

EXCHANGE OF NOTES (APRIL 29, AUGUST 24, AND OCTOBER 22, 1938; SEPTEMBER 2 AND OCTOBER 18, 1939; JANUARY 10 AND MARCH 4, 1940) REGARDING RECIPROCAL RECOGNITION OF LOAD LINE REGULATIONS FOR VESSELS ENGAGED IN INTERNATIONAL VOYAGES ON THE GREAT LAKES, BETWEEN CANADA AND THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

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

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

No. 686

OTTAWA, CANADA,

April 29, 1938.

SIR:

I have the honor to inform you that the appropriate authorities of my Government have received copies of the *Canada Gazette* of August 28, 1937, containing an Order-in-Council, P.C. 1903, under date of August 6, 1937, making effective as of October 1, 1937, load line rules for ships making voyages on lakes or rivers.

The Coastwise Load Line Act, 1935, as amended, of the United States, provides in the U. S. C., title 46, sec. 88 d:

"§ 88d. Foreign vessels; application of sub-chapter. Whenever the Secretary of Commerce shall certify that the laws and regulations in force in any foreign country relating to load lines are equally effective with the regulations established under sections 88 to 88i of this title, the Secretary of Commerce may direct, on proof that a vessel of that country has complied with such foreign laws and regulations, that such vessel and her master and owner shall be exempted from compliance with the provisions of sections 88 to 88i of this title, except as hereinafter provided: *Provided*, That this section shall not apply to the vessels of any foreign country which does not similarly recognize the load lines established under sections 88 to 88i of this title and the regulations made thereunder. (Aug. 27, 1935, c. 747, § 5, 49 Stat. 889)."

The American authorities have concluded that, except for sub-division load lines applicable to passenger vessels, the aforementioned Canadian load line regulations are as effective as the regulations set forth in Section C of the Load Line Regulations of the United States (Rules and Regulations Series, No. 4, January 1938 edition), of which three copies are enclosed.

The Government of the United States will recognize the Canadian load line regulations as promulgated in the *Canada Gazette* of August 28, 1937, to be as effective as Section C of the United States Load Line Regulations (January 1938 edition), provided that the Canadian Government will similarly recognize United States load line regulations.

As no provision is made in the Canadian load line regulations for sub-division marks for passenger vessels, and as the United States Load Line