Worth Knowing

On the opposite page we show two sizes of high explosive shells which can be produced from the bar on our 4½" PEDESTAL BASE MACHINE (see cut on opposite page).

On this machine we can finish a 13-lb. shell all over as it appears from very tough material from which shells are made, in 24 minutes, and from ordinary machine steel in 17 minutes.

The 18-lb. shell in 30 minutes, or from regular machine steel in 22 minutes.

When you figure about $1.00 per day for operating this machine, you can then arrive at the actual labor cost for producing the piece.

We are going to say a little more—something which might be interesting. The following is a description of the 13- and 18-lb. high explosive shells which are now being used so extensively in the war to replace common shrapnel.

The material is high in tensile strength and VERY SPECIAL and has a tendency to fracture into small pieces upon the explosion of the shell. The timing of the fuse for this shell is similar to the shrapnel shell, but it differs in that two explosive acids are used to explode the shell in the large cavity. The combination of these two acids causes terrific explosion, having more power than anything of its kind yet used. Fragments become coated with these acids in exploding and wounds caused by them mean death in terrible agony within four hours if not attended to immediately.

From what we are able to learn of conditions in the trenches, it is not possible to get medical assistance to anyone in time to prevent fatal results. It is necessary to immediately cauterize the wound if in the body or head, or to amputate if in the limbs, as there seems to be no antidote that will counteract the poison.

It can be seen from this that this shell is more effective than the regular shrapnel, since the wounds caused by shrapnel balls and fragments in the muscles are not as dangerous as they have no poisonous element making prompt attention necessary.

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Cleveland, Ohio, U. S. A.

Abb. 44. Eine Anzeige aus „American Machinist“, die eine neue Art von Geschossen ausdrücklich deshalb empfiehlt, weil sie nicht nur kampfunfähig machen, sondern „Tod in schrecklichem Todeskampfe“ veranlassen, wenn nicht sofortige ausgiebige Hilfe kommt. Die sei aber in den Schützengräben unmöglich, deshalb seien die anderen nicht vergifteten Geschosse nicht so empfehlenswert, wie diese. Vgl. die mit schwarzem Streif bezeichnete Stelle.