

In every positive development—even in donations to good causes—there is always a negative aspect. Industry's aid, for one thing, is often localized. In some communities musical organizations receive almost no aid from industry, because the businesses located there are only branches of large corporations. Though some nation-wide corporations, such as Ford, are educated to the idea of their branch cities as well as their main centers being due for cultivation, many forget this important fact. New Orleans, for instance, is the headquarters of but a few large corporations. National companies maintaining offices in the area usually resist appeals for contributions for orchestral maintenance on the grounds that they will thus lay themselves open to being solicited for similar donations in all the sections in which they are represented. That such solicitations are entirely in order does not seem to occur to them. The plain fact is that, just as all branches are expected to produce, so they should be equally solicitous of the artistic life of their communities.

Then here again the spectre is raised, as it is raised in every case of outside help, be it individuals, governments or industries: Do the givers unnecessarily influence the policies of the musical organizations to which they contribute?

In short, there is the situation of industrial executives becoming members of symphonic boards.

It is true that in many cases of large donations, by an industry to a symphony orchestra, the corporation has a representative on the board of directors of the orchestra. But there are also checks and balances. The Louisville Orchestra management maintains that "board membership is not tied up with the personal gift," and the Los Angeles Philharmonic's general director puts it, "Executives of some of the contributing organizations are members of the orchestra's board, but this is not a 'quid pro quo' arrangement."

In the Detroit Symphony annual gifts of \$10,000 by corporations automatically carry with them symphony board membership. However, great care is taken that the voting power of each remains equal, "so that there can be no criticisms of any one organization dominating the policy of the orchestra."

In general, therefore, it seems to be a policy for the big givers to have posts on the board, *with proper restraints and balances*.

Whatever abuses may creep in are to be righted, in any case, by diligence and a sense of integrity. But certainly the