

Back in 1795 four real estate men bribed members of the Georgia state legislature to sell them, for a song, the 35 million acres of land that now constitute most of Alabama and Mississippi.

That scandal, which became known as the Yazoo land frauds, was probably the first instance in the United States of business being in politics.

It has been knee-deep in politics ever since

-▶ in Andy Jackson's fight with the Bank of the United States
-▶ in the corruption of the administration of President Grant
-▶ in the lush days of Mark Hanna, President McKinley and the McKinley tariff
-▶ in the brutal use of troops against striking coal miners, railroad workers, building tradesmen, steel workers, textile workers—any place men sought to build or maintain a union