

*to see a return*

WESTMINSTER HOUSE 7 MILLBANK LONDON SW1

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GCH/CAH

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TO ALL NO. 1s OF ASSOCIATED COMPANIES

SMOKING & HEALTH

With reference to my circular of the 26th March, the situation in the U.K. has now been further clarified by recent developments.

After the Nabarro bill passed the Committee Stage, Sir Keith Joseph, in his capacity as Secretary of State for Social Services, set down on the Notice Paper extensive amendments and new clauses to the bill. The effect of these was to bring the provisions of the bill into line with the voluntary agreement between the U.K. industry and the Government, as described in my circular. Sir Gerald Nabarro then added his name in support of the new amendments and clauses, feeling no doubt that this was his best hope of achieving legislation of any kind.

The bill was then debated in the House of Commons on 23rd April, 30th April and 7th May until on the last occasion it expired through lack of time. It can safely be assumed that the bill is now dead.

Throughout the debates Sir Keith Joseph maintained his original position of being opposed to legislation and in this connection he said "The Government do not regard the bill as necessary. We regard the voluntary agreement as bound to be effective. We do not think that it is sensible to impose on a willing industry a superfluous statute, with all the apparatus of controls and penalties which that involves".

At the conclusion of the debate on May 7th the U.K. industry, through the Tobacco Advisory Committee, announced that it would implement without delay the terms of the voluntary agreement. These

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