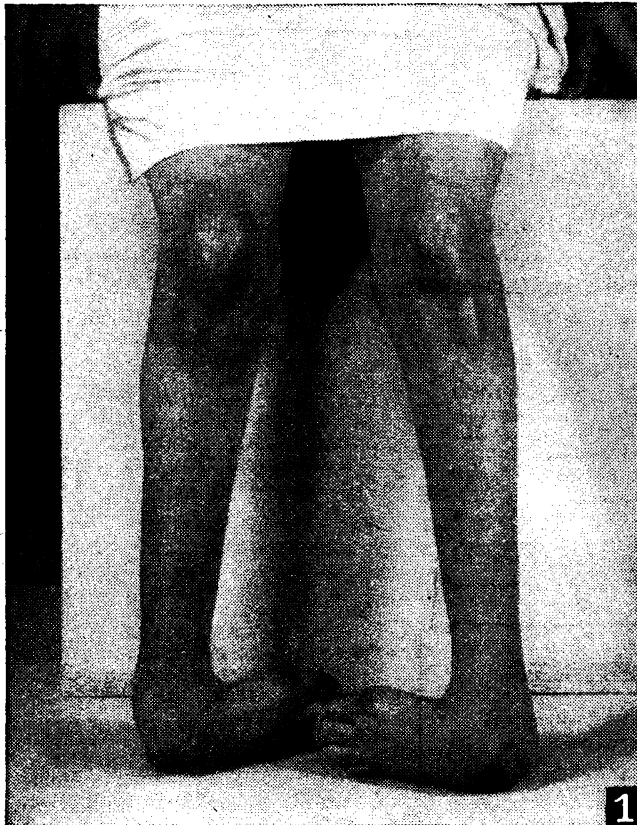


THE SOLVING OF AN ORTHOPAEDIC PROBLEM



Case H3471/2868. Female patient aged 38. Bilateral congenital deformity of the feet. Figure 1 shows the position of the feet before modified Symes amputations were performed and Figure 2 general appearance after fitting with Desoutter limbs.

The light metal artificial limbs are constructed from seamless light metal shins, and have totally enclosed ankle mechanisms. The glove type sockets, moulded from casts, ensure comfort and prevent piston action on the end bearing.

A point of interest in this case lies in the fact that, being a double amputation, the distance between the ends of the stumps and the ground could be increased to four inches instead of the usual two

and a half inches available on a single amputation. This placed the ends of the stumps well above the ankles and resulted in a neat appearance.

Figure 2 clearly illustrates the good end result obtained from the point of view of appearance. But the most important point of all in this particular case was the great improvement in walking action. Before amputation the inward position of the feet had caused the patient to walk with an inward rotation at the hips as each foot was lifted over the other. This habit persisted for some little time after the cause was removed, but after three months completely disappeared, and the patient now walks perfectly with a normal action.

DESOUTTER

★ *for the design and construction of Light Metal Artificial Limbs* ★