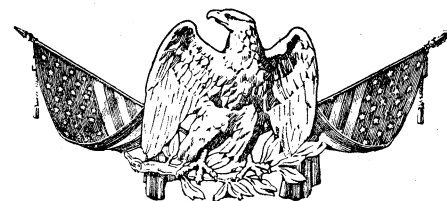


A Fight in Defense of Music



WE ARE engaging upon a fight in defense of the need for music, at this time above all times, and we shall continue to fight, tooth and nail, until the nation is alive to this great need of the hour.

Matter-of-fact men of prominence, have been going about the country, making unthinking statements, that in order to win our great war, it will be necessary to discountenance certain so called "non-essentials". Frequently the first named is music.

This has been the exact contrary to the experience of all the warring nations of Europe who during three years of torrents of fire, steel and blood have found that music was one of the things which have kept the men at the front and the people at home capable of enduring the greatest strain human beings have ever been expected to bear.

Great Britain is now reported to be spending large sums of money to bring back her musicians, speakers and actors to help preserve the public equilibrium at home.

Without relaxation, amusement, music and mind-rest civilization will turn to utter barbarity and the hope of sane and permanent peace will be lost.

Our nation is making elaborate provisions for the amusement of the soldiers at the front. We who must stay at home must depend upon music, reading, lectures and the theatre to keep our spirits at the topmost point to bear any ordeal that may come to us.

This is a matter of serious—yes—grave importance to all who are in any way interested in music. THE ETUDE urges all music teachers to stand together now as never before and assist in this campaign to keep the American people informed upon this point.

Any professional musician in this country who shirks this duty should feel deeply ashamed of himself. You have heard the call. It remains for you to come to the front.

Let us promote a "stand by music" movement in every city, town, hamlet in America.

Watch future issues of THE ETUDE for material to use in combating the unfortunate statements condemning music as a non-essential—not because the livelihood of the teacher and the continuance of a great industry might be seriously endangered—but because music and other means of relaxation may mean our escape from that pessimism and despondency that leads to civil and military ruin.

Our country is enormously prosperous despite the financial strain of the war and can afford to support music liberally now at the time when it is needed most.

Strike before it is too late. Write to-day to your Senators, Congressmen, City Officials, Clergymen, Newspapers. Organize meetings in your church, your club, your district. Your duty is before you.
