THERE has been a steady growth of opposition among men who have studied the situation, to the drafting of technically trained men into the armed forces. Many arguments have been advanced to favor the exemption of such men, and apparently the Government has considered not only for the conservation of the present supply of young engineers but also the augmentation of the number of engineering students on our technological institutions.

It is quite evident that there will be an enormous increase in engineering activity during the war, while the conduct of the war it is going to be exceedingly difficult to hold a great enough supply of young technical graduates to fill the demand from manufacturers, constructors, shipyards, automobiles, airplanes and other paraphernalia. Instead, however, of the supply being increased, it is possible that it will be considerably reduced, due to extraction of many students into war activities. Some measure must be taken to turn the tide in the other direction.

It may be argued that there are enough men beyond the draft age to carry on all the engineering to be done, but a moment's consideration will show that it is men between twenty-one and thirty who do the most active work. Older men with experience have a capacity for management but they need a large supply of younger engineers to assist them in their work in the most efficient way.

It will be well for the exemption boards to keep track of the young men in the proper engineering sphere. We hope that they will act in the best way for the nation's interests.

THE TECH
FRIDAY, AUGUST 10, 1917

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FRIDAY, AUGUST 10, 1917

THE TECHNICAL STUDENT

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