## (iv) FOOD RATIONING

*General Provisions.*
*Specified Foods:*
*Bacon, p.* 2033.
*Specified Foods (cont.):*
*Fats and Cheese, p.* 2037.
*Meat, p.* 2045.

*Feeding Stuffs, Sugar—see under "Specified Foods Controlled" at pp.* 2090, 2196 *below.*

# 1953 No. 792

# The Food Rationing (General Provisions) Order, 1953

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| *Made - - - -* | *9th May,* 1953 |
| *Laid before Parliament* | *11th May,* 1953 |
| *Coming into Operation* | *17th May,* 1953 |

The Minister of Food, in pursuance of the powers conferred upon him by Regulations 55 and 55AA of the Defence (General) Regulations, 1939, as having effect by virtue of the Supplies and Services (Transitional Powers) Act, 1945(**a**) (as extended by the Supplies and Services (Extended Purposes) Act, 1947(**b**) and the Supplies and Services (Defence Purposes) Act, 1951(**c**), and continued in force by the Supplies and Services (Continuance) Order, 1952(**d**)), and of all other powers him enabling in that behalf, hereby orders as follows:—

### PART I

*Commencement, Citation and Interpretation*

**1.**—(1) This Order shall come into operation on the 17th day of May, 1953, and may be cited as the Food Rationing (General Provisions) Order, 1953.

(2) This Order and all Orders of the Minister expressed to be construed as one with this Order may be cited together as the Food Rationing Orders, 1953.

(3) For the purposes of the Food Rationing Orders, 1953—

"The Minister" means the Minister of Food.

"Appropriate coupon" means, in respect of any rationed food, the coupon prescribed as such.

"Catering establishment" and "institution" mean respectively a catering establishment or institution in respect of which a licence has been granted by the Minister under the Food (Licensing of Establishments) Order, 1948(**e**).

"Establishment" means a catering establishment or institution.

"Food Control Committee" means a Food Control Committee or a Joint Food Control Committee constituted in pursuance of the Food Control Committees (Constitution) Order, 1943(**f**).

"Foreign-going ship" means a ship for which rationed foods are authorised by the proper officer of Customs and Excise to be obtained under the provisions of the Ships' Stores (No. 2) Order, 1950(**g**) as amended(**h**).

"General Ration Book R.B.1" includes a Ration Book issued to personnel in H.M. Forces and known as R.B.1/N.A.A.

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(**a**) 9 & 10 Geo. 6. c. 10; and S.R. & O. 1945/1618; 1945 II, p. 48.
(**b**) 10 & 11 Geo. 6. c. 55. (**c**) 14 & 15 Geo. 6. c. 25. (**d**) S.I. 1952/2094; 1952 III, p. 3006.
(**e**) S.I. 1948/368; 1948 II, p. 404. (**f**) S.R. & O. 1943/1304; 1943 II, p. 739.
(**g**) S.I. 1950/1462; 1950 III, p. 471. (**h**) S.I. 1953/550.

" Home produce " means in relation to any person any rationed food which is either—

(*a*) the produce of, or made from the produce of, any animal kept by or for him ; or

(*b*) manufactured in his household or establishment.

" Invalidate " means to invalidate in the manner prescribed by Article 14 of this Order.

" Licensee " means in relation to an establishment, the person licensed under the Food (Licensing of Establishments) Order, 1948 to carry on the establishment.

" Prescribed " means prescribed by Order or directions of the Minister.

" Ration document " means—

(*a*) any ration book, ration card, authorisation, permit, official order book, declaration, return or other document issued for the purposes of this Order or of the Food Rationing Orders, 1952, by or on behalf of the Minister or authorised by or on behalf of the Minister to be used as a ration document for the purposes of this Order ;

(*b*) any of the following documents issued by the Government of the Isle of Man or by the States of Jersey or Guernsey (including Sark), that is to say, a General Ration Book R.B.1, Child's Ration Book R.B.2, Ration Book R.B.7, Weekly Seaman's Ration Book R.B.6, or Form R.B.12 ;

(*c*) any coupon, counterfoil or other part of any such document as aforesaid.

" Ration free " means in relation to any rationed food, as if such food were not a rationed food.

" Ration period " means the period of four weeks beginning on the 17th day of May, 1953, and each successive period of four weeks thereafter.

" Rationed food " means any food prescribed as such.

" Resident " means in respect of any establishment, a person who stays in or takes meals in the establishment during such period as necessitates the invalidation of coupons in his ration document under Article 11 of this Order, and the expression " reside " shall be construed accordingly.

" Sale by retail " means any sale to a person buying otherwise than for the purpose of resale and includes any sale to a person for the purposes of a catering establishment carried on by him but does not include a sale to a manufacturer for the purposes of a manufacturing business carried on by him, and the expressions " sell by retail " and " retailer " shall be construed accordingly.

" Sell " includes offer or agree to sell or expose for sale.

" Trader " means in relation to any rationed food, a person who deals in, uses or processes such rationed food in the course of his trade or business, other than the trade or business of an establishment.

" Week " means a period of 7 days ending at midnight on any Saturday.

" 8 week period " means the period of eight weeks beginning on the 17th day of May, 1953, and each succeeding period of eight weeks thereafter.

(4) For the purposes of the Food Rationing Orders, 1953, " hot beverage " means a hot beverage in which added sugar is customarily consumed but does not include any spirituous beverage, and in calculating for the purposes of the said Orders the number of hot beverages served—

(*a*) the service of a hot beverage to any person or persons in a pot, jug or other vessel, not being that from which the beverage is consumed, shall not be counted as the service of more than two hot beverages to each of such persons ;

(*b*) the service of a hot beverage in the vessel from which it is consumed may, if the quantity served is one half-pint or more, be counted as the service of not more than two hot beverages.

(5) References in this Order to the obtaining or supply of any rationed food shall be construed as including references to agreeing, offering or attempting to obtain or supply such rationed food.

(6) Where, in connection with any rationed food, a ration period is referred to by number in any Order of the Minister or in any ration document (other than a ration document relating to a period the whole or any part of which occurred prior to the coming into force of this Order), ration period No. 1 shall refer to the ration period beginning on the 17th day of May, 1953, and ration periods successively numbered shall refer to the ration periods thereafter in corresponding order.

## PART II

### *Rationing of Traders*

*Obtaining and supply of rationed food by or to traders*

**2.**—(1) Rationed food may not be obtained by or supplied to a trader to whom this Article applies, except—

(*a*) under the authority, and in accordance with the terms, of a buying permit, authorisation, voucher or other ration document issued by or on behalf of the Minister and up to the quantity specified thereon, or such other quantity as the Minister may notify to the person who is thereby authorised to obtain or supply the rationed food or may otherwise direct ; or

(*b*) against the surrender by him of a form issued by or on behalf of the Minister to him summarising the buying permits or other ration documents issued to his customers authorising them to obtain such rationed food from him ;

Provided that—

(i) where any such form bears an indication that it is to be accompanied by notification slips or other documents, it shall not be valid for the purpose of this Article unless it is so accompanied ;

(ii) the quantity of rationed food obtained or supplied shall not exceed the quantity shown on the form and represented by the buying permits therein summarised ;

(iii) the provisions of this paragraph are subject to any instructions to the contrary specified on any such form or issued by or on behalf of the Minister in connection therewith ;

(iv) nothing in this paragraph shall prohibit the supply to or obtaining by a trader of rationed food which is home produce or which the person supplying it has obtained in accordance with Part III of this Order for household consumption or in accordance with Part IV of this Order for the purposes of an establishment, if the rationed food is supplied for

use in manufacture provided that a like quantity is returned as an ingredient in a manufactured article to the person supplying the rationed food.

(2) Before any rationed food is supplied to a trader for the purposes of an establishment in accordance with proviso (iv) to paragraph (1) of this Article the licensee of the establishment shall first notify the Food Executive Officer for the area in which the establishment is situate of the intention of supplying such rationed food and the notice shall specify the name and address of the establishment and of the trader, and the description and quantity of the rationed food.

(3) Paragraph (1) of this Article shall apply only to such traders or classes of traders as the Minister may prescribe either generally or in relation to a particular rationed food.

*Prohibition of certain persons exercising control over retail businesses*

2A. No retailer of any rationed food shall knowingly permit any of the persons set out in the Schedule to this Order to exercise any control, direct or indirect, financial, managerial or otherwise, over the policy, management or conduct of the business.

## PART III

### *Rationing of Consumers*

*Application of provisions relating to household consumption*

**3.** The provisions of this Order relating to the obtaining or supply of rationed food for household consumption shall apply in all cases except where the rationed food is supplied to a trader for the purposes of his trade or business or to or by an establishment, and references to household consumption shall be construed accordingly. Until the contrary is proved, it shall be presumed that rationed food which is obtained by or supplied to any person is obtained by and supplied to him for household consumption.

*Obtaining and supply of rationed food for household consumption*

**4.** Rationed food may not be obtained or supplied for household consumption except in accordance with the following provisions:—

(*a*) Rationed food may be obtained by or supplied to the holder of a General Ration Book R.B.1, Child's Ration Book R.B.2, Ration Book R.B.7, or a form R.G. 44, only from or by a retailer with whom he is registered in respect of that rationed food in accordance with Article 5 of this Order:

Provided that the provisions of this sub-paragraph shall not apply during the period of validity of a Form R.B.12 or other document forming part of any such ration book as aforesaid, authorising the holder thereof to obtain rationed food without being so registered;

(*b*) The person obtaining the rationed food shall produce to the person supplying the same a ration document containing a valid appropriate coupon for the rationed food, or shall have deposited with him in advance in accordance with Article 6 of this Order a section or the remaining part of a section of coupons relating to such rationed food, containing a valid appropriate coupon.

(*c*) The quantity of rationed food obtained or supplied shall not exceed the quantity prescribed for such coupon.

(*d*) The appropriate coupon representing the amount of rationed food obtained or supplied shall be invalidated by the person supplying the same:

Provided that where the appropriate coupon forms part of a number of coupons duly deposited with that person in advance, such coupon may be invalidated at any time during the period in which it is valid.

*Registration provisions*

**5.**—(1) Subject to the provisions of paragraphs (2) to (4) of this Article, registration for the purposes of Article 4 of this Order shall be effected in respect of each rationed food by—

(*a*) completion of the appropriate counterfoil and acceptance of the same by the retailer; and

(*b*) insertion of the name and address of the retailer in the appropriate space.

For the purposes of this paragraph—

(*a*) "counterfoil" means a counterfoil for registration forming part of a ration book or any other counterfoil authorised by the Minister to be used for the purpose of registration, and "appropriate counterfoil" means a counterfoil upon which the name of the rationed food is marked;

(*b*) "appropriate space" means the space on a Form R.G.12A forming part of or affixed to the ration document, upon which the name of the rationed food is marked, or such other space as may be authorised by the Minister to be used for the purpose of registration.

(2) Registration effected for the purposes of the Food Rationing Orders, 1952, shall not be valid for the purposes of this Order.

(3) A person shall not be registered with more than one retailer in respect of each rationed food and where a retailer has more than one place of business a person shall be registered for each rationed food at only one of such places of business:

Provided that a person shall be registered with the same retailer in respect of butter, margarine and cooking fats.

(4) Save as regards—

(*a*) a Ration Book R.B.7, and

(*b*) a Child's Ration Book R.B.2 where the holder thereof is a child whose age (ascertained from the relevant entry in page 1 of the book) is less than six months,

a person shall not for the purposes of obtaining rationed food for household consumption register with a retailer whilst such person is resident in an establishment, and any such registration shall be invalid.

(5) A person who is registered with a retailer shall not transfer his registration to any other retailer except with the authorisation of the Minister or a Food Control Committee; and when the Minister or a Food Control Committee authorises any person to transfer his registration in respect of any rationed food from one retailer to another retailer, the registration with the former retailer shall thereupon cease to have effect. For the purposes of this paragraph, the issue to any person by or on behalf of the Minister or a Food Control Committee of an appropriate counterfoil shall be deemed to constitute an authorisation to that person to transfer his registration in respect of the food named on the counterfoil.

(6) All counterfoils accepted by a retailer in accordance with this Article shall be delivered by him from time to time to the Food Executive Officer appointed by the Minister for the area in which the retailer carries on business. Before being so delivered the name and address of the retailer shall be marked on the back of each counterfoil.

*Depositing of coupons*

**6.**—(1) The only coupons which may be deposited in advance with a supplier for the purposes of Article 4 of this Order shall be those forming a section, or the remaining part of a section, of coupons from a General Ration Book R.B.1, Child's Ration Book R.B.2, or Ration Book R.B.7. For this purpose " section of coupons " means a horizontal row of coupons together with the adjoining space for particulars of the holder's name.

(2) A section, or the remaining part of a section, of coupons shall be so deposited only after the holder's name has been entered in the space referred to in the last foregoing paragraph.

(3) A section, or the remaining part of a section, of coupons shall be detached from the ration document of which it forms part for the purposes of being deposited pursuant to this Article only by the person with whom it is to be deposited.

(4) Where a section, or the remaining part of a section, of coupons has been deposited with a supplier pursuant to this Article he shall at the request of the person who deposited it return to him the section or such part thereof as remains valid, after the supplier shall have first invalidated the appropriate coupons against which rationed food has been supplied by him, and the supplier shall retain during the period of its validity any section, or part of a section, of coupons so deposited with him until he is requested either so to return it or to deliver it to any person in accordance with Article 16 of this Order.

*Supply of rationed food by a trader for purposes of his own household*

**7.** Where any rationed food is not otherwise obtained for household consumption by a trader in that rationed food he may, out of any amount thereof held by him for the purposes of his trade or business, supply such food for the purposes of his own household to the like extent and in the like manner and subject to the like conditions as would be applicable if he obtained such rationed food from another trader, but save as aforesaid no such trader shall use for the purposes of his own household any rationed food so held by him.

*Exemptions from Part III*

**8.** Subject as hereinafter provided, the restrictions imposed by this Part of this Order shall not apply—

(*a*) to the supply by any person of any rationed food duly obtained by him for household consumption to any other member of the same household or to guests sharing meals in such household or to any other person with whom he shares that rationed food as part of a meal on any particular occasion;

(*b*) to the provision of home produce by the producer thereof for consumption by him or by the members of his household or by guests sharing meals in such household;

(*c*) to the supply by way of gift of home produce by the producer thereof or of any rationed food by any person who has duly obtained it for household consumption, if the home produce or rationed food is supplied for consumption as part of a meal at any sale, meeting, entertainment or other function held for any charitable or philanthropic purpose;

(*d*) to the provision by way of sale or otherwise as part of a meal at such function, of rationed food supplied in accordance with the last preceding sub-paragraph;

(*e*) to the supply by way of gift of any rationed food by a person who has duly obtained the same from a retailer for household consumption;

(*f*) to the supply by way of gift of any of the following, being home produce, by the producer thereof—

(i) bacon, pork, or offals derived from a pig which has been slaughtered under the terms and conditions of a licence issued by or on behalf of the Minister and provided that such supply is not prohibited by such licence;

(ii) farm butter;

(*g*) to the supply by a trader to any person for household consumption, or the obtaining for that purpose by any person from a trader, of any article of rationed food manufactured by the trader and including rationed food supplied by the person to whom the manufactured article is supplied: Provided that this exemption shall not apply where the manufactured article contains rationed food not supplied by that person.

## PART IV

### *Establishments*

*Obtaining and supply of rationed food for the purposes of an establishment*

**9.** Except where the Minister shall otherwise authorise, rationed food may not be obtained or supplied for the purposes of an establishment except under the authority and in accordance with the terms of a buying permit, voucher or other authorisation issued by or on behalf of the Minister, and up to the quantity specified thereon or such other quantity as the Minister may notify to the person who is thereby authorised to obtain or supply the rationed food or may otherwise direct:

Provided that any provision in a Form S.A.1 or Form E.A.2/S.A.2 requiring an establishment to use a Form M.5 in respect of meat shall have no effect.

*Restrictions on supply of rationed food in or by catering establishments*

**10.**—(1) Save as otherwise provided in this Article, no rationed food shall be supplied to any person in or by a catering establishment otherwise than as part of a meal or hot beverage served to that person.

(2) Nothing in this Order shall prohibit—

(*a*) the supply by one establishment to another establishment of any rationed food which is home produce or which the establishment supplying it has obtained in accordance with this Part of this Order for the purposes of the establishment, if the rationed food is supplied for use in manufacture by that other establishment provided that a like quantity is returned as an ingredient in a manufactured article to the establishment supplying the rationed food;

(*b*) the supply by one establishment to another establishment or by a trader to an establishment, for the purposes of that establishment or the obtaining by any establishment from another establishment, or from a trader, of any article of rationed food manufactured by that other establishment or trader, as the case may be, and including ingredients supplied by the establishment to which the manufactured article is supplied: Provided that this exemption shall not apply where the manufactured article contains rationed food not supplied by the establishment to which the manufactured article is supplied.

(3) Before any rationed food is supplied by one establishment to another in accordance with sub-paragraph (*a*) of paragraph (2) of this Article the licensee of the establishment supplying the rationed food shall first notify the Food Executive Officer for the area in which his establishment is situate of the intention of supplying such rationed food and the notice shall specify the name and address of both of the establishments, and the description and quantity of the rationed foods.

*Invalidation by establishments of residents' coupons*

**11.**—(1) Where a person spends five or more consecutive nights in an establishment the weekly coupons in his ration document relating to the week in which the first night so spent occurs shall at the end of the first five nights be invalidated by the licensee of the establishment and the next succeeding weekly coupons shall be similarly invalidated at the end of every period of seven consecutive nights thereafter. In the case of a person who, owing to the nature of his occupation, sleeps during the day and works during the night, the first sentence of this paragraph shall have effect as if the word " day " were substituted for the word " night ".

(2) Where a person, though not living in an establishment, is employed therein in circumstances in which he takes all or substantially all his meals therein on five days or more of the week, the licensee of the establishment shall before the end of each week in which the employee so takes his meals therein invalidate the weekly coupons relating to that week in his ration document.

(3) Where the Minister or a Food Control Committee, being satisfied that a person takes all or substantially all his meals in an establishment or in establishments on five or more days of the week, shall have served a notice on the establishment or, as the case may be, on any one of the establishments requiring the invalidation of the coupons in that person's ration document during such period as may be specified in the notice, the licensee of that establishment shall before the end of each week in that period invalidate the weekly coupons relating to that week in the ration document of the person so specified. For the purposes of this paragraph " person " includes class or description of persons.

(4) Where any coupon required to be invalidated under any of the preceding paragraphs of this Article shall already have been invalidated, the next succeeding coupon which has not been invalidated shall be invalidated instead.

(5) Wherever under paragraphs (1), (2) or (3) of this Article the weekly coupons in the ration document of any person shall have been invalidated at the end of three periods of five or seven days as the case may be within any period of four weeks, the licensee of the establishment shall at the end of such third period also invalidate a monthly coupon relating to the current ration period in respect of each rationed food, or where that coupon has already been invalidated the next succeeding coupon which has not been invalidated.

(6) It shall be the duty of any person, where the coupons in his ration document are required to be invalidated under any of the provisions of this Article, to produce the document to the person charged by this Article with the duty of invalidating those coupons in order that they may be invalidated, and the latter person shall retain the documents in his custody thereafter until the person producing them ceases to be subject to the provisions of this Article.

(7) Where a person shall not have produced his ration document containing the necessary appropriate coupons for the purpose of enabling the licensee of an establishment to invalidate such coupons as required by this Article, the licensee shall, not later than the end of the week during which such coupons should have been invalidated, report the circumstances to the Food Executive Officer for the area in which the establishment is situate giving the name and address of the person in default.

(8) The licensee of an establishment shall at the end of each 16 week period deliver to the Food Executive Officer for the area in which the establishment is situate all coupons detached and retained under the provisions of this Article.

(9) In this Article—

(*a*) " weekly coupons " and " monthly coupons " mean coupons in respect of rationed foods for which the appropriate coupons relate respectively to a week and to a ration period ;

(*b*) references to the ration document of any person shall be construed as including a reference to all ration documents issued to that person for the purpose of obtaining food for household consumption.

(10) Nothing in this Article shall require the production to the licensee of an establishment of, or the invalidation by him of any of the coupons in,—

(*a*) a Ration Book R.B.7, or

(*b*) a Child's Ration Book R.B.2 where the holder thereof is a child whose age (ascertained from the relevant entry in page 1 of the book) is less than six months.

(11) Nothing in this Article shall require the production of a ration document by an overseas visitor to the licensee of an establishment or the invalidation by the licensee of the coupons therein so long as the overseas visitor is not the holder of any valid ration document.

For the purpose of this paragraph " overseas visitor " means any person who has arrived in any part of the United Kingdom on a visit from some place outside the United Kingdom and who has not been in the United Kingdom on the occasion of that visit for a period exceeding thirteen weeks.

*Surrender of residents' ration documents by establishments*

**12.** Where a person shall have resided in an establishment for such period as to necessitate the invalidation of monthly coupons in his ration document in accordance with the provisions of paragraph (5) of Article 11 of this Order the licensee of the establishment shall forthwith deliver to the Food Executive Officer for the area in which the establishment is situate the ration document of such resident unless the latter shall have furnished to him a declaration in writing that he intends to cease to reside in the establishment within fourteen days. If a person who has given such declaration shall not have ceased to reside in the establishment within such period the licensee of the establishment shall forthwith deliver the ration document of such resident to the said Food Executive Officer.

*Obligations of licensee of an establishment*

**13.**—(1) The licensee of an establishment shall—

(*a*) keep an accurate record showing—

(i) the meals and hot beverages served in or by the establishment (other than meals or hot beverages served by an institution to a person resident therein) up to midnight on each day, such record to be completed not later than noon on the day following the day to which the record relates ;

(ii) the quantity of each rationed food obtained by the establishment ; and

(iii) the stock of each rationed food held by the establishment at the end of each 8 week period ;

(*b*) furnish to any person authorised in that behalf by the Minister or by a Food Control Committee any such records as aforesaid together with all invoices, vouchers, permits and other documents, as may be necessary for the purpose of checking the entries in such records.

(2) Every person who is required by this Article to keep any record shall retain the same on the premises of the establishment, or at such other place as the Minister may approve, for not less than one year from the date of the act or transaction to which it relates or in the case of a record of stocks from the date when such record was required to be made.

## PART V

### *Ration Documents*

*Manner in which coupons to be invalidated or cancelled*

**14.**—(1) Wherever in this Order any person is required to invalidate any coupon, he shall—

(*a*) in the case of a coupon in a General Ration Book R.B.1, Child's Ration Book R.B.2, Ration Book R.B.7, or a form R.G. 44, cancel the coupon ;

(*b*) in the case of a coupon in any other ration document, detach and retain the coupon.

(2) In any case where any coupon or other ration document is required to be cancelled under or for the purposes of this Order it shall not be deemed to be cancelled unless it shall have been effectively and indelibly cancelled in ink (whether by means of a die or stamp or otherwise) or by other means. Any coupon so cancelled shall until the contrary is proved be deemed to have been cancelled for the purposes of this Order.

(3) A coupon or other ration document shall be invalid where it is either invalidated in accordance with this Article, or is cancelled by or on behalf of the Minister.

*Instructions, etc., on ration documents to be complied with*

**15.**—(1) Subject to the provisions of this Order, rationed food may be obtained by the use of any ration document only in accordance with any instructions or conditions specified thereon and on any document issued in connection therewith.

(2) A person shall comply with any undertaking given by him upon any ration document.

*Ration documents to be the property of the Minister and to be deliverea up in certain circumstances*

**16.**—(1) Every ration document is and shall remain the property of the Minister.

(2) Any person shall, if requested so to do by or on behalf of the Minister, produce or deliver to such person or to a person of such class or description as may be mentioned in the request, all ration documents in the possession of the person to whom the request is made, who shall specify, in the case of ration documents delivered to him for the purpose of enabling him to supply rationed food in the course of any undertaking by way of trade or business, the extent to which rationed food has not been accordingly supplied.

(3) Where any person is in possession of a ration document and such possession is not authorised by virtue of this Order then such person shall forthwith deliver the same to the Minister or otherwise in accordance with the directions contained on such document.

*Lost ration documents*

**17.** Where a new ration document is issued by or on behalf of the Minister in place of a lost ration document it shall be the duty of the person to whom the new ration document has been issued if he shall subsequently find the lost ration document forthwith to return the lost ration document to the Minister or to any Food Executive Officer.

*Validity of ration documents*

**18.**—(1) A ration book or other ration document shall be valid only—

(*a*) when used by or on behalf of the person in respect of whom it is issued and for the purpose of obtaining rationed food on his behalf ; and

(*b*) while such person is living and is in the United Kingdom, or on board any ship other than a foreign-going ship.

(2) Where a new ration document is issued in accordance wth Article 17 of this Order in place of a lost ration document the lost ration document shall not be valid during the period of validity of the new ration document.

(3) Where a person obtains rationed food by the use of a ration document which by reason of the foregoing provisions of this Article is not valid for use by him it shall be a defence to any trader charged with an infringement of this Order by supplying the rationed food against that ration document, to prove that at the time of the commission of the alleged offence he had no reason to suspect that the ration document was by reason of this Article not valid for use by that person.

(4) Except where otherwise provided in this Order or in the instructions on any ration document, any coupon, page or other part thereof (including any part thereof affixed thereto by or on behalf of a Food Executive Officer) shall be valid only when it forms part of such ration document or when having been deposited with any person pursuant to this Order it has been returned to the person who has deposited it and is produced by him with the ration book or other document of which it formed part.

(5) An appropriate coupon printed on both sides of the paper in a Weekly Seaman's Ration Book R.B.6, Leave or Duty Ration Card R.B.8A or a Form R.B.12 shall count as one coupon only.

*Procedure in the event of death or infectious diseases*

**19.**—(1) Where a person dies, otherwise than as a result of an infectious or contagious disease, the occupier of the house in which the death takes place, or where the death takes place in an establishment, the licensee thereof, or any person registering the death or causing the body to be buried shall, if he is in possession of any ration document or any part thereof issued in respect of such deceased person, deliver the same within seven days of the death to the Registrar of Births and Deaths with whom the death is registered or if he is not in possession of such ration document shall use his best endeavours to obtain possession thereof and to deliver it to the Registrar of Births and Deaths in accordance with the foregoing provisions of this Article.

(2) Where any person other than any of the persons mentioned in paragraph (1) of this Article is in possession of any ration document or any part thereof issued in respect of any such deceased person he shall forthwith deliver the same to any person who in his reasonable belief proposes to register the death, or to the Registrar of Births and Deaths with whom the death is registered or to a Food Executive Officer.

(3) Where any death results from an infectious or contagious disease any ration document or any part thereof issued in respect of the deceased person shall be delivered to such persons and in such manner as the Medical Officer of Health for the area in which such death takes place may direct.

*Procedure on cessation of retail business*

**19A.**—(1) A retailer of rationed food shall, before ceasing to carry on business as a retailer at any premises, give to the Food Executive Officer for the area in which those premises are situate not less than 14 days' notice in writing of his intention to cease carrying on business as aforesaid, and shall return to such Food Executive Officer any licence, permit, authorisation, voucher or other ration document held by him under or by virtue of this Order in respect of that business: Provided that where in any proceedings a person is charged with a contravention of this Article it shall be a defence for him to prove that it was not practicable for him to give such notice or that he gave notice as soon as it was practicable for him to do so.

(2) Where the business of a retailer of rationed food is no longer carried on at any premises owing to the death of the retailer and no notice has been given under the preceding paragraph, the retailer's personal representative shall forthwith give notice to the appropriate Food Executive Officer that such business is no longer carried on and shall return to such Officer any licence, permit, authorisation, voucher or other ration document granted under or by virtue of this Order in respect of that business.

(3) For the purposes of this Article " premises " includes a stall or kiosk.

*Procedure on leaving United Kingdom*

**20.** A person before proceeding or attempting to proceed from the United Kingdom to any place outside the United Kingdom and the Isle of Man if so requested by an Immigration Officer or by any Officer authorised in that behalf by the Minister, shall—

(*a*) produce or deliver any ration documents issued in respect of him to such Officer ; and

(*b*) deliver to such Officer a declaration in such form as the Officer may require giving particulars of the ration documents held by him and the period or probable period of his absence and such other particulars as such Officer may require.

*Procedure on becoming member of H.M. Forces*

**21.** Where a person to whom a ration book or other ration document has been issued becomes a member of any of Her Majesty's Forces or of the forces of any of Her Majesty's Allies or co-belligerents, he shall forthwith deliver the ration book complete with all the leaves and other ration documents to the appropriate Naval, Military or Air Force Authority or to the Food Control Committee by whom the same was issued.

*Certain ration documents not to be used when rationed food is otherwise obtained*

**22.**—(1) Where a ration document has been issued to any member of Her Majesty's Forces or to the forces of any of Her Majesty's Allies or co-belligerents to enable him to obtain rationed food which is not supplied to him in kind as a member of such forces and subsequently such rationed food is so supplied to him in kind, he shall not thereafter obtain such rationed food by means of the said ration document but shall forthwith deliver the same to the appropriate Naval, Military or Air Force Authority.

(2) Where a ration document has been issued to any person to enable him to obtain on behalf of a member of Her Majesty's Forces or the forces of Her Majesty's Allies or co-belligerents, rationed food which is not otherwise supplied in kind to such member of the said forces, and subsequently such rationed food is otherwise supplied to him in kind, then the person to whom the ration document was issued shall not thereafter obtain such rationed food by means thereof but shall forthwith deliver the same to the Naval, Military, Air Force or other authority by whom it was issued.

## PART VI

### *Miscellaneous*

*Purposes for which rationed food may be used*

**23.**—(1) Where any rationed food is authorised to be obtained or is obtained for the purposes of any trade or business or establishment or for any purpose specified in the relevant ration document or the application therefor or in any document issued by or on behalf of the Minister relating to that rationed food, the rationed food shall not be used except for such purpose.

(2) Where any person carries on an establishment at more than one place, any ration documents issued to that person bearing the address of one such place shall, unless the contrary be stated, be deemed to be an authority to obtain the rationed food only for use in the establishment carried on at that address.

*Powers of the Minister and Food Control Committees in respect of registration and nomination*

**24.**—(1) Instructions may be given by or on behalf of the Minister or a Food Control Committee—

(*a*) limiting the number of persons who may be registered for the purposes of Part III of this Order with any retailer;

(*b*) limiting as regards number, class or otherwise, the establishments by which a trader may be nominated as their supplier for the purposes of Part IV of this Order;

(*c*) cancelling the registrations of a person or nomination of an establishment or transferring the same from one trader to another trader; and

(*d*) prohibiting any trader from accepting any particular person or class of persons or establishment or class of establishments as a customer or customers.

(2) Any person to whom any such instructions are given under this Order shall comply with such instructions.

*Persons under 13 years of age and persons of unsound mind*

**25.** Any act required to be done by a person under this Order shall in the case of a person under the age of 13 years if not done by such person be done on his behalf by one of his parents, or by his guardian or by the person having the custody of him, and in the case of a person of unsound mind or in respect of whom an Order has been made by any Court having jurisdiction in lunacy by his Committee, curator bonis, or other person in the nature of a Committee or curator bonis appointed by such Court.

*Returns and information*

**26.** Any person who carries on any rationed food undertaking shall furnish to the Minister, at such times, in such manner and in such form as may be prescribed in a notice served upon him by or on behalf of the Minister under this Order, such estimates, returns or information relating to the undertaking as may be so prescribed.

In this Article "rationed food undertaking" means any undertaking by way of trade or business, concerned in the production, treatment, storage, movement, transport, distribution, disposal, acquisition, use or consumption of any rationed food.

*Offences*

**27.**—(1) No person shall—

(*a*) for the purpose of obtaining any rationed food or in furnishing any information for the purposes of this Order make any statement which he knows to be false in a material particular or recklessly make any statement which is false in a material particular;

(*b*) except when required so to do by or under this Order or any other Order or directions of the Minister alter any ration document or make or alter any entry therein or deface any such document;

(*c*) personate or falsely represent himself to be the person to whom any ration document has been issued or applies;

(*d*) except where he is required or authorised so to do by or under this Order or any other Order or direction of the Minister, obtain, use or retain, or attempt to obtain, use or retain any ration document other than a ration document issued to him by or on behalf of the Minister;

(*e*) with intent to deceive, forge, or use, or lend to, or allow to be used by any other person any ration document;

(*f*) with intent to deceive, make, or cause to be made or have in his possession any document so closely resembling a ration document as to be calculated to deceive;

(*g*) use or dispose of any ration document otherwise than for the purposes and in accordance with the provisions of this Order or any other Order or directions of the Minister;

(*h*) make any payment or give any valuable consideration with the intention of causing the receipt by any person of any rationed food otherwise than in accordance with the provisions of the Food Rationing Orders, 1953.

(2) In this Article the expression "forge" has in the application thereof to England and Northern Ireland the same meaning as in the Forgery Act, 1913(**a**).

(**a**) 3 & 4 Geo. 5. c. 27.

*Certificate of public analyst or Government Chemist*

**27A.**—(1) In any proceedings in respect of an infringement of this Order, or of any other of the Food Rationing Orders, 1953, the production by one of the parties of (i) a document purporting to be a certificate of a public analyst or the Government Chemist or (ii) a document supplied to him by the other party as being a copy of such a certificate shall be sufficient evidence of the facts stated therein, unless in the case mentioned under head (i) above the other party requires that the person making the analysis shall be called as a witness.

(2) In any such proceedings—

(*a*) if the prosecution intends to produce a certificate of a public analyst or the Government Chemist, a copy of such certificate shall be served with the summons; and

(*b*) if a defendant intends to produce a certificate of a public analyst or the Government Chemist, or to require that the person making the analysis shall be called as a witness, he shall give to the other party at least three clear days' notice of his intention,

and, if any of these requirements is not complied with, the Court may, if it thinks fit, adjourn the hearing on such terms as it deems proper.

(3) In this Article "public analyst" has in relation to England and Wales the meaning assigned to it by the Food and Drugs Act, 1938(**a**), in relation to Scotland the meaning assigned to it by the Food and Drugs (Adulteration) Act, 1928(**b**), and in relation to Northern Ireland the meaning assigned to it by the Sale of Food and Drugs Acts (Northern Ireland) 1875 to 1939, and "Government Chemist" means, in relation to Northern Ireland, the Government Chemist for Northern Ireland.

*Minister or a Food Control Committee to authorise the obtaining and supply of rationed food, ration free*

**28.** Rationed food may be obtained or supplied ration free—

(*a*) where the Minister shall so authorise or direct and subject to any conditions imposed by him; or

(*b*) if a Food Control Committee shall so authorise or direct in respect of any rationed food of a perishable nature situate in their area, being of the opinion that such food would otherwise perish.

*Exemptions*

**29.** The Food Rationing Orders, 1953, shall not apply to—

(*a*) the obtaining by or the supply to members of the forces of Her Majesty or of Her Majesty's Allies or co-belligerents of any rationed food supplied to them in kind as members of such forces or the obtaining of rationed food for that purpose by any department of Her Majesty's Government;

(*b*) the obtaining by or supply to any person of any rationed food for consumption on board any foreign-going ship;

(*c*) the obtaining or supply by any person otherwise than as human food of any rationed food which is also a rationed feeding stuff within the provisions of the Feeding Stuffs (Rationing) Order, 1952(**c**), as amended(**d**), or of any amendment or re-enactment thereof for the time being in force;

(**a**) 1 & 2 Geo. 6. c. 56. (**b**) 18 & 19 Geo. 5. c. 31.
(**c**) S.I. 1952/1590; 1952 III, p. 3086.
(**d**) S.I. 1952/1921, 2265; 1953/544: 1952 III, pp. 3104, 3105.

(*d*) the supply of rationed food by way of export from the United Kingdom;

(*e*) the obtaining by or supply to a Sampling Officer within the meaning of the Food and Drugs (Adulteration) Act, 1928, or the Food and Drugs Act, 1938, or an Inspector within the meaning of the Sale of Food (Weights and Measures) Act, 1926(**a**), of a sample of any rationed food, on production of a document duly authenticated for the purposes of those Acts and identifying him as such a Sampling Officer or Inspector, as the case may be.

*Exemption from Sale of Food (Weights and Measures) Act, 1926*

**29A.** During the continuance in force of this Order, paragraph (*a*) of subsection (2) of section 4 of the Sale of Food (Weights and Measures) Act, 1926, shall not have effect in relation to rationed foods.

*Directions, licences and authorisations*

**30.**—(1) The provisions of the Food Rationing Orders, 1953, are subject to any directions which may at any time be given by or on behalf of the Minister, and to any licence or authorisation which may be granted by or on behalf of the Minister under the said Orders or under any of them.

(2) Every person holding a licence or authorisation granted under the said Orders or under any of them shall comply with every condition imposed by such licence or authorisation.

*Infringements*

**31.** Infringements of this Order or of any other of the Food Rationing Orders, 1953, are offences against the Defence (General) Regulations, 1939.

*Revocations, etc.*

**32.**—(1) The Food Rationing Orders, 1952(**b**) (hereinafter referred to as "the 1952 Orders") are hereby revoked, but without prejudice to any proceedings in respect of any contravention thereof:

Provided that unless a contrary intention appears, any licence, permit, authorisation or notification having effect under the 1952 Orders and subsisting immediately before the coming into force of this Order shall continue to have effect as though granted or issued under this Order.

(2) Every person shall notwithstanding the revocation of the 1952 Orders retain any record required to be kept by him thereunder until the expiration of one year after the date of the act or transaction to which it relates.

(3) Any references to the 1952 Orders or to any of them in any Order of the Minister or in any document issued by or on behalf of the Minister or by a Food Control Committee for the purposes of those Orders, or any of them, shall, unless a contrary intention appears, be construed as a reference to the Food Rationing Orders, 1953, or to such of those Orders as correspond to the Order to which reference is made.

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(**a**) 16 & 17 Geo. 5. c. 63.

(**b**) The Food Rationing (General Provisions) Order, 1952 (S.I. 1952/971; 1952 III, p. 3060).
The Bacon (Rationing) Order, 1952, as amended (S.I. 1952/972; 1952 III, p. 3078 amended by S.I. 1952/1653; 1953/74, 233: 1952 III, p. 3080).
The Fats and Cheese (Rationing) Order, 1952, as amended (S.I. 1952/1778; 1952 III, p. 3081 amended by S.I. 1952/2038; 1953/211: 1952 III, p. 3085).
The Meat (Rationing) Order, 1952, as amended (S.I. 1952/973;1952 III, p. 3106 amended by S.I. 1952/1121; 1953/75: 1952 III, p. 3108).
The Sugar (Rationing) Order, 1952, as amended (S.I. 1952/974; 1952 III, p. 3110 amended by S.I. 1952/1458; 1953/639: 1952 III, p. 3113).

(4) A General Ration Book R.B.1 or Child's Ration Book R.B.2 of the fifteenth edition shall not be valid for the purposes of this Order, save that an appropriate coupon for meat numbered 52 in any such Ration Book shall be valid during the week beginning on the 17th day of May, 1953.

(5) A Weekly Seaman's Ration Book R.B.6 of the fifteenth edition shall cease to be valid for the purposes of this Order after the 13th day of June, 1953.

By Order of the Minister of Food.

*Charles Hill,*
Parliamentary Secretary.

Dated the 9th day of May, 1953.

## THE SCHEDULE

1. Any person who was the holder of a licence granted to him by or on behalf of the Minister or a Food Control Committee, or any retailer who was the holder of—

(*a*) a ration document granted to him by or on behalf of the Minister,

(*b*) a points banking account,

and whose licence or ration document has been revoked, or whose points banking account has been closed, as a result of his being convicted of an offence—

(i) against any of the Defence (General) Regulations, 1939, or any Order made thereunder, in respect of any article of food ;

(ii) against the Larceny Act, 1916(a), in respect of any article of food ;

(iii) against the Sale of Food (Weights and Measures) Act, 1926 ;

(iv) against the Food and Drugs Act, 1938, or any Regulation made thereunder ; or

(v) in Scotland, against the Food and Drugs (Adulteration) Act, 1928 ;

(vi) in Northern Ireland, against the Sale of Food and Drugs Acts (Northern Ireland), 1875 to 1939.

2. Any person who was a director or officer of any body corporate whose licence or ration document has been revoked or whose points banking account has been closed for the reason aforesaid, such director or officer having been convicted together with that body corporate in respect of the offence or offences in question.

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## EXPLANATORY NOTE

*(This Note is not part of the Order, but is intended to indicate its general purport.)*

This Order re-enacts the Food Rationing (General Provisions) Order, 1952, with alterations necessary to provide for the use of the new ration documents valid for the rationing year beginning 17th May, 1953, and revokes the Food Rationing Orders, 1952, details of which appear in footnote (b) (*on p. 2030*) to this Order.

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(a) 6 & 7 Geo. 5. c. 50.