The Motor Fuel (Propane, Butane) Order, 1948

1948 No. 225

Made - - - -	*10th February*, 1948
Laid before Parliament	*11th February*, 1948
Coming into Operation	*17th February*, 1948

The Minister of Fuel and Power (in this Order referred to as "the Minister"), in exercise of the powers conferred upon him by Regulations fifty-five and fifty-five AA of the Defence (General) Regulations, 1939(**a**), as having effect by virtue of the Supplies and Services (Transitional Powers) Act, 1945, as extended by the Supplies and Services (Extended Purposes) Act, 1947(**b**), hereby orders as follows:—

Use of propane or butane as motor fuel prohibited.

1. Except under the authority of a licence, no person shall use, or cause or allow the use of, propane or butane, or any gaseous mixture containing propane or butane, to supply motive power to any motor vehicle or to any boat.

Transactions in propane or butane for use as motor fuel prohibited.

2. Except under the authority of a licence, no person shall furnish or acquire any propane or butane, or gaseous mixture containing propane or butane, for the purpose of the use of the same, whether before or after treatment, to supply motive power to any motor vehicle or to any boat.

Restriction on movement and storage of propane or butane.

3. No person shall bring on to, or keep or store at, any premises any propane, butane or gaseous mixture containing either of them which has been furnished or acquired in contravention of any provision of this order, or cause or allow any such bringing, keeping or storing.

Inspection and samples.

4. In the case of any motor vehicle or boat so constructed or adapted that motive power may be supplied to it otherwise than by the use of motor spirit or heavy oil, any inspector (as mentioned in paragraph (2) of Regulation fifty-five AA of the Defence (General) Regulations, 1939) may, for the purpose of ascertaining whether or not this Order has been or is being complied with:—

(*a*) inspect that vehicle or boat wherever found (otherwise than on premises used or appropriated for the purpose of an undertaking or on private premises) if he has reason to believe that any propane, butane or gaseous mixture containing either of them is being used to supply motive power thereto; and

(*b*) require samples of any substance found therein appropriate for supplying motive power thereto, not being motor spirit or heavy oil; whereupon the person in control of that vehicle or boat shall give samples as required.

Licences.

5.—(1) Any licence may be granted subject to such conditions as the Minister may deem necessary; every such condition shall be complied with by every person, or by every person of the class or description, in

(**a**) *See* Note, p. 15 above.

(**b**) 9 & 10 Geo. 6. c. 10; 10 & 11 Geo. 6. c. 55; S.R. & O. 1945 (No. 1618) II, p. 48.

whose favour the licence was granted; and the breach of any such condition shall be an offence against this Order.

(2) The Minister may vary or revoke any licence; and, if any licence is revoked, the holder thereof shall forthwith deliver it up as directed by the Minister.

Interpretation.

6.—(1) In this Order the following expressions have the meanings hereby assigned to them respectively, that is to say:—

" acquire " and " furnish " include respectively an agreement or offer to acquire or furnish, and mean respectively the acquisition or disposal of ownership or any proprietary interest, or possession, or the right to possession;

" heavy oil " means hydrocarbon oil (not being motor spirit) for use for supplying motive power to a motor vehicle;

" hydrocarbon oil " means petroleum oil, coal tar and oil produced from coal, shale, peat or any other bituminous substance, and any liquid hydrocarbon;

" licence " means a licence granted by or on behalf of the Minister;

" the Minister " means the Minister of Fuel and Power;

" motor spirit " means hydrocarbon oil of which not less than fifty per centum by volume distils at a temperature not exceeding one hundred and eighty-five degrees Centigrade, or of which not less than ninety-five per centum by volume distils at a temperature not exceeding two hundred and forty degrees Centigrade, or which has a closed flash point of less than seventy-three degrees Fahrenheit when tested by method I.P.—33/44, as set out in " Standard Methods for Testing Petroleum and its Products " (Edition 1947) published by the Institute of Petroleum.

" motor vehicle " means a mechanically propelled vehicle constructed or adapted for use on roads.

(2) Expressions to which meanings are assigned by this Order shall (unless the contrary intention appear) bear the same meanings in any instrument issued under the provisions of this Order.

Commencement and citation.

7. This Order shall come into operation on the seventeenth day of February, nineteen hundred and forty-eight; and may be cited as the Motor Fuel (Propane, Butane) Order, 1948.

Dated this tenth day of February, 1948.

Hugh Gaitskell,
Minister of Fuel and Power.

EXPLANATORY NOTE

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

This Order prohibits the use as motor fuel of propane and butane (also known as " calor gas " or " buta gas "), or any gaseous mixture containing either of them. Transactions in any such substance, for the purpose of its use as motor fuel are also prohibited.

The Order applies both to motor vehicles and to boats.