

LOAD-LINE REGULATIONS FOR SHIPS ON GREAT LAKES

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

Entered into force October 20, 1941

*Terminated December 27, 1945*¹

Department of State files

The Canadian Minister to the Acting Secretary of State

CANADIAN LEGATION
WASHINGTON

July 22, 1941

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

¹ Three months after publication in *Federal Register* (10 Fed. Reg. 12163) of notice of rescission of part 47 of Load-line Regulations.

States Government, entitled Part 47, Temporary Variance for Sea and Great Lakes Coastwise Voyages, signed by the Acting Secretary of Commerce, and dated July 5, 1941, it being noted that this Regulation does not at present apply to any but vessels engaged in coastwise voyages in the United States and to voyages between ports in the United States on the Great Lakes.

I have the honour to be, with the highest consideration, Sir,

Your most obedient, humble servant,

LEIGHTON MCCARTHY

The Honourable

THE ACTING SECRETARY OF STATE OF THE UNITED STATES
Washington, D.C.

The Secretary of State to the Canadian Minister

SEPTEMBER 5, 1941

SIR:

I have the honor to refer again to your note no. 462 of July 22, 1941 informing this Government 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.

I have now been informed by the Department of Commerce that the Department agrees that during the emergency proclaimed by the President of the United States on May 27, 1941 if Canadian vessels entering United States ports are marked with load lines under regulations essentially the same as those contained in Part 47 of the Load Line Regulations of the Department of Commerce, such marks will be authorized as equivalent to the marks placed on American vessels provided the Canadian Government likewise will recognize in Canadian ports the marks placed on United States vessels in accordance with the Department of Commerce regulations referred to. For the use of the Canadian authorities in this connection there are enclosed four copies of Part 47 of the Load Line Regulations of the United States.

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

For the Secretary of State:

BRECKINRIDGE LONG

Enclosure: ²

Part 47 (4 copies).

The Honourable

LEIGHTON MCCARTHY, K.C.,
Minister of Canada.

² Not printed here.

The Canadian Minister to the Secretary of State

CANADIAN LEGATION

WASHINGTON

October 20, 1941

No. 645

SIR:

I have the honour to refer to your Note of September 5th, and to state that I am instructed by the Secretary of State for External Affairs to inform you that the Government of Canada will grant reciprocity of treatment in the matter of Load Line Rules on the Great Lakes, as suggested in your Note under reference.

I have the honour to be, with the highest consideration, Sir,
Your most obedient, humble servant,

LEIGHTON McCARTHY

The Hon. CORDELL HULL,
Secretary of State of the United States,
Washington, D.C.