

TODAY'S CHILD

BY HELEN ALLEN

THE TORONTO SUN SYNDICATE

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Ruthie is a tiny girl of 17 months, East Indian and Greek in descent. Though her general health is good, this baby has a multitude of problems so she needs parents who can give her not only love but a great deal of patience and understanding.

Ruthie was born blind and doctors say nothing can be done to give her sight. She is microcephalic, which means her head is smaller than normal. With this condition the brain cannot grow as it should, so the child is usually below average in ability. In addition to all this she has cerebral palsy (lack of muscle control). She cannot yet sit or hold her head up or take any weight on her feet.

Ruthie loves to be held and cuddled, and she explores with her hands anything she can reach. As is natural with blind children, she likes toys that make a noise.

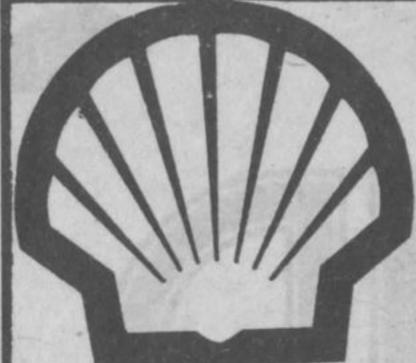
Ruthi's foster family spend much time carrying her around and talking to her besides doing exercises with her to strengthen her legs.

Dear little Ruthie needs a mother and father with a deep desire to help a child who has major handicaps. To inquire about adopting Ruthie, please write to Today's Child, Ministry of Community and Social Services, Box 888, Station K, Toronto M4P 2H2. In your letter tell something of your present family and your way of life.



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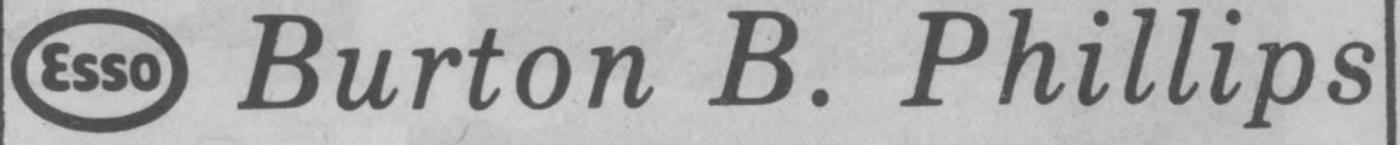
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