Cry From The Wilderness

by Dorothy King



MRS. ADDIE BLAKE interviews young person seeking help from The Neighborhood Council.

Mrs. Addie Reid Blake is the Service Worker for the Kit Carson Neighborhood Council. In a previous report on the purpose and operations of the Neighborhood Councils, grass roots component of the Anti-Poverty Program, I reported that each Council elects its Service Worker, the only salaried member of a Council.

In electing Mrs. Blake, the Kit Carson Council felt that Mrs. Blake was an ideal selection because she had long been a devout church and community worker. As a Missionary, she had demonstrated her understanding and compassion for those to whom life had been less than rosy and an eager willingness to assist in easing their burdens whenever and wherever possible. She now has held the position of Kit Carson Neighborhood Council Service Worker for 11 months and has more than justified Council members' faith in her. In fact, the Council expresses unabashed pride in her.

I shall always be grateful to Mrs. Blake for giving me the privilege to help her on some of her work in her Council area. It has been an

experience I shall never forget.

ON ONE TOUR with her (a usual daily routine), we met about 15 families. All did not need help, but those who did misfortunes ranged from unemployment, illness, and frustration from lack of schooling but desiring an education. We met some who actually were without food or milk for their children.

As Mrs. Blake went along, she gave them hope and assured them they would have help immediately. And they were not idle promises. It was as though Mrs. Blake was, in truth, a fairy Godmother who need only wave her magic wand.

By four o'clock in the afternoon of that same day, the mother who needed milk and food for children was happy. It was touching to see the pleasure in a little boy's face when his mother gave him a piece of fruit. The sick was attended. The would-be student was enrolled. The unemployed had been referred to Manpower Development Center.

As we drove back to Mrs. Blake's office at the end of the day, there was complete silence in the car. I glanced over at Mrs. Blake and noted the faint smile of contentment on her lips. She knew her day was a rewarding and gratifying one.

Mrs. Blake knew the cry from the wilderness she had heard was the 25rd Psan Lord is my Shepherd--I Shall not Want'.

See you next week.

Deny Rap Brown Petition

ALEXANDRIA, Va. - (NPI)--Lawyers for black power leader H. Rap Brown are planning to appeal a judge's denial of a petition to avoid extradition to Maryland for prosecution on charges of starting a riot.

Judge Franklin P. Backus, Alexandria Corporation court, had denied a petition for a writ of habeas corpus. Brown remained free on bond while his lawyers planned their appeal to the Virginia Supreme Court of Appeals.

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Democratic Convention To Have Delegation Row

JACKSON, Miss. - (NPI)--A replay of the 1964 battle between the regular (white) Democratic delegation, and the predominantly Negro Mississippi Freedom Democratic party over representation at the national convention is about to crop up again next year.

However, not only will the MFDP be renewing its fight, but another group--the bi-racial Young Democratic Clubs of Mississippi--has served notice that it will be aiming for the same

Riot Prevention Maybe?

WASHINGTON - (NPI) -- Negro self-rule has been offered as a solution to big-city ills.

Milton Kotler, a resident fellow at the Institute for Policy Studies, Washington, said Congress should delegate its control over urban improvement programs to new neighborhood sub-governments.

He told the Urban Affairs subcommittee of Congress' Joint Education committee that riots can be prevented if neighborhood residents are allowed to govern themselves and make their

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