

C188684

DRAFT STATEMENT BY THE PRIME MINISTER

RE: MEAT RATIONING

~~Honourable Members are doubtless aware that~~ ^{the} United States Government announced this morning that they are discontinuing rationing of both meat and fats and oils effective ~~immediately~~ ^{tomorrow}. This decision in the United States has naturally ~~given us occasion to re-examine our own policy in this connection, and I should like to say at once that it is our intention to continue the rationing of meat in Canada in full effect.~~ ^{require in essence a re-examination of} Honourable Members are ~~fully~~ ^{are better} aware ~~of the fact~~ ^{that} that ~~while~~ there has been a general understanding between the United States, ^{the} United Kingdom and Canada ever since the formation of the Combined Food Board more than three years ago that each country would endeavour to make its best contribution to the common problems we have been facing. It has ^{of course, always} been ~~equally well~~ understood that each country must necessarily be its own judge of how best to implement that understanding.

In a statement released to the press by the Secretary of Agriculture

I have the most fresh and vivid personal impressions of the urgent needs of the United Kingdom and the most desperate situation in many parts of the Continent of Europe. Last July ~~on behalf of the Government~~ I announced ~~the~~ ^{our} Government's decision to resume the rationing of meat in order that ~~we~~ ^{Canada} might make the fullest contribution ~~possible~~ ^{of the United Kingdom and the continent} to the needs as we then saw them.