

FRENCH ARTISTS KILLED

THREE HUNDRED AND FIFTY French artists, among whom are painters, sculptors, engravers, and architects, have paid the extreme price of their devotion to country and are counted with the dead. Altho a large number were either students in the Beaux-Arts or men young in their profession, says the American painter, Mr. William A. Coffin, "not a few were known to American artists, sculptors, and architects who studied in recent years at the Paris *école*." Included in the list furnished to the American Artists' Committee of One Hundred, organized to cooperate with the French society in raising relief funds for artists' families, is the name of the young American aviator, Victor Chapman, killed at the front, who was a student of architecture in the *atelier* of Gromort. The names printed in *The Evening Post* of January 18 are not repeated here because doubtless only a few would be known even to a limited circle in this country, but Mr. Coffin's words to the *Post* are worth quoting:

"Some time ago in one of my letters to Mr. Léon Bonnat, president of the *Fraternité des Artistes*, who is the director of the *École Nationale Supérieure des Beaux-Arts*, I asked if a list could be sent to me of French artists who have been killed in the war. In due time such a list came to hand from Mr. Edouard Thoumy, one of the secretaries of the *Fraternité*, and it includes students who went to the front from the Beaux-Arts *ateliers*. The lists are, I think, of interest—of sad interest, indeed—for, tho there are no more than three hundred and fifty names, doubtless a number of the men would have attained wide fame if their careers had not been cut short.

"The first two sections of the list, including artists who have gained reputation in France, may not contain names known in America, but this is because these soldiers were comparatively young. All the students were young men, of course.

"I do not like to ask our *confrères* in Paris, who are face to face with war and have their hands full with their efforts to help the dependents of their brethren, to go to much trouble in a matter of this kind, but I know these lists would be twice as long if they included artists not connected with the *Société des Artistes Français* or the *École des Beaux-Arts*. The lists, all bearing the heading, '*Tombés sur le champ d'honneur*,' are transcripts from the registers of the *Société* and the *École*, and give all the Christian names of each soldier, making identity exact, but I have deleted in most cases all but the first name given, as well as the names of masters of *ateliers*, which were appended.

"I beg that a little more of your valuable space may be accorded to say that the Relief Fund for the Families of French Soldier-Artists under our direction is of the greatest help to the *Fraternité des Artistes*; that we know their needs are more pressing than ever, and that checks for this fund should be made payable to William Bailey Faxon, treasurer, and mailed to 215 West Fifty-seventh Street (American Fine Arts Building) or to the undersigned [Mr. Coffin]. Treasurer's receipts are sent to all contributors and their names are forwarded to Paris from time to time with our remittances."