## LOAD-LINE REGULATIONS FOR SHIPS ON GREAT LAKES

Exchange of notes at Washington July 22, September 5, and October 20, 1941

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Department of State files

The Canadian Minister to the Acting Secretary of State

Canadian Legation
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No. 462

SIR.

I have the honour to inform you that representatives have been made to the Canadian Department of Transport that, owing to the scarcity of ships, difficulty is being experienced in transporting ore on the Great Lakes, and it is expected that unless more means of transportation are provided it will be impossible to have a large amount of this ore moved this year.

The Department of Transport is of the opinion that if some relaxations were allowed in the Load Line Rules for ships making voyages on Lakes or Rivers, approved by Order in Council of August 6th, 1937, which would allow of deeper loading of ships, it would help to a great extent in this difficulty. Accordingly the Department of Transport is prepared to recommend certain relaxations.

The Load Line Rules for the Great Lakes in force in Canada have been recognized by the United States Government as being equivalent to their Load Line Rules, and the Government of Canada has likewise recognized the United States Load Line Rules for the Great Lakes.

Accordingly I have been directed to inform you that the Government of Canada is considering relaxing the Load Line Rules for ships making voyages on Lakes or Rivers by allowing lesser freeboards in certain ships. The proposed relaxations will be substantially the same as the relaxations allowed by a recent Regulation made by the Department of Commerce of the United

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Three months after publication in *Federal Register* (10 Fed. Reg. 12163) of notice of rescission of part 47 of Load-line Regulations.