

the idea of a referendum in his constituency but would ask for a special conference of the Labour Party Executive in May to press for a national referendum. It was Mr. Freeman's information that such a conference might take place. If a resolution to seek a referendum was passed, it would be extremely awkwardly timed from the campaign's point of view.

7. Furthermore it did seem likely that Mr. Goodhart would pursue the idea of a referendum in his constituency. If so, the BCEM would in any case attempt to discredit it in advance; if it did take place, they would fight it vigorously.

8. On the general trend in the country Mr. Freeman said that the most recent NOP poll was discouraging; it suggested that about 66% of those questioned were opposed to entry, in comparison with 60% in preceding polls. Mr. Monro said that his figure for Scotland was 70% against, 20% in favour and 10% don't know. Even the 20% were a bit wishy-washy and something would have to be done to allay fears in Scotland about the Common Fisheries Policy. In subsequent discussion it was agreed that the fisheries problem was now becoming extremely important and had almost replaced butter as the issue at the forefront of people's minds. But the fact remained that it would not be dealt with at the