

nineteen years old, who was shot December 24, by Edward Heaney, a special policeman.

An official statement from the Bank of France explains that the institution's suspension of the sale of gold was in no wise directed against America, but was a measure for the protection of the bank's gold reserve.

Stock exchange figures for the year of 1910 show that 159,856,314 shares of listed stocks and \$633,989,200 in state and railroads were traded in.

John B. Moisant and Arch Hoxsey, two of the world's foremost aviators, were killed Saturday, December 31, during exhibition flights with aeroplanes, the former at New Orleans, La., and the latter at Los Angeles, Cal.

The San Francisco American Red Cross endorsement committee appointed by President Taft has decided to raise \$75,000 as the city's contribution to the national endowment fund.

A dynamite explosion in the Tennessee Coal, Iron and Railroad company in Ensley, Ala., caused the death of three laborers.

Boston was chosen as the place for holding the 1911 convention of the American Bar association. The date set was August 29, 30, 31.

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## Washington News

Representative Rainey of Illinois, has introduced a resolution to inquire into Mr. Roosevelt's railroad trips while he was president, and he has now been asked by citizens of Georgia to offer another resolution inquiring into the expenses of Mr. Roosevelt's African trip.

There is some talk of charging Hughes as the republican nominee for president, but it is generally believed that the Taft boom is now so far under way that nothing can prevent the president's renomination.

Senator Burkett of Nebraska is the first western senator to declare for Mr. Taft's renomination. He said that Nebraska would send a solid Taft delegation.

The army appropriation bill carries an appropriation of \$92,000,000.

Richard Parr, the customs house employe, who discovered the steel springs in the scales used by the sugar trust, will receive \$100,000 as his reward. The government will pay it. Through his expose the government recovered three million dollars.

The postmaster general's report shows that the total postal receipts

for the fiscal year 1910 aggregate \$224,128,567.62. This is an increase of \$20,566,274.75, or 10.10 per cent when compared with those for the preceding year. The expenditures for last year were \$229,977,224.50, an excess over receipts of \$5,848,466.88. To this should be added \$32,915.07 lost by burglary, fire, bad debts, etc., making a total of \$5,881,481.95, a decrease of \$11,598,288.52 when compared with the deficit of the fiscal year 1909.

The new congressional apportionment will provide for a new membership of 145, or one member to every 211,700 of population. This will be an increase rather than a decrease.

Secretary Nagel's annual report says that next year's immigration will equal the banner year of 1907.

Congress is asked to investigate the Capital United Wireless Telegraph company.

Major General Leonard Wood declared before the house committee on military affairs that the United States is not prepared for real hostilities with a first class nation.

Political authorities agree that President Taft is a candidate for renomination.

## The Real Business Interests

In an editorial entitled "Is It Coming?" the Akron (Ohio) Times says:

We agree with the Beacon Journal that the "prosperity" argument and the "stability of business" argument have been quite overworked by the republicans—including itself—and that this formerly "republican mainstay" has been "effectually knocked in the head." We also believe, with our neighbor, and said so at the time, that its party "ought to have been licked in 1908."

We are saying all this, not for the purpose of involving our contemporary in an inconsistency, but because it has come to what we believe is the right position—a position which is to need fighting for in the next two years and we are glad to welcome all help in that contest, without regard to past conduct or party names. We are certain, too, that our neighbor has picked out the real principle upon which men are to divide in political action and that the time for the division cannot be long delayed.

That principle is this: It is assumed in quarters that would be controlling in politics, that "business interests" are those interests alone which are powerful in influence and of magnitude in the world of finance, and that "business prosperity" means that which makes these interests prosperous, to the exclusion or neglect of the smaller ones—although the latter may comprise the greater number by far and may reach deeper down into the vitality of our people; roughly speaking, but accurately enough for the popular understanding, they may be, and often are, designated as the "interests," or the "corporations." A further assumption is that these interests shall monopolize, practically, about all the functions of government, and so far the claim has been recognized and acted upon. Congress is expected to, and generally does, legislate principally as they wish; the courts are busy with settling their disputes; the president is elected largely through their efforts and at their dictation, and is expected to

be their executive. And what is thus true of the general government is also true of state governments, within their sphere.

That all this gives to these interests a vast advantage, not founded on merit, and which therefore ought to be withheld, is the substance of what the Beacon Journal is arguing for, as we understand it. The injustice of this situation is not now for the first time discovered, nor is the objection to its continuance now first voiced. But, coming from a republican organ, the protest is as hopeful as it is strange. It is hopeful because it marks a new alignment, in our opinion, in which conservatism shall be made to bear its true meaning, as caring for the interests of all, instead of some, and that both great and small shall have the equal ear of legislation and the equal watchfulness of the government, instead of the great alone.

The distinction for which we have always contended, and for which some newspapers of other party fellowship are now contending, was better stated years ago, by a man whose name we will not give, as it might frighten the later converts from their new-found sense of justice. He said:

"When you come before us and tell us that we are about to disturb your business interests, we reply that you have disturbed our business interests by your course. We say to you that you have made the definition of a business man too limited in its application. The man who is employed for wages is as much a business man as his employer. The attorney in a country town is as much a business man as the corporation counsel in a great metropolis. The merchant at the cross-roads store is as much a business man as the merchant of New York. The farmer who goes forth in the morning and toils all day—who begins in the spring and toils all summer—and who, by the application of brain and muscle to the natural resources of the country, creates wealth, is as

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