly last week, of legislation to provide for a referendum on a cash bonus for Tar Heel veterans was not so much what happened as the who and how of what happened.

For the bill was killed by unanimous vote of the house committee on veterans affairs.

And that committee is made up exclusively of veterans!

Even before that, there was strong evidence that a large proportion of World War 2 veterans opposed a bonus. Even the Amvets, the veterans organization sponsoring the proposal, openly split on the proposal.

Quite aside from the merits or demerits of the proposal, that is a healthy sign. It always is a healthy sign when members of a group look at a public question from a viewpoint other than that of their group selfishness. The large proportion of these young men who oppose a state bonus obviously are more interested in the welfare of the state as a whole than they are in receiving a bit of cash for themselves, handy as that bit of cash might come in.

Under a slightly cynical surface, most of these young men,

though few of them would say it publicly, believe in a thing called patriotism, and doubt if it can be paid for in dollars and cents.

One of them, a Macon veteran of the last war now living elsewhere, in a personal letter raises the question as to whether there can be a patriotism market, wherein each act of service shall be paid for as any other commodity.

"Unfortunately", he comments, the economic laws of supply and demand cannot be used to weigh such values, "since the patriotism supply is eternally short, and the demand is insatiable".

Writing before action of the legislative committee killing the proposed bonus referendum, he asked:

"Are we become a nation of hiring combatants. Is our defense of ourselves to be compensated by a life of handouts ever afterward?"

"What of Ethan Allen's strength? — what of Washington's resolve to spend himself entirely before asking quarter? — what of Lee's faith that his cause, even though lost, was worth more than his fortune, or his life if needed? What reaction would they have had" to the suggestion of a cash bonus? Listing some of the benefits

given veterans of World War 2, he concluded that the really big thing they have is "a chance to live in a land which remains free."

"I believe I'll remain grateful for the chance I had (to be of service in World War 2), ashamed that I could do no more, resolved to make up for the past by greater effort" in the future.

Our bow to The Asheville Citizen for the funniest, the truest, and the most timely typographical error of the year.

Referring to Uncle Sam's tax collection agency, The Citizen one day last week called it "the Eternal Revenue Department".

P. S. To half a dozen people,

including The Citizen linotype operator who made that error, my thanks for writing this week's column of miscellany.

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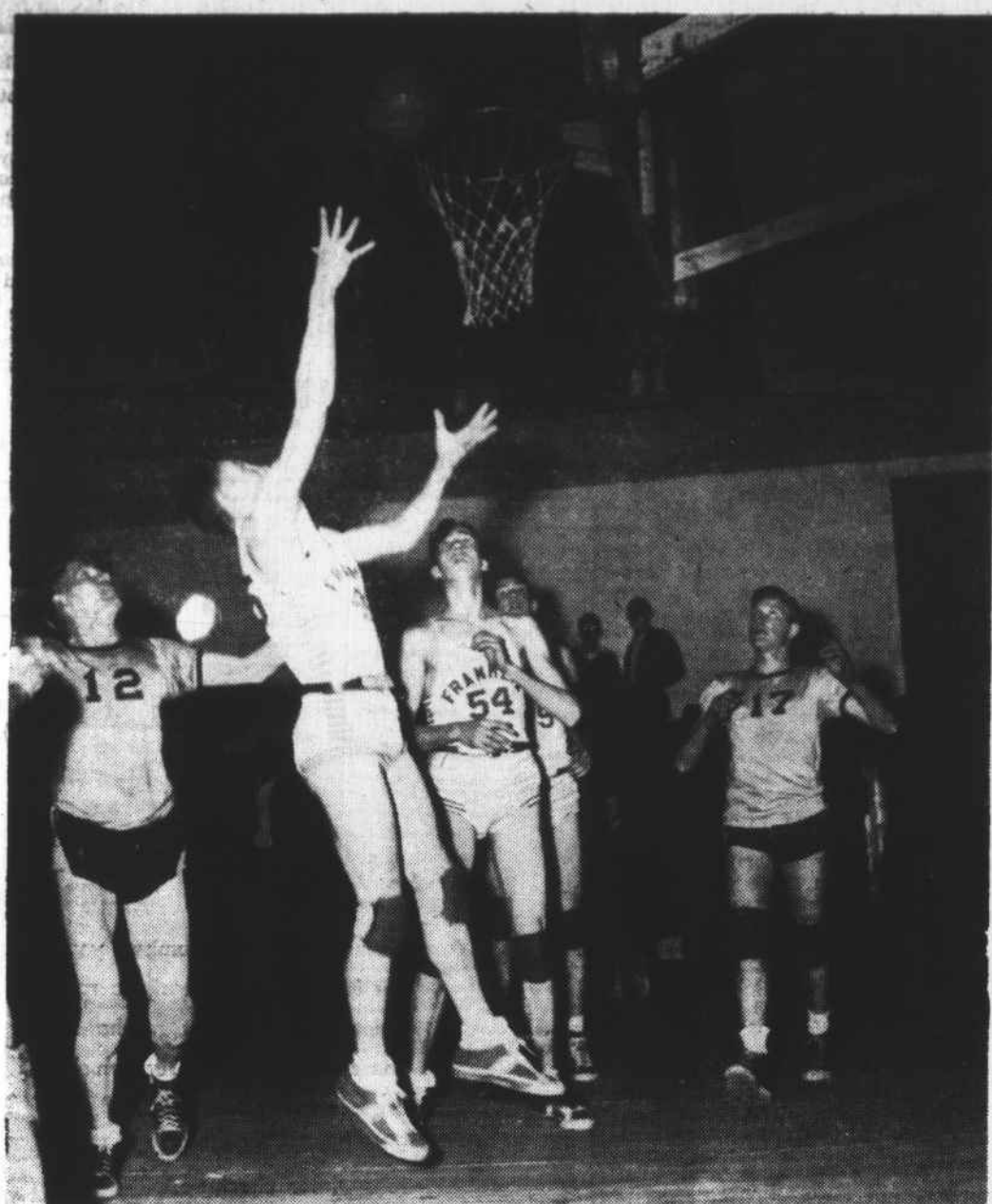
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Guard John Henry is the center of attention as he leaves the floor to drop the ball through the strings for two more Franklin points in a game here Friday night against Clyde High. Center Dolpha Fouts (54) eyes the ball, ready to use his height to tip it through the hoop if Henry misses. Franklin won the non-conference game, 71 to 53.

News Making

Continued From Editorial Page

in peace times? (The above of course is based on supposition that Malenkov so guides the Russians that the world becomes temporarily a more peaceful place to live in.)

The second problem, which is an outgrowth of the first, provides a problem that will require great vision and imagination on the part of those who govern our destiny.

Let us assume for the moment that we are lured into the confusing shadows of a twilight peace and that millions of Americans are discharged from the armed forces. Also that millions of Americans are discharged from jobs in industry where they have been working on the supplies necessary to maintenance of a strong military force. Where are these millions of unemployed to find work? Will the government which is an instrument of the people, created to help the people meet the problems that con-

front them from generation to generation, stand idly by, or will the government be in the hands of men who will have force and imagination to use this instrument to meet the people's needs?

Mostly About Us

Continued From Editorial Page

ad in this week's issue. He, too, had lost a pig. He, too, had been to the livestock sale. He, too, was on his way home when he looked in the back of his truck to discover that the pig was gone.

"It wasn't, by any chance", the editor asked, a little weakly, "a WHITE pig?"

"Why, yes, as a matter of fact, it was."

Once more, with considerable determination, feet went back on desk. But once more it wasn't for long.

Once again the telephone rang . . .

"Long distance is calling from

Canton, Ohio", said the operator. "Must be some mistake, operator; I know nobody in Canton."

But it wasn't a mistake. Over the phone came the voice of the Canton caller, "I'm calling The Franklin Press, in Franklin, North Carolina."

This time it was the proud father of a daughter, born a few hours earlier. (See Macon's Newest Citizens", page 12.) The parents were reared in this county, it developed, and the father hoped so much he was in time to get an announcement of the baby's birth in this week's issue of The Press.

This time the feet didn't even start toward the desk. Instead, they took the editor on his way home.

But as he walked, he found suddenly that he wasn't tired any more—as always happens, if you stick around a country newspaper office long enough, something had come along to give a lift to the spirit.

To parents of half a dozen children, to persons old enough to have forgotten the thrill of becoming parents, that young father may appear both foolish and extravagant.

Well, maybe so . . .

But to the editor of a weekly newspaper in a little mountain town, that young man has a wisdom that transcends our workaday definitions of that quality. He is wise enough to still find wonder in the miracles that happen around us every day.

And so, for what they may be worth, here are congratulations to young Brenda Sue Carpenter. Any little girl who is so proudly welcomed is fortunate indeed.

STRICTLY
PERSONAL

—By WEIMAR JONES

Continued From Editorial Page for school equipment, recreational facilities for the younger generation, and other needed improvements.

"Summary — active Christianity (friendliness), a tidy town, more industry."

From the Rev. C. C. (Tump) Welch, of Glenville, Jackson County, formerly of this county, and once a resident of Cherokee, comes this bit of interesting information:

People of the Unaka community, scene of last week's slaying of Cherokee's Sheriff Frank Crawford, have told Mr. Welch that there are buried in the Unaka cemetery 49 men "who died with their boots on" (by gunfire).

What was really significant

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