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THE MARITIME LAW ASSOCIATION OF THE UNITED STATES

REPORT OF COMMITTEE APPOINTED TO CONSIDER REVISION OF THE INLAND RULES

To the Honorable VanVechten Veeder,
President, Maritime Law Association.

Dear Sir:

As Chairman of the Inland Rules Committee, the membership of which was appointed by you during 1932, I reluctantly report on behalf of the Committee that the work of the Committee in redrafting the Rules has not been completed; and your Committee requires an extension of time in which to finish its work.

It may now be definitely reported, however, that your Committee finds that the Inland Rules should be modified in several respects, not only in order to bring the Rules into harmony with the proposed International Regulations for Preventing Collisions at Sea, which latter form Annex II of the Convention for Safety of Life at Sea, but also in other particulars.

Your Committee appreciates that this matter is of importance, and entails consideration of many details, involving as it does not only a study of the (new) International Rules and their bearing on and applicability to navigation in inland waters, but also a careful examination of the so-called Pilot Rules (promulgated by the U. S. Steamboat Inspection Service).

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It is believed that a wide range of inquiry should be given to the entire subject; and it has occurred to this Committee that many members of the Association, other than the individual members of this Committee, may wish to place before the Committee recommendations or suggestions concerning modifications which they may consider advisable to incorporate in the (new) Rules. *It is therefore recommended on behalf of your Committee that an appropriate notice be issued to the members of the Association generally, calling for submission to the Committee of such recommendations or comments on the Inland Rules as such members of the Association may wish to make.*

Your Committee has taken notice of the fact that the Committees for revision of the Great Lakes Rules, and for the River Rules, have recommended that these respective sets of rules be left unchanged (Documents No. 183 and No. 186). As suggested by these two Committees, this Committee will make appropriate provisions for exclusion of the waters of the Great Lakes and the Red River of the North and rivers emptying into the Gulf of Mexico from the operation of the proposed Inland Rules.

Finally, if it should become necessary that a revised set of Inland Rules should be submitted expeditiously, so that these Rules may be acted upon by the legislative bodies simultaneously with such action as may be taken on the International Regulations for Preventing Collisions at Sea referred to above, it is expected that it will be possible for this Committee to submit its report seasonably; and, in such an event, it seems also practicable that a special meeting of the Association might be called in order to discuss and pass upon the Inland Rules thus submitted.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

Very truly yours,

W. H. McGRANN, *Chairman.*

SECRETARY'S NOTICES

The following questions will be presented to the meeting:

1. Should there be a rule, similar to New York Civil Practice Act, Sec. 322, imposing the cost of proving the genuineness of a written document on a party who, on demand, refuses to admit its genuineness?

2. Should the customary stipulation of the Southern District Court Reporters that the fee for note-taking and for transcribing the minutes, if ordered by the Court, shall be taxable by the successful party, each party to pay his share upon completion of the services, be changed so as to require the party first ordering the minutes transcribed to pay not only the cost of transcription but also the full charge for the note-taking, and to be subrogated to the Reporters' rights against the other parties for their share of the note-taking?

ARNOLD W. KNAUTH, *Secretary*