

MUSICAL AMERICA

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LOCAL MANAGERS THROUGHOUT COUNTRY OPTIMISTIC OVER MUSICAL OUTLOOK

"Musical America's" Canvass in Many Cities Indicates Sound Conditions in Concert Prospects Despite European War—Golden Opportunity for American Artists is Consensus of Opinion—Subscriptions for Concert Courses Larger than at This Time Last Year—Public Will Welcome Substitution of Worthy Native Talent Wherever It Is Necessary

AN attempt to gather opinions of prominent local managers throughout the United States as to the status of musical conditions in the various important cities in the face of the present European disturbance, serves the purpose of showing a remarkable optimism in practically all quarters.

Telegrams sent by MUSICAL AMERICA

Big Opportunity for American Artists

By FREDERICK R. HUBER, Baltimore, Manager of Concerts

[To the Editor of Musical America]



Baltimore, Md., Aug. 14.—Instead of being a menace to the country musically, it seems to me that the European war will be a tremendous help. In Baltimore we expect to carry through our concerts as per schedule. If some big names are missing we will have the

consolation of knowing that our public will have the opportunity of becoming acquainted with talent that might otherwise be withheld. We believe the situation augurs well for a more generous recognition of American musical artists.

FREDERICK R. HUBER.

to a number of these managers who could be reached at this season, brought responses that indicate no serious concern over the situation. In fact, in many cases it is apparent that the majority of local managers see positive advantages in so far as their particular plans are

Confidence Expressed in Our Resources

By FLORENCE L. C. BRIGGS, President St. Paul Schubert Club

[To the Editor of Musical America]

St. Paul, Minn., Aug. 14.—The European war seems not to have disturbed seriously the equilibrium of the local situation. It is believed that satisfactory artists are available as substitutes for those who will be unable to fulfill their contracts. Confidence is expressed in America's resources and present opportunities. It's an ill wind that bloweth no man good.



FLORENCE L. C. BRIGGS.

concerned, in the conditions which will result from the withholding of certain European artists for tours and the sub-

War Won't Disturb Cleveland Season

By ADELLA PRENTISS HUGHES, Manager of Concerts in Cleveland

[To the Editor of Musical America]



Cleveland, O., Aug. 14.—A very successful season here seems assured. More season tickets have been ordered for the symphony orchestra concerts now than at the same time last year, with new orders coming in daily. The possible change of a few men among the artists and soloists of the orchestra engaged will not disturb the season, in my opinion.

ADELLA PRENTISS HUGHES.

stitution of talented Americans in their places.

Another gratifying note which is found in many of these despatches is the reflection of public sentiment, which it ap-

Concert Subscriptions Lively in Albany

By BEN FRANKLIN, Musical Manager of Albany

[To the Editor of Musical America]

Albany, N. Y., Aug. 14.—As far as local conditions are concerned one would not know that a great war was in progress. Subscriptions to my various concerts are larger than at the same time last season and it is interesting to note that only to-day I received four subscriptions from patrons to my Albany concerts who are now abroad.

BEN FRANKLIN.

An Opportunity to Discover Talented Pupils

By MARY A. CRYDER, Manager of Concerts in Washington, D. C.

[To the Editor of Musical America]

East Gloucester, Mass., Aug. 13.—The musical situation appears at present promising. Artists who have joined their regiments in Europe will be replaced by others of lesser reputation but of ability. This situation creates an opportunity for the discovery of talented pupils. Instead of going abroad they will remain here to study and learn our musical worth.

MARY A. CRYDER.

pears, would welcome a broader opportunity for young Americans who have hitherto been denied the free access to

the concert platform to which their talents entitle them.

From the Middle West, particularly,

Sees Golden Era for Our Own Talent

By OSCAR CONDON, Manager of Concerts in St. Louis

[To the Editor of Musical America]



St. Louis, Aug. 14.—The European situation is an ill wind, undoubtedly, and orchestras and clubs will experience some inconvenience in rearranging their programs; but the golden opportunity is at hand for the worthy American artists who have heretofore been denied the recognition they justly deserve. Music will progress regardless. It is my opinion that the outlook was never better.

OSCAR CONDON.

there is manifest a strong desire to make the most of the situation, by encouraging our own musicians.

While news is beginning to come in from the war-stricken territory there is as yet little definite knowledge at hand as to the personnel of next season's musical artists. Undoubtedly a number of the prominent male artists who were scheduled to appear here will be detained, some of them being obliged to enter the military ranks. It is doubtful, however, that the women will be materially affected. This condition will probably affect some of the orchestras and certainly will make a big difference to the operatic companies. But there will be no shortage of music in America next season.

In some quarters there appears to be doubt as to the effect of the temporary increase in the cost of living which has resulted from the strife abroad. Certain

local managers seem to think that the present economic conditions will leave their mark in the quantity of subscriptions they will receive. Fortunately this fear appears only in isolated cases. The majority of managers whose views are expressed in the accompanying telegrams to MUSICAL AMERICA report subscriptions to be better than they were last year at this time, and announce

Music Now Becomes Need of the People

By ONA B. TALBOTT, Manager of Concerts Throughout Indiana

[To the Editor of Musical America]



Indianapolis, Ind., Aug. 14.—Responding to your request regarding the influence of the European war on music in America, it is my opinion that since music is the universal language greater audiences than ever before will gather under these con-

ditions, to hear the finer thoughts as they are expressed by the great composers. The time was when we could live without it. To-day it is a necessity.

ONA B. TALBOTT.

prospects of record-breaking guarantees.

President Wilson's investigation into the unreasonable increase in the cost of living brought about by corporations which have, without justification, taken the war as a pretext for the elevation of prices for living commodities, will undoubtedly relieve the situation and in financial and business circles the sentiment is of a decidedly reassuring nature. So there is every reason to believe that the isolated cases in which fear is expressed in this connection are not to be accepted as a reliable indication of the economic condition of the country.

Feeling of Confidence Spreads as to Return of Artists Marooned Abroad

THROUGHOUT the musical ranks of the country there has been a lessening of anxiety as to the possibility of prominent musicians being detained so long in Europe by the war situation as to interfere seriously with our American musical season. The cable has been the medium through which confidence has largely been restored. Various musicians marooned abroad have been able to get messages through to friends in this country, and the passenger lists of incoming steamers have brought certain

fortunate voyagers home. This combination of circumstances has created a feeling of encouragement as to the personal safety of the musicians held abroad, with consequent optimism as to the future situation in America.

Those artists who had contracts with the Dippel Opera Comique Company for the coming season felt immeasurably relieved when Andreas Dippel succeeded in sending a cable to his New York office.

[Continued on page 2]