

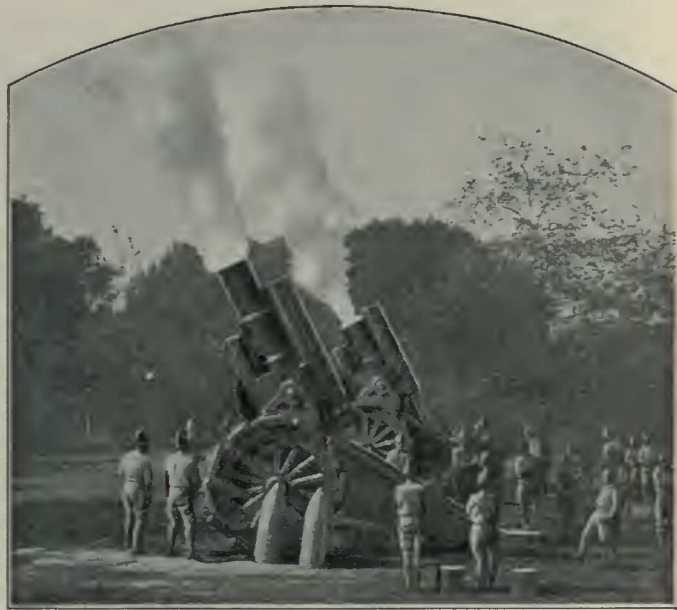
## Terrible to the Eye Alone

A boy's bean-shooter can do more harm than one of these stage guns, despite their formidable appearance

THE big Bertha and all the other members of the Krupp gun family stand a fair chance of being out-Krupped if our enthusiastic motion-picture producers continue to copy faithfully the outward appearance of Germany's modern ordnance. In one of our latest celluloid thrillers, depicting the capture and ruin of this country by an invading force, Krupp guns—or at least their wooden counterfeits—are utilized so realistically as to lead the audience to surmise that the Kaiser chartered a tug boat and scow to ship his Krupps over the sea for just one motion-picture play. The fact is that the office boy with his bean-shooter can do more damage than a dozen such "stage" guns.

But for motion-picture purposes these wooden counterfeits are just as effective as the real article. To see them roll up some peaceful countryside followed by a horde of warriors and to see the big make-believe monsters boom away at an invisible enemy is just the next best thing to seeing one of the Crown Prince's armies batter away at the French. The effect is startlingly realistic.

The principle feature about these guns which makes them simulate the real Krupps, is their ability to imitate the natural recoil at the moment of discharge, and the gradual raising to firing position. Each gun is provided with mechanical means which give a realistic representation



The stage guns not only simulate the outward appearance of the Krupps but even their recoil movement at the moment of discharge

of a modern highpower gun in action. For instance, a powder charge is exploded to represent the discharge of the genuine gun. The charge is ignited by an electric circuit.

At the instant of powder discharge the gun barrel moves freely down in its frame. In its downward movement a spring is compressed, giving the cushioning effect of the compression cylinders of modern guns. The gun barrel weighs four hundred and fifty pounds. In order to move it back again to its original firing position a counterweight of five hundred pounds is released by a lever.

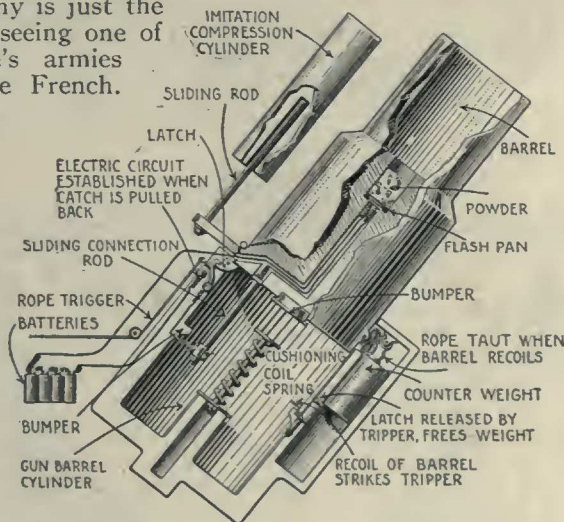


Diagram of the interior of the wooden gun. The charge of powder is ignited by an electric circuit