

Senators by the very terms of their proposal, what other reason can be given for having such a pledge in the treaty?" That these papers represent the general feeling of the people of the United States regarding treaty objections better than the politicians who, recognizing those objections, propose to evade them by sharp practice worthy of pettifogging attorneys, we do not question. It is only fair to add that some of the leading members of the Senate have taken the same high ground, as the papers to which we have made reference. The indications are that if as appears likely the discriminatory legislation, in any form, direct or indirect is abandoned, it will be due less to pressure from abroad, than to the self-respect of the people of the United States.

#### Death of Mr. R. Stanley Bagg.

We much regret to have to record the death of Mr. R. Stanley Bagg, one of the largest real estate owners in Montreal. Mr. Bagg was a lawyer by profession, but devoted himself in late years exclusively to the management of the Bagg Estate. He took an active interest in politics and was at one time president of the Liberal-Conservative Club.

#### Floods in Pennsylvania.

Thirteen miners were drowned in a mine at Foans Station near Uniontown, Pa., after a cloudburst on Wednesday. Since Sunday the Pittsburg district has been flooded; at Jeanette, Pa., 2,000 people are marooned by the water, and 75 families are homeless. At Dunbar, Pa., over 200 houses are submerged and great damage has been done. From Brownsville, Pa., 1,000 families have taken refuge in the hills. While heavy rains and cloudbursts have been the primary causes of the troubles, much of the suddenness, and therefore, deadly character of the floods appears to have been due to dams and reservoirs giving way. This source of danger is nothing new in Pennsylvania and the frequency of these disasters suggests that dam construction in the state needs more official supervision than it is getting. Making every allowance for exceptional rains, there ought to be some way of making the breaking of dams exceptional at least.

#### Over-Insurance Renders Marine Policy Void.

A judgment has just been rendered in England which affirms the principle that all marine policies taken out with underwriters are rendered void by the concealment from the underwriters of over-insurance.

The British Standard, was lost in May, 1910, while on a voyage from Cardiff to Rio de Janeiro with coal after coming in contact with some submerged obstruction. To prevent the wreck from becoming a danger to navigation the master took steps to cause the vessel to sink. It was claimed at the Board of Trade inquiry that the steamer had either been scuttled or prematurely abandoned, but the judge stated that the insurance company had not proved that the ship could have been saved. But it tran-

spires that in addition to the insurance policies taken out with certain companies sufficiently covering the value of the vessel and cargo, together with disbursements, she was also insured through the "clubs" which exist for that purpose.

The judge maintained that this was a serious matter, and the court, after going into all the details, expressed the opinion that there was overinsurance to the extent of something like £6,000.

#### U. S. Reciprocity Act.

President Taft is said to be anxious for Congress to repeal the Canadian Reciprocity Act. Colonel Roosevelt endorsed Reciprocity at first, but dropped it like a hot potato when he found that it was exceedingly unpopular in the Middle West and Northwest. The President has not yet committed himself publicly on the matter, but is trying to find out how the leading Republican senators feel about it. If Mr. Taft thinks the retention of the Act is likely to injure his prospects, by all means let him have the credit of abolishing it, because it is not doing anybody else any good—except perhaps the pulp and paper consumers of the United States. The Reciprocity Act is a dead statute and if Mr. Taft is wise he will do his best to make the question a dead issue in the presidential campaign. He cannot make any votes out of a piece of inoperative legislation discredited on both sides of the line. He may lose a good many. For him it is a case of heads somebody else wins, tails he loses. If his friends try to make capital out of Reciprocity, it will lend itself admirably to ridicule.

#### The Rosenthal Murder.

That the New York police force has for many years been tainted with corruption, many of its members in unholy alliance with evil doers, and a terror chiefly to those that do well, has long been freely charged. The revelations in connection with the cold-blooded murder of Rosenthal the professional gambler, show that unhappily upon this subject the half has not been told and probably never will be told. That Rosenthal was murdered to prevent him exposing the corruption of the police is evident, and he was murdered at the instigation of policemen, with the actual connivance of police officers, with the approval of many members of the force including officers, and it is asserted "men higher up" than those now directly implicated. That some of the officers were partners in Rosenthal's gambling business is manifest, and it has been abundantly proven that there is a close alliance between the police and the lowest kinds of law breakers in New York. Surely the Rosenthal murder will bring about a radical reform. The strength of the corrupt element in the New York police has always been politics, and for the sake of politics the average party man will be blind to a great deal of scandal. But there must be a limit somewhere to the toleration of such atrocious rascality, and surely when the police connive at murder, the limit must be nearly reached.