

Diagnosis By Chance Offers Young Girl a Normal Life

Toronto — Deborah Romney flew into Toronto from the Virgin Islands this week to keep a hospital appointment, despite its importance, was almost entirely the result of chance.

Deborah, 12, has scoliosis, or curvature of the spine. She can still dance, play ball, swim and dive. But as she grows, if the condition is left untreated, it could damage her heart and lungs and lead to a hunched-over position.

Her condition was first spotted by Dr. Campbell MacArthur of Oakville, who was working in Tortola last year and saw her playing on the beach. He thought there was something

wrong in the way she moved.

Now Deborah, her parents and her two sisters are in Toronto ready for the operation later this week at the Hospital for Sick Children. Two stainless steel rods will be placed along her spine to act as a brace.

Dr. John Hall, assistant professor of surgery at the University of Toronto and chief of orthopedic surgery at the hospital, has waived his fees for the operation, while hospital expenses were to be assumed by the Shriners.

Dr. MacArthur paid for Deborah's transportation.

Deborah has known about

the operation since December and says she is "excited."

"I'm not exactly frightened about the operation. I'm just going to be mad that I have to be in a cast for so long," she said in an interview on her arrival Tuesday night.

Deborah will spend about six months in a cast.

It takes a long time for some people to get over an illness if compensation sets in.

Please excuse Jimmie for being absent. He had a new baby brother. It was not his fault.

Confined To Kimberly, Black Can't Leave Africa

JOHANNESBURG (AP) — Robert M. Sobukwe, a leading black political leader, has been granted permission to leave South Africa permanently—but he isn't being allowed to leave the city where he lives.

Interior Minister Thea Gerdner approved an application by the 45-year-old teacher to leave for the United States, it was announced last week.

However Justice Minister Petrus C. Pelsaers says Sobukwe still is confined to the Kimberley city limits.

Sobukwe's position Sunday was that he can't leave the country because he can't reach an international airport or seaport from which he could go overseas. If he tries,

he risks a year in prison for breaking an order.

Sobukwe once headed the banned Pan African Congress. In 1960 he led the party in a campaign against the passes that all blacks must carry and produce on demand by authorities. The pass not only identifies the black, but usually specifies where he may live and work.

Sobukwe was jailed for three years for incitement. When his term was nearing an end, Parliament enacted a special law enabling the government to hold him as long as it liked. The so-called "Sobukwe clause" was used to detain him for three more years.

In a surprise move, the government announced Sobukwe's release in April, 1969, but specified that he must live only in the diamond-mining centre of Kimberley.

He also was barred from resuming his teaching career, prohibited from talking with journalists and ordered to stay away from social, political, student and other gatherings. His wife quit her job as a nurse in Johannesburg to join him in banishment.

The holder of three university degrees, Sobukwe is reported to have been offered a research and lecturing fellowship in African languages at the University of Wisconsin and part-time lecturing work at Chicago's Roosevelt University.

Degree Rated Valueless—Ont.

Toronto — The sister of Pakistani immigrant said recently her brother committed suicide because he was disappointed and ashamed that his degree from the University of Punjab was equivalent only to Grade 13 in Ontario.

Jamila Naeem said that if the Canadian government had a policy of evaluating university degrees held by prospective immigrants before they came to Canada, her brother might still be alive.

Muhammad Asghar, 27, jumped into the path of a subway train earlier this week. He had arrived in Canada six months ago. He held a bachelor of science degree and a master of science degree in chemistry from the university.

Mr. Asghar has received a letter from the Ontario department of education evaluation centre which said:

"On the basis of your bachelor or science degree from the University of Punjab in Pakistan, you have standing equivalent to the Ontario Grade 13 level."

The letter gave no evaluation of the other degree.

Mrs. Naeem, a research assistant to the director of the centre for population planning at the University of Michigan, said she found almost 100 letters in her brother's belongings turning down job applications he had made.

"Although nothing can be done for my brother now, I hope others will learn there isn't a job for everyone in Canada," she said.

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