

# RUSTIN

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the upswing as South Africa's black workers began asserting their demands with greater self-confidence. Under the pressure of this upswing in protest the South African government passed labor reform legislation in 1979 guaranteeing black and other non-white workers the right to join and establish trade unions.

And while this reform has not eliminated an apartheid system under which black workers are horribly exploited and degraded, it has set into motion powerful forces which can eventually lead to a peaceful transformation of South Africa.

In recent years South Africa has been witness to a remarkable upsurge in the black trade union movement. Although the leaders of that movement are subjected to harassment, intimidation, arrest and,

sometimes, death, although dozens of trade unionists languish in jails and are subjected to torture and degradation, a number of trade union federations have emerged and shown substantial growth since 1979. The largest of these unions in the Federation of South African Trade Unions (FOSATU). FOSATU's membership has climbed within the last year from 59,000 to 95,000. The Council of Unions of South Africa (CUSA) has likewise exhibited phenomenal growth and now includes 50,000 black workers in its membership.

In all, less than 200,000 of South Africa's black workers belong to trade unions. The organizing of a larger proportion of the black work-force has been blocked through the South African government's repression of trade union leaders, through the impounding of union records and property, and through the disruption of union meetings.

Moreover, because some 60 percent of South Africa's workers have less than a primary education

# WAITING CHILDREN

DeJong (left) and Alice (right) are a black brother and sister who have been in foster care most of their lives. A two-parent black family which could provide a firm, well-structured home is needed for these two children. Prospective adoptive parents would need to have a good sense of humor and, preferably, experience in raising adolescent children.

Like any pre-adolescent, Alice can be alternately moody or charming. A secure home environment would help Alice achieve better emotional balance.

DeJong, at eleven years of age, is a very intelligent and active boy. Although outwardly friendly, he is more reserved than his sister and slower to show affection. He shows a great deal of indepen-



Alice, a very bubbly twelve-year-old, relates well to people and is quick to start a conversation. She is an engaging and perceptive child. Alice is a very healthy and attractive girl, but she needs guidance in acquiring better grooming skills. She likes bicycle riding and hopscotch. She has also expressed a desire to study ballet.

DeJong likes school, but like his sister, he has needed some special individual help. He has made good academic progress this last year and his potential is above average. He, too, has had episodes of very immature behavior.

DeJong does not have full use of his right arm due to Elbs Palsy. His arm is somewhat underdeveloped. However, he does not let this interfere with his activities. DeJong is sensitive about his disability and some of the fights and temper he has shown in school are related to this sensitivity.

Alice is well organized and willing to help around the house, but she has, at times, engaged in periods of very immature behavior. She has at least average potential, but she has had difficulty achieving at school. Her learning may be affected by her awareness of not having a family of her own. When Alice is given individual attention, such as remedial help in reading, she learns more quickly and applies herself eagerly.

Both DeJong and Alice would need a long period of adjustment if placed into an adoptive home, but both of them should blossom very well with loving, encouraging, and patient adoptive parents.

## HOW YOU CAN ADOPT

The children described in this column are waiting for adoption. Nationwide, there are over 300,000 children who, for various reasons, have not found permanent parents. Some have physical, mental or emotional handicaps; some are of mixed racial background; some are older; others are siblings.

The Las Vegas SENTINEL, working with AASK (Aid to Adoption of Special Kids) hopes to find homes for these children. AASK is looking for people who can give love and nurturing to hard-to-place children. Prospective parents may be single or married.

Subsidies (payments to the adopting family each month and medical expenses) are available for many of the children. Subsidies depend on the financial situation of the adoptive family.

If you'd like more information on how to adopt a special child or how you can help financially support the AASK program, please call 876-7420 or write AASK Adoption Agency, 3305 W. Spring Mountain Road, Suite 92, Las Vegas, 89102.

Adoption is a specific legal matter, and the Las Vegas SENTINEL can answer no questions concerning the children.

## Study Group Reviews Tax Reform

The Study Group was first proposed by the Governor before the Nevada Association of Counties meeting in Ely. The Study Group will review the 1979 and 1981 tax plans, and will propose possible modifications for the 1983 Legislative Session.

The Study Group will hold its first meeting within the next 30 days, the governor said.

Recommendations will be submitted to the governor prior to the 1983 Legislative Session.

## WANTED

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