

subdivision load-lines and to what extent such ships are required to comply with the subdivision load-line regulations, the competent American authorities have stated that each existing passenger ship is considered on its merits in relation to its physical compliance with the subdivision load-line requirements. In interpreting the meaning of the words *reasonable* and *practicable*, the decisions of the Department of Commerce have resulted in most cases in a one-compartment standard of subdivision.

The American authorities have directed attention to the following slight difference in the scope of the basic load-line laws of the United States and of Canada: The laws of the United States are more general and probably embrace more vessels; for instance, tug boats do not seem to be required to have load-lines under the Canadian law, but are required to have them under the United States law. In the case of such Canadian vessels which are exempt from Canadian load-line regulations and which visit United States ports, it will satisfy the American load-line authorities if such vessels are marked with load-lines under the Canadian load-line regulations, even though Canadian load-line law would not require them to be marked.

Accept, Sir, the renewed assurances of my highest consideration.

DAVID McK. KEY
Chargé d'Affaires a. i.

*The Secretary of State for External Affairs to the United States Chargé
d'Affaires ad interim at Ottawa*

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
CANADA

No. 185

OTTAWA, 2nd September, 1939.

SIR,

With reference to the despatch No. 819 of the 22nd October, 1938, from the United States Chargé d'Affaires at Ottawa, and previous correspondence, in the matter of Load Line Regulations applicable to the Great Lakes, I have the honour to state that, by Order-in-Council of the 7th July, 1939, P.C. 1790, certain regulations relating to sub-division have been made, bearing the title, "Regulations respecting the Sub-Division and Pumping Arrangements of Passenger Steamships employed making Inland Voyages between Canada and the United States of America".

These regulations were published in the "Canada Gazette" of the 12th August, 1939, and I enclose herewith a copy of the "Gazette", so that the competent authorities of the United States Government may be in a position to give consideration to the acceptance of these regulations as being equal to the United States Sub-Division Load Line Regulations.

Accept, Sir, the renewed assurances of my highest consideration.

O. D. SKELTON
for the Secretary of State for External Affairs.