



WILLIAM O. KURTZ, Merrill, was recently named moderator of the Presbytery of Southwest Oregon during a meeting held in Medford. Kurtz, principal of the Merrill Elementary School, is presently an Elder of the Merrill Presbyterian Church.

Resignation Story Denied

WASHINGTON (AP) — The White House has denied a published report that Lewis L. Strauss has offered to resign as nominee for secretary of commerce.

The copyrighted report by the New York Daily News also said that President Eisenhower promptly rejected the offer, telling Strauss:

"I'll fight this out if it takes to the end of my administration."

But James C. Hagerty, White House press secretary, issued a denial Friday night.

"Someone has made a grave error," Hagerty said. "Resignation is the last thing in the mind of either the President or Secretary Strauss."

Strauss, who barely won approval of the Senate Commerce Committee, is expected to face strong opposition when his nomination reaches the floor of the Senate.

The News said Strauss made his offer to resign after the committee approved him by a 9-8 vote on May 19.

U. S. Criticizes Red Pressure

WASHINGTON (AP) — The United States, in separate statements, has accused both the Soviet Union and Communist China of increasing East-West tensions.

The statements were issued Friday by Lincoln White, State Department press officer. One criticized Soviet Premier Nikita Khrushchev for what it called stoking the fires of international tensions at the very time the Big Four ministers are seeking peaceful settlements in Geneva.

White said Khrushchev had engaged in a "propaganda campaign of threats" against Greece and Italy during his current visit to Albania.

Khrushchev has advised Greece and Italy, which neighbor Albania, not to accept missiles under the U.S. program of strengthening NATO defenses. In retaliation, the Premier said, the Soviet Union might set up rocket sites in Albania.

The second statement denied Chinese Communist charges that the United States had prodded Laos into violating truce terms. The Chinese have said the United States prompted the royal Laos government to integrate Communist forces into the Laos army.

Riders Select Wrong Jalopy

WEST LOS ANGELES (UPI)—Two men and a woman who picked Jayne Mansfield's \$6,000 limousine to take a joyride in were in jail here Saturday on grand theft auto charges.

Harold H. Smith, 45, Troy F. Branch, 31, and Branch's wife, Mattie, 30, were arrested Friday, nine hours after police said they took the actress' car while she and her husband, Mickey Hargitay, were in Las Vegas.

Actress, Family Tour Red Land

ZURICH, Switzerland (UPI)—If you're blonde and beautiful and built like Kim Novak, life behind the Iron curtain can be just like home.

"I didn't feel that I was behind the Iron Curtain," the Hollywood actress said when she arrived here from Prague, where she had spent four days with her Czech-descended parents.

"I guess it's like that when you make a rush visit, as we did. We had a wonderful time."

The Novaks plan to drive through Germany to France before returning home.

WRECK KILLS 200

JAKARTA, Indonesia (AP)—The Indonesian News Agency (PIA) said Saturday 200 persons died in Thursday's train wreck in West Java.

Four coaches of an express train bound for Bandung hurtled into a valley in the mountainous Tasikmalaja area after a coupling broke.

More than 45 million dollars worth of property and crops were destroyed in the Mississippi River flood of 1927.

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STARTS June 2 **TUESDAY** 1:30 P.M.

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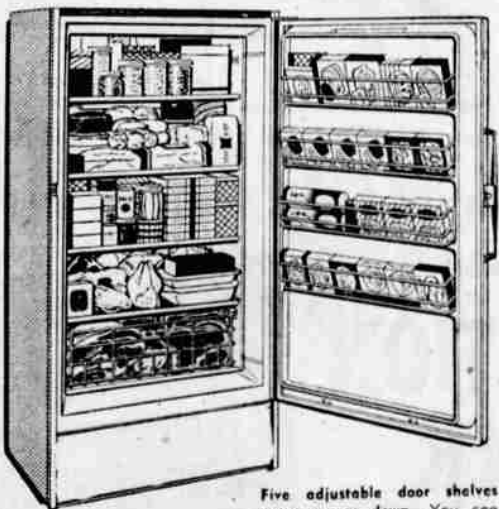
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PRECISION COLD CONTROL — Low-temperature control adjusts for zero storage or for fast, sharp freezing at 15-20 degrees below zero. Automatically responds when extra cold is needed.

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