

Girl Named Valedictorian

MERRILL — Roberta Kirtley, with a grade point average of 1.69 will be valedictorian of the 1952 graduating class of Merrill high. Salutatorian is Evelyn Ochs with a grade average of 1.82. Roberta is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Arnold Kirtley and Evelyn's parents are Mr. and Mrs. Warren Ochs. Both have been active in school affairs.

Commencement exercises will be held the evening of May 21 in the high school gym. Thirteen will receive diplomas.



Russ Reported Seeking Peace

WASHINGTON — A. Wilfred May said Monday a visit to Moscow convinced him the Russians want peace in Korea and are trying to restrain Chinese Communists who, "drunk with power," are delaying a truce.

May went to Russia to report on the recent Moscow Economic Conference. He said the visit changed his former ideas about the possibilities of war and he now believes the Russian people are scared of America and Russia cannot stand a war.

May, executive editor of the New York Commercial and Financial Chronicle is a former foreign correspondent, a one-time economic expert with the Treasury Department and an author of many books.

In a copyrighted interview in U. S. News and World Report, a weekly news magazine, he said that as a delegate to the Economic Conference he had a chance given few American visitors in recent years: A close look at life and attitudes behind the Iron Curtain.

May said "pretty trustworthy people" told him Russia was sincere when it suggested the Korean truce talks but "the Communist Chinese have lost their heads and are drunk with power."

Foreign Duty Term Changed

WASHINGTON — The Air Force has a new plan, effective June 1, for determining when and for how long fliers should be assigned to foreign duty.

An Air Force spokesman said it will abolish the point system — so many points for combat, service abroad and so on — which has been one factor in overseas assignments since World War II. This system, he said, was aimed at meeting war conditions and never has been regarded as fully satisfactory for permanent use.

The spokesman said the new plan, based upon an individual's state of return from duty abroad, has been under preparation for months. He said its adoption has no connection with recent refusals by some officers to fly.

Some officers at Randolph Air Force Base in Texas and elsewhere ignored orders to take part in air formations. Some said they had had their fill of combat in World War II. One has been court-martialed, but the Defense Department has halted disciplinary action pending against others until it issues a new statement of policy.

The point system has been criticized because, under it, an officer would get as many points in two years' overseas duty after World War II as one who saw three years' service in the war.

The new method was explained this way:

1. No officer or airman will serve more than 18 months overseas away from his dependents. If this is waived, the man must serve at least 12 months abroad after his dependents arrive.
2. No personnel with less than 12 months still to serve will be eligible for overseas duty.
3. Two years' duty in the United States must be served before reassignment abroad.
4. These rules may be set aside if the airman volunteers for overseas service.

Arizona Papers On New Circuit

PHOENIX, Ariz. — The Associated Press Monday began operation of teletypewriter news wires in Arizona.

The state day and night wires were converted from teletype to teletypewriter circuits which produce tape from which type is set automatically in newspaper offices.

Tuna Fishermen Hit Jackpot

SAN PEDRO, Calif. — This port's purse Monday has brought from Baja California waters in the past three months—the best fishing in years.

The catch is predominately yellowfin—worth \$320 a ton.

Deliveries at this time last year totaled only 8,000 tons.

City Seeks New Highway Route

REEDSPORT — The Reedsport City Council wants the State Highway Commission to reroute a new highway which is scheduled to pass across one section of the city's water supply.

The commission is rebuilding the Coast Highway. One section of the new route is to extend several hundred feet across an irregular point of Clear Lake — source of water for Reedsport and Winchester Bay. The route already is constructed to the edge of the lake, however.

Skip Alexander and Art Wall Jr., top professional golfers, were former Duke University golf team captains.

A LITTLE GRAYER — Almost two years as a communist prisoner in North Korea appears to have made Maj. Gen. William Dean's hair grayer. This photo is latest in series released by the Reds through Communist correspondent Alan Winnington.

Dime Juke Toll Hit by OPS

PORTLAND — The 10-cent juke box is drawing frowns from the Office of Price Stabilization. Suits may be filed soon to force a return to a nickel per play.

Wills West, district OPS enforcement officer, said investigations showed a number of music machine operators throughout the state had raised prices without authority from 5 cents to 10 cents or three for a quarter.

The coastal resort area and Southern Oregon are among those being investigated, West said. No court charges have been filed yet, he said, adding that some may be if overcharge cases are not settled satisfactorily.

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