BRITAIN AND THE EUROPEAN COMMON MARKET **LET'S SELL LECTURE NOTES Tricks Of The Six** A. St.G. ABBOTT By JULES CRAFT - Varsity

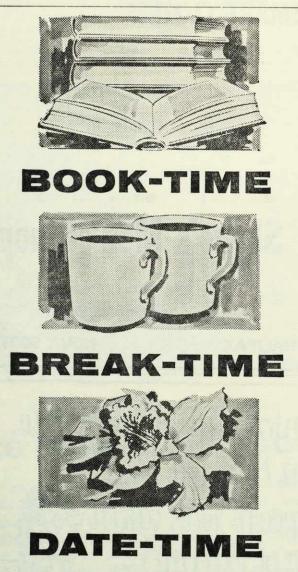
An article of some note slipped almost unnoticed through the newspapers last year. It concerned an American professor who had his undergraduate lecture notes mimeographed and sold to his students at a price equal to the costs of publication. They were distributed one or two weeks prior to each lecture and provided his students with an advanced copy of his talk, the interval between being used by the students for prior preparation.

While this action smacks of that bogey called "spoon feeding", further investigation dispells much of the opprobrium.

The notes, a readable copy of the lecturer's guide provided a basic skeletal outline of the course - a bare minimum upon which the student built by further work. At the same time, they presented the professor with an attentive group, rather than a collection of madly scribbling students, each intent, in his own way, upon producing a readable compendium of disjointed jotting. Thus the notes provided the students with the benefits of attention and comprehension.

Meanwhile, the professor, having disposed of the rigid outline, in the least disagreeable manner, could digress momentarily from the strict pattern and throw out new ideas to the students in such a way as to arouse their interest.

While the system is open to abuse from both sides of the lectern it is a system well worth investigating for those courses which have more than 15 participants.



To join or not to join the Common Market? The question for Britain is a difficult one, and the way in which she finally answers it will have far-reaching consequences throughout the world. The issue is so complex that impressive arguments can be adduced both in support of Britain's entry and against it.

Economic Arrangement

To those who have done most to bring it into being, the European Common Market appears as a good thing in itself, but not as an end in itself. The Common Market is an economic arrange-ment, while the end it serves is ment, while the end it serves is the union of Europe on a federal or confederate basis. Recent Eur-cept a French-inspired system for opean history might have been designed to make such an end seem desirable. With cruel and incessant blows it has taught the peoples of Europe those bitter lessons; that none of the historic nations of Europe can find security by re-lying on its own sovereignity; that none can prosper at the expense of others; that the strife of this century has achieved nothing but the enslavement of half the con-tinent, the misery, impoverishment and diminution of the rest; that the pre-eminence of Europe can only be restored in concert. Notwithstanding these truths, Britain may well be forgiven her truths, hesitancy in associating herself with continental Europe. The Common Market is a regional organization all of whose members were defeated or occupied or both during a war in which Britain was neither defeated nor occupied. in contrast with the countries of Europe, the Commonwealth comprises a world-wide association of states with an ideal and record of freedom second to nothing. Having founded such a valuable enterprize Britain cannot, and does not want to abandon suddenly her dut-ies towards its members. Yet either political or economic union with continental Europe would necessitate, if not the abandonment, then at least a weakening of Commonwealth ties.

Surrender of Sovereignty

For Britan to accept the point pleage of loyary. Continentation ical institutions provided for in the European countries are bound by Treaty of Rome she would have to surrender her sovereignty (and hence freedom of action) to yet is a set of rules to be manipulatanother extra-legal, supra-national Assembly such as the United Nat-contract law — to suit one's own ions. That is, executive authority interests.

would become shifted from prop-erly elected responsible governments to a committee of unelected

government nominees. This "supra-national" system is principally a French-conceived idea, and people in Britain with a constitutional system which has Europe, when France has failed to evolve a system for herself, let alone Europe, which is capable of lasting more than a few weeks. Nations.

Continental Approach

Thus, in signing the Treaty of Rome, Britain would surrender control of her own agricultural, industrial, and foreign policies to an unelected committee of foreigners on which her representative would sit in a minority of one, pledged to uphold a system gear-ed to Continental requirements and operating according to Roman law (a set of rules) and not com-

mon law (a code of ethics). Once formally committed to a union with the continent of Europe, Britain might well find her-self the prisoner of a legal and constitutional system utterly foreign to her, governed (as in the League and the United Nations) not by a code of ethics but by not by a code of ethics but by the casuistry of foreign attorneys. It might also be mentioned that the English word "treaty" is un-translatable into either French or German, "contract" being the nearest possible rendering into those languages. In English, a treaty implies something far more than a mere legal contract; it implies a moral obligation to ob-For Britain to accept the polit-lingtitutions are being a serve the spirit of the thing, a pledge of loyalty. Continental

Basic Assumption

Even in terms of domestic business operations the assumption of continental legal systems must in-clude a fundamental change in outlook for British business. In Germany, for instance, a sound-looking commercial law is used, not to prevent malpractice, but as a weapon to be invoked by the big firm against the small firm for the express purpose of eliminating the competition of the latter. Further, prosecution under the law is Further, the "supra-national" sys-instituted, not by the authorities, tem has been twice discredited in recent times by the failures of the League of Nations and the United prove his innocense, with all the expense and worry entailed, or see his business suffer.

One might continue indefinitely in the summary of arguments both for and against Britain's entry in-to the European Common Market. The fact is that she has already decided in favour of joining, subject to suitable safeguards for her Commonwealth partners. She may yet manage to arrange a form of economic association with Europe, without the agonizing step of political union.

Vital Distinction

There remains one vital distincagainst it. The arguments in favour of britain's entry are non-proven. They are based on the second proven. They are based on assumptions, on theoretical speculation. In consideration of these Britain is asked to surrender the solid known advantages of interand trading Commonwealth ties arrangements, as well as to give up in addition a complex but suc-cessful agricultural support system. For my own money (like most British people, being disinclined to swap my trusted friends for erstwhile enemies), I would vote solidly against the move, before we have to witness brawls and stilletos, not in Rome where one expects them, but in Westminster, no less!

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