No. 4

NOTE OF NOVEMBER 2, 1940.

*From the United States Minister to Canada,*

*To the Secretary of State for External Affairs.*

OTTAWA, November 2, 1940.

My DEAR DR. SKELTON:

I have received your letter of December 30, 1940, in which, after refer[illegible] Mr. Roper's letter to you of June 9, 1939, and to your reply to him of [illegible] 1939, concerning the interpretation of the Rush-Bagot Agreement of 1937, you comment on the previous practice in this regard [illegible] light of modern conditions of naval construction, and make the suggest[illegible] a further interpretation of the Rush-Bagot Agreement might be made [illegible] formity with the intent of the Agreement that important naval vessels [illegible] not be built for service on the Great Lakes. This would involve recognit[illegible] armament might be installed on naval vessels constructed on the Great [illegible] provided that:—

(a) The vessels are not intended for service on the Great Lakes;

(b) Prior to commencement of construction, each Government furn[illegible] other with full information concerning any vessel to be [illegible] as Great Lakes parts;

(c) The armaments of the vessels are placed in such condition as [illegible] incapable of immediate use while the vessels remain in the Great [illegible] and

(d) The vessels are promptly removed from the Great Lakes upon [illegible] pletion.

In reply, I am authorized to inform you that the United States Gove[illegible] agrees to this further interpretation of the Rush-Bagot Agreement.

Sincerely yours,

PIERREPONT MOFFAT

Dr. O. D. SKELTON,
Under-Secretary of State for External Affairs,
Ottawa, Canada.