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EDITORIAL

The Subsidy Grabbers' Defeat.

A few shipowners will not be given free use of the \$400,000,000 which the American people have invested in the Panama Canal. The repeal of toll exemption prevents that. The untrue and misleading statement that exemption gives "our" ships free use of our canal has failed to accomplish its deceptive purpose. So also have the false and contemptible appeals to unreasonable prejudice involved in talk about "British control." That some good men, such as La Follette and Clapp, were deceived by these transparent tricks into supporting a subsidy is as strange as it is regrettable. That some stanch supporters of predatory institutions, such as Root and Lodge, should have opposed this subsidy, indicates that there is a limit beyond which even they will not go. The victory is one that will give strength and encouragement to the war on Privilege. S. D.



Senatorial Courtesy.

Among the things that lie beyond the power of human restraint none is more firmly established than the loquaciousness of the United States Senate. Man may subdue the elements and harness the forces of nature, but he is helpless in the presence of a speech-charged Senator. Months ago, and after the public had discussed the Panama Tolls Repeal from every possible point of view, a legislative body of 435 members devoted a few hours to the bill and passed it. The Senate has taken months to discuss the bill sent to it by the House, and finally, when the last of its 96 members had said his last word, and important legislation had been rendered impossible because of the delay, it has—passed the bill. Was there one vote changed through all this delay? Did a solitary man see the matter differently after this welter of idle oratory? And the net result is that the Senate, by a vote of 50 to 35, agrees with the House that a treaty of our own making and adoption means what it says, and