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Memorandum for the Prime Minister

re Food Policy

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Attached is the proposed statement on food policy prepared by the Cabinet Committee and approved by Mr. Gardiner, Mr. MacKinnon and Mr. Claxton as to substance. I have, however, gone over it and made considerable textual revision. The revisions were all checked with Baldwin of the Privy Council Office to make sure they did not alter the sense or meaning of any statements on policy.

While I am sending the document forward in its present form, it seems to me much too long and discursive to have the kind of effect required. I am taking a copy home to work over again, with a view to cutting it down drastically in length and giving it more definiteness.

I have discussed with Mr. Norman Robertson the question of releasing it and we have, on balance, come to the conclusion it will probably be better to hold it until after Monday. The main purpose is to get good publicity and there is going to be too much else in the papers on Monday to make that possible. I shall, however, try to have a revised and shortened version ready for you some time tomorrow.

J. W. P.

16th March, 1946.