

# VOTE NO TO COMMON MARKET

The Government has pledged that the people will decide by their own votes whether or not Britain is to stay in the Common Market. The nation will make its decision by referendum—probably to be held in June.

## SEVEN REASONS TO VOTE NO

**1. SELF-GOVERNMENT.** We should restore to our own Parliament which we elect the sole right to levy taxes and pass laws binding on the British people. If we stay in the Common Market then more and more of our laws will be made by Ministers of the "Council" or still worse by the "Commission" of the Common Market and not by Parliament.

**2. OUR OWN COURTS SHOULD INTERPRET OUR OWN LAWS** under which we have lived for centuries. Instead, under the Common Market Treaties, we have the 'legal revolution' described by Lord Scarman (Listener 31.10.74) who went on 'But the general public were not told and few, very few, of the legal profession realised that the English were entering not only a new market but a different legal system, which springs from the Roman Law—from which we have kept aloof ever since the end of the Roman occupation of Britain'.

**3. FREEDOM TO TRADE.** We should re-establish the right of Britain to trade freely, particularly in the case of food, with any country in the world. Within the Common Market the Common External Tariff (an import tax on goods coming from outside the Common Market) is imposed on our trade with the rest of the world. The Common Market involves other restrictions on top of that, for example, since the middle of 1974 the Commission has enforced a total ban on beef imports to keep out the cheaper beef available from Australia, the Argentine and other countries.

**4. FOOD PRICES** have been increased by Common Market tariffs and import levies. Already there is an import tax of 12% on mutton and lamb (it will be increased to 20% in a couple of years). Already we are paying an import levy of £300 a ton on butter and an import levy of £380 a ton on cheese from outside the Common Market: both are taxes approaching 100% on major foodstuffs. Indeed the Common Market floor price for butter is due to rise from £552 a ton to £930 a ton in 1978. Common Market import taxes have also been put on bacon, canned ham, margarine, eggs, fish, fruit and tinned fruit amongst other foods. Since Britain started adapting to the Common Market system food prices have risen far more than in those European countries which kept out of the Common Market.

### Percentage rise in food prices between November 1971 and August 1974

Country	% Increase
Britain	43.6
Ireland	46.5
Sweden	18.4
Norway	23.0

both of whom did join the Common Market  
who did **not** join the Common Market

**5. BALANCE OF PAYMENTS** is worse than it has even been. The main reasons are the rise in oil prices and the adverse balance of trade with the Common Market.

### Britain's adverse balance of trade with the Common Market Six (overseas trade statistics basis)

Year	Britain's exports to The Six. £ millions	Britain's imports from The Six. £ millions	Adverse Balance £ millions
1969	1530	1603	-73
1970	1753	1822	-69
1971	1926	2106	-180
1972	2229	2726	-497
1973	3074	4189	-1115
1974	4256	6333	-2077

In 1974 nearly half our overseas deficit was accounted for by the adverse balance of trade with the Common Market. The other half of the deficit was due to the rise in oil prices. But we can do something about the Common Market.

**6. VALUE ADDED TAX** was introduced because it is a requirement of Common Market membership. Upon leaving the Common Market we shall be free to repeal this tax.

**7. FEDERAL STATE.** The authorities in Brussels plan to turn the Common Market into a Federal State with a single currency, Government and Parliament. This would mean that Britain would cease to be an independent self-governing nation.

The better alternative for Britain is to govern her own internal affairs by her own elected Parliament, and to co-operate in international affairs with the United Nations, the Commonwealth, N.A.T.O., the World Bank and all the other international bodies of which Britain is a member. Moreover, like the other E.F.T.A. countries such as Norway and Sweden we could retain free entry for our industrial exports to the Common Market if we wished.

## SO VOTE NO TO COMMON MARKET MEMBERSHIP

Support the Anti-Common Market League, 52 Fulham High St., London, S.W.6.

Supplies of this leaflet may be obtained from the above address—if you possibly can, please contribute to the cost:-

500	—	£1.50
1000	—	£3.00

other quantities pro rata.