

(d) Coffee. On July 28 the President of the United States, in the course of a radio address on a general war theme, announced the termination of coffee rationing. (He also foreshadowed increased allowances of sugar.) The Canadian Board had had no official intimation that any such action was in prospect.

4. It is not possible, nor is it in fact desirable, that exactly parallel action should always be taken in the two countries. Serious difficulties inevitably arise, however, if new controls are established or old controls relaxed by the United States without advance warning to enable suitable precautions to be taken in Canada. To a lesser degree the same considerations apply to the United States. Consequently advance information is of real concern to both countries.

5. Although the representatives of the Wartime Prices and Trade Board in Washington have done their best to work out a satisfactory arrangement with the appropriate administrative officials in that city, it is apparent that their efforts have been unsuccessful.

6. Because of the importance of this matter it is suggested that at a suitable opportunity you should mention it to the President with a view to having him direct the responsible United States officials to co-operate in these matters with the representatives of the Wartime Prices and Trade Board. The solution is a relatively simple matter and it will involve the United States price and rationing administration in no difficulties or dangers. The information that is supplied to the Canadian officials will, of course, be kept completely confidential. Co-operation in this field will be greatly to the mutual advantage of the two administrations, whereas a continuation of the present unsatisfactory relationship will have detrimental effects in both countries. This is a field in which co-operation is relatively easy to arrange, and important in its beneficial results.