

Common Market Referendum - Thursday 5th June

A MESSAGE FROM

TONY BENN M.P. MIKE COCKS M.P.
RON THOMAS M.P. TERRY WALKER M.P.

Dear Elector,

The Labour Party's Election Manifesto made a clear promise that the British people would decide — through the ballot box — whether we should stay in or come out of the Common Market. That promise has been kept. The British people will make their decision on Thursday June 5th.

In making up your own mind which way to vote you will be faced with many detailed political and economic arguments, all of which are important. But over and beyond all these arguments there is one fundamental issue at stake — that is the right of the people of this country to control their own affairs, through the democratic institutions which have been painstakingly built up over many centuries.

It is our considered judgement that the democratic rights and power of the British people to govern themselves will continue to diminish and could eventually cease to exist if we remain in the Common Market. Already important areas of decision making which affect the livelihood of all of us have been taken over by institutions in the Common Market. The members of these institutions are not elected by, nor are they accountable to the British people.

There are those who are conducting an almost hysterical campaign on the basis of fear, despondency and gloom. They insist that we have no future as an independent nation outside the Market. That is nonsense. The rest of the world did not cease to exist after we joined the Common Market. We reject this kind of hysteria which has no foundation when tested against Britain's overseas trading links, the industrial potential of our own country and the ability of our people to meet and deal with the economic problems and challenges which lie ahead.

The Referendum on June 5th will decide whether we retain or give up our right of self determination and self government — only the British people as a whole can make that decision.

**We urge you therefore to use your vote
and if you believe as we do that we must
retain the right to govern ourselves then
please **VOTE 'NO'** on June 5th.**

Tony Benn

Michael Cocks

Ron Thomas

Terry Walker
