

Please
Take One

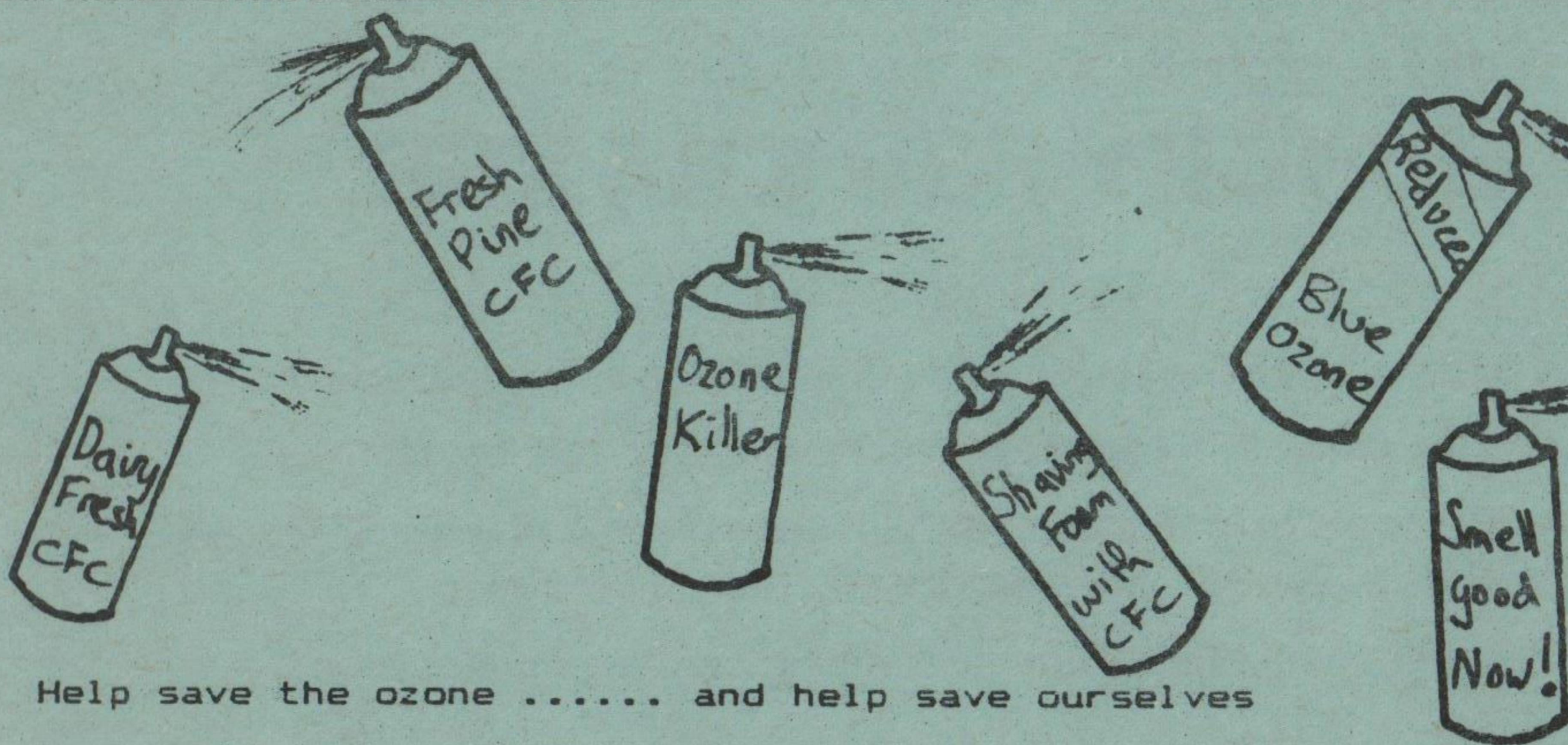
FREE!

One for Justice & Peace

Autumn 1987



ONE WORLD CONCERNS in TELFORD



Help save the ozone and help save ourselves

Newly available from Friends of the Earth is a list showing which sprays do not use chlorofluorocarbons (CFCs for short!). If you must use an aerosol spray then read the list first.

Send a stamped addressed envelope and donation to

Friends of the Earth (Birmingham),
54-57 Allison Street, Digbeth, Birmingham B5 5TH or
Friends of the Earth, 377 City Road, London EC1V 1NA



FAST

Every year since 1984 more and more people have joined in Oxfam's Hungry for Change National Fast. Last year, a million people were involved, by sponsoring or fasting, and raised nearly £ $\frac{1}{3}$ million for the poor and hungry overseas.

This year, aid for the poor overseas is needed more than ever before.

If you joined us in the past — thank you. Please join us again.

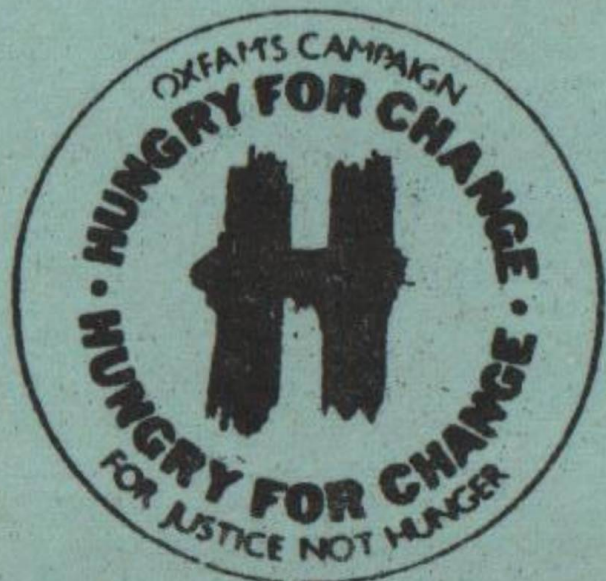
If you have not joined us yet — please do so — NOW is the time.
YOU can make a real difference.

Help us raise money for the poor in over 70 countries, and show you are

HUNGRY FOR CHANGE

Call with us for

- an increase of government aid to 0.7% of Gross National Product.
- cut the strings: — end aid with commercial or political motives.
- government aid to protect the poor; promote the role of women; protect health and education services for the poor overseas.
- a government White Paper to review government policy on aid.



Call for change
AND
Raise money for aid that works

WITH OXFAM



For leaflets with full details, visit the Oxfam Shop, Duke Street, Wellington or call Robert Saunders Telford 53705.

Nicaragua Today

Father César Jerez, S.J., Vice-Chancellor of the Central America University in Managua, Nicaragua, spoke in Stafford on 23rd September about "Nicaragua Today". When, formerly, Father Jerez was Provincial of the Jesuits for Central America and Panama, he was based in El Salvador and was a friend of Archbishop Romero.

Father Jerez began by stating that Nicaragua was a socialist not a Marxist country. He dealt with Nicaragua's relationship with the U.S.A. and drew a distinction between the hostility of the U.S. administration and the goodwill and help received from many of the American people. The Reagan administration were concerned that Nicaragua wanted to escape from U.S. domination and this was undesirable in geo-political terms for the U.S., more especially since this might provide a model which other Central American countries might follow.

A crucial question for Nicaragua is how the poor can survive; but, Father Jerez asserted (more than once) it is difficult to break the will of a nation. The Nicaraguan revolution will survive through the will of the poor and also because of the support and solidarity given by people all over the world. He compared the Nicaraguan revolution to a little girl or a little flower which the hands of men and women all over the world were trying to keep alive.

Father Jerez went on to consider each of the clauses of the recent Central American Peace accord. He showed how Nicaragua was honouring all the clauses of the agreement.

After his talk there was an excellent question and answer session. Among other things Father Jerez said that the Church in Nicaragua was divided between people who had different social and political visions. However with the appointment of a new Apostolic nuncio the Vatican's approach to Nicaragua was gradually becoming more positive as its understanding of the situation changed.

When asked if the new peace accord was not to the disadvantage of the poor in El Salvador, Father Jerez said that guerillas in El Salvador accepted the spirit but not the letter of the agreement and that President Duarte will have to engage in dialogue with the guerillas who, unlike the contras, have support inside El Salvador.

Just suppose...

JUST suppose...

- that you have worked for nine hours in the burning sun, and your day's pay will only cover one third of the food your family needs;
- or that your child falls sick and the health centre is closed for lack of funds;
- or that you've had to borrow from the local loan shark in order to make ends meet – and now he's hammering at the door to be paid, when you've not a penny in the house;
- or that your home has been demolished by bulldozers, flattening all before them in a mad scramble for 'development'.

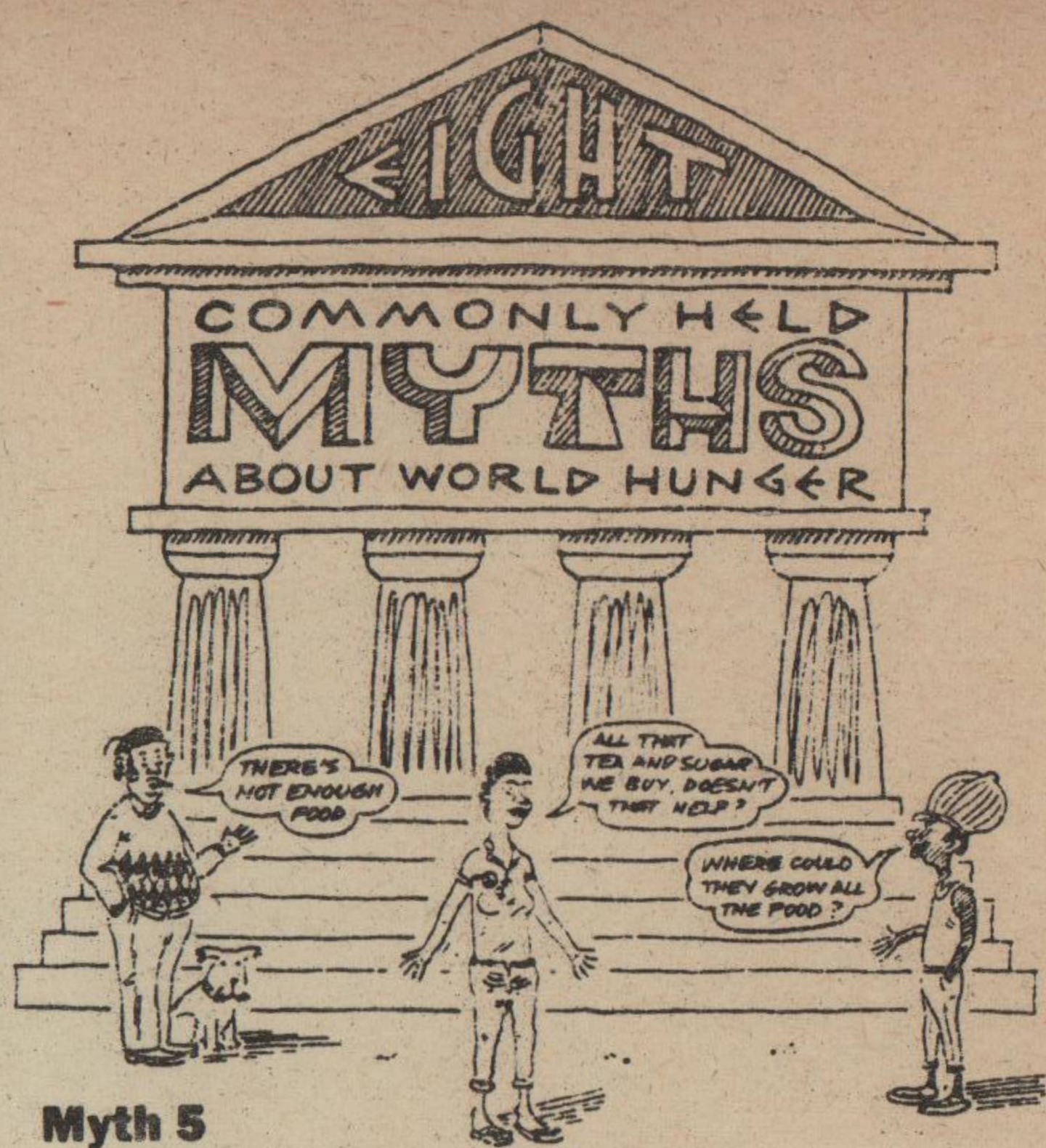
How would you feel? What could you do? Who would you turn to for help?

These are real-life situations with a common thread: each is created by debt. They are all examples – from Jamaica, Zaire, the UK and Brazil – of the way in which, the world over, the poor are repaying the debts of the rich, with their hunger, their health, their homes and their lives.

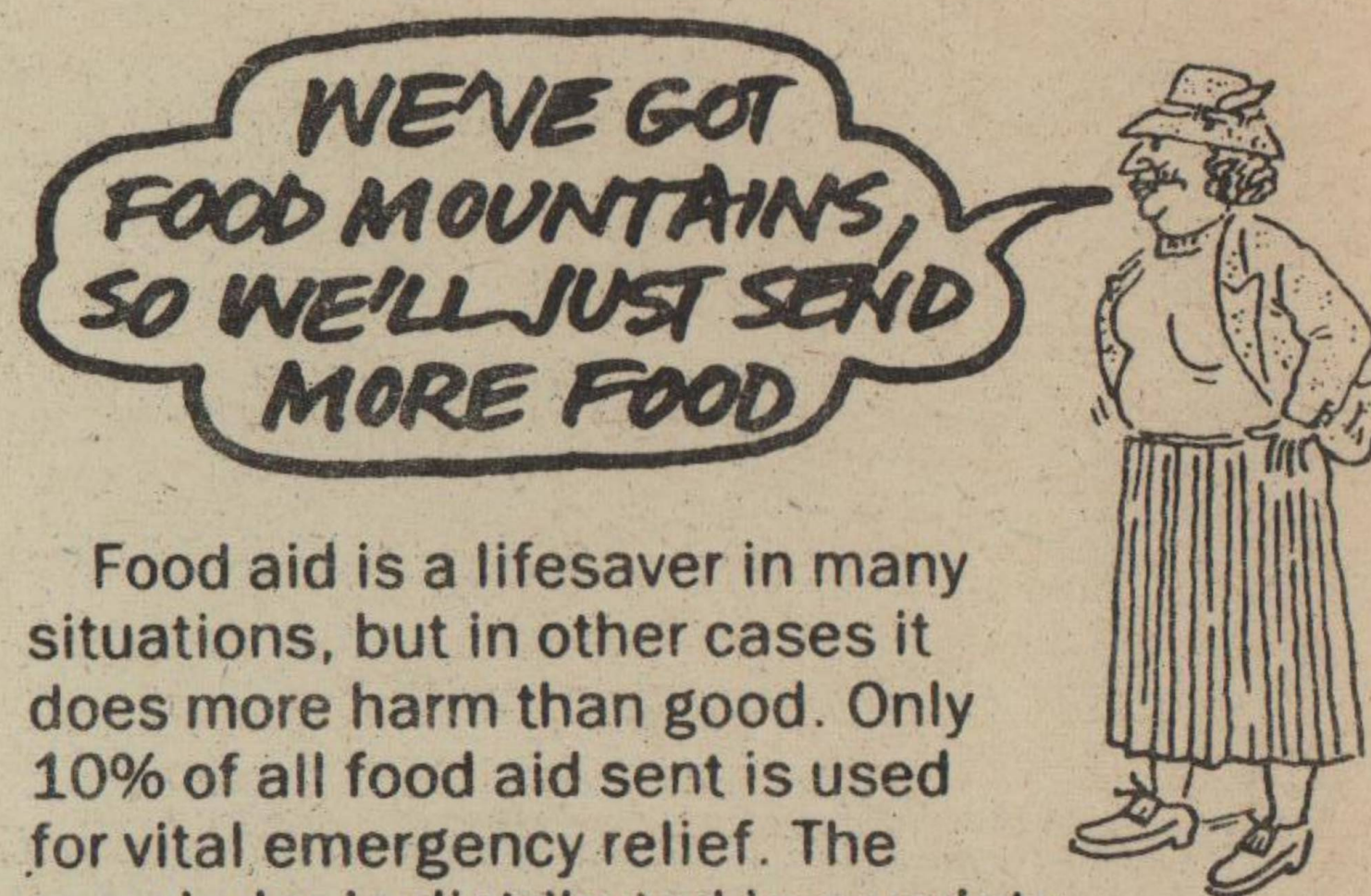
Now, on the other hand, just imagine...

- that you, your family and friends, your workmates and neighbours, have all clubbed together to set up a little bank of your own. Now you can support one another in times of trouble and save maybe money, maybe food for the rainy day (or the drought!), as a community with a common interest;
- or that you and your church, or the organisation you belong to, have discovered a way of investing your savings which won't add to the profits of the high street banks or the great transnational companies, but will go to help towards the success of struggling, small enterprises and projects, in this country and in the Third World;
- or that some people in your community are writing angry letters to banks, arranging meetings with politicians, collecting signatures for petitions, in protest at the injustice of the world's financial institutions.

Again, these dreams are based on real-life possibilities. One World Week 1987 invites you to explore the two faces of debt and credit, to discover why so many lives are being ruined by the international debt crisis and by the credit industry in our own country and to look at some of the ways that people are finding to overcome the seemingly impossible odds against them.




Myth 5



Food aid is a lifesaver in many situations, but in other cases it does more harm than good. Only 10% of all food aid sent is used for vital emergency relief. The remainder is distributed in a variety of ways, but rarely gets out to the poor.

Increasingly countries come to rely on it and are less willing to encourage their own farmers to grow food. For many communities food aid means drastically altered diets and loss of livelihoods. Locally grown food can't compete with food aid and prices fall. Low prices drive farmers out of business. The result: communities become more dependent on food from outside and less able to feed themselves. As less food is produced, less work is available. Families leave their homes and drift to the towns in search of work. There they swell the ranks of the unemployed.

SO... Food aid is not the long term solution to hunger — it does not help the poor to grow the food where it is needed.



Diary for Oct/Nov/Dec 1987

October

- Fri 16th WORLD FOOD DAY London Greenpeace propose a day of action against McDonalds. For details contact them at 5 Caledonian Road, London N1.
- Sat 17th Vegetarian Society symposium on "The Crisis in the Countryside", speakers from science, Whitehall, journalism and environmental groups. Tickets at £3 (£2) from Hilary Sadler, Veg'n Soc., 53 Marloes Road, London W8 6LA.
- 18th-25th ONE WORLD WEEK 'Who gets the credit'. All week in Telford Town Centre by Carrefour, the One World exhibition. Please come along to see the posters and free literature.
- Sun 18th 4.15 pm Channel 4 series "Battle for the Planet", focus on food aid.
- Weds 21st International Evening. 7.30 pm at All Saints Centre, Stirchley. An evening of song, dance and drama, from Telford's rich diversity of cultures. Refreshments and some food available. Entry free of charge.
- Sat 24th VSO Conference "World Trade - Confrontation or Co-operation?" to be held Phoenix Community Centre, Dawley 10 am-4.15 pm. Creche Available. See elsewhere in this issue.
- Sat 24th International Evening at Bridgnorth Leisure Centre. For details contact Sylvia or Carol on 0746 35648.
- Fri 30th-Sun 1st Nov. Oxfam Hungry for Change Fast, see article "Fast with Oxfam".

November

- Sat or Sun 7/8th Telford Central America Group present the video "The Dark light of Dawn", documentary on human rights in Guatemala. An informal supper (donations welcome) to be held 8 pm onwards at 108 Holyhead Road, Ketley. Contact Tel. 617768 for information.
- Sun 8th Remembrance Sunday. A time to remember - the dead of all wars; the forgotten victims: the refugees, disabled, and those suffering as military expenditure grows; those dying or about to die in wars fuelled by weapons Britain and other countries sell. A time of peace - to reaffirm our commitment to work for a just world without war.
- Weds 11th Shropshire Trust for Nature Conservation. Talk on Ancient Woodlands of Telford by Eric Wiggins, 7.30 pm, Belmont Hall, Wellington.
- Sun 22nd Telford launch of "Change Makers", Christian Aid's new youth network (15-25 yrs). Music, drama, games and worship. 1-4.30 pm at All Saints Centre, Stirchley. Bring food to share. 'Discover how to solve the world's problems'. Contact Steve Inman, Tel. 604009.

December

- Weds 9th Shropshire Trust for Nature Conservation, Christmas Bazaar and Film Show, 7.30 pm Belmont Hall, Wellington.

Oct. 11-17th National Recycling Week

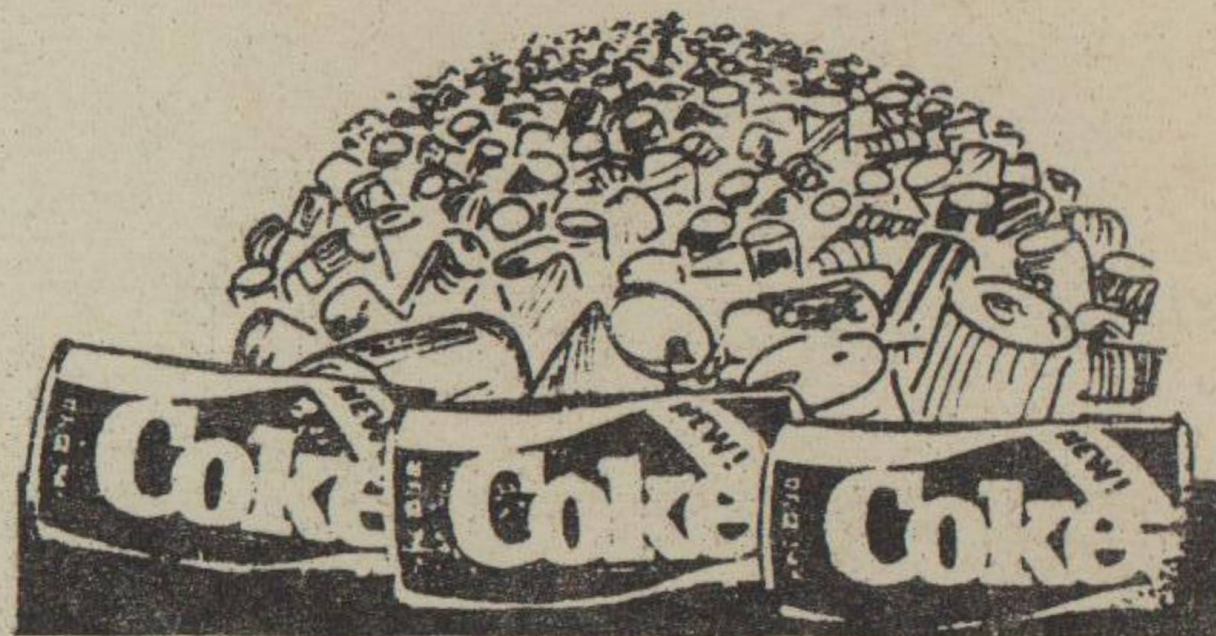
This is the European Year of the Environment (EYE) and a week has been selected to highlight recycling - the re-use of materials once 'consumed'. Examples abound, including paper, bottles, cans and scrap metal.

Recycling is one of the first steps towards a sustainable society where we live in harmony with nature and not destroying the basis of our well-being. Fortunately, recycling of materials is becoming increasingly attractive both economically and socially. Many jobs exist and are being created in recycling businesses. An obvious additional benefit is that there is less rubbish to tip in holes or burn. This can save local councils money and benefit the ratepayers !

Do you remember the recent ridiculous sight of the large barge sailing around the American east coast, looking for a place to dump its load of rubbish. We should be grateful for a decent captain who didn't dump it all when no-one was looking.

If you want to make a positive contribution then
put your glass containers in the Bottle Banks (NOT your milk bottles!)
take your newspapers to the council tip at St. Georges Road, St. Georges.
also your tin cans (after cleaning them).
keep your waste engine oil and take it to St. Georges.
build up a compost heap in your garden and try organic gardening.

Write to tell us of YOUR ideas to save the Earth's valuable resources.



For Justice & Peace

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ONE WORLD
CONCERNS
in TELFORD

ONE FOR JUSTICE AND PEACE
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The views and opinions
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are not necessarily those of
the One World Group, or the
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Articles, responses to
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letters, etc., are always
very welcome, and will be
printed wherever possible,
though the editors reserve
the right to shorten them,
or to make minor alterations
where appropriate.

This newsletter is both
published and delivered free.
Any contributions towards the
production costs will be most
welcome, however small. (Make
cheques and P.O.s payable to:
One For Justice And Peace.

Editors: Robert Saunders, Malcolm
Verrall and Mark Stokes

ONE WORLD CONCERN
Things to pray about.

One World Week is set for 18-25th October. Pray for all who aim to celebrate the week that God will make it a blessing to them.

In South Africa political crisis and the state of emergency continue. Pray for enlightenment, for mercy, and for justice.

Remember in your prayers the tin-miners of Bolivia and their families. When employed they work in the most arduous conditions; but now 70% of them are unemployed due to the world fall in tin prices. "Most families now have to live on one meal a day of bread, bean leaves, and bean and potato peelings", says a report.

Kampuchea is the only Third World country not receiving official development assistance from the United Nations. But Oxfam and other Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs) are still working there to assist the strengthening of its economy. Pray for the peace, strength, and stability of this country which is still threatened by a possible return of the Pol Pot regime.

There are signs of change in the British government's attitude to the poorer nations, for example, the Chancellor of the Exchequer's three point plan on debt relief. Pray for a wider understanding of actual relationships between the rich and poor of the world.



Conservation & Capitalism come together

Friends of the Earth and the Body Shop nationally are working together to raise awareness of environmental issues.

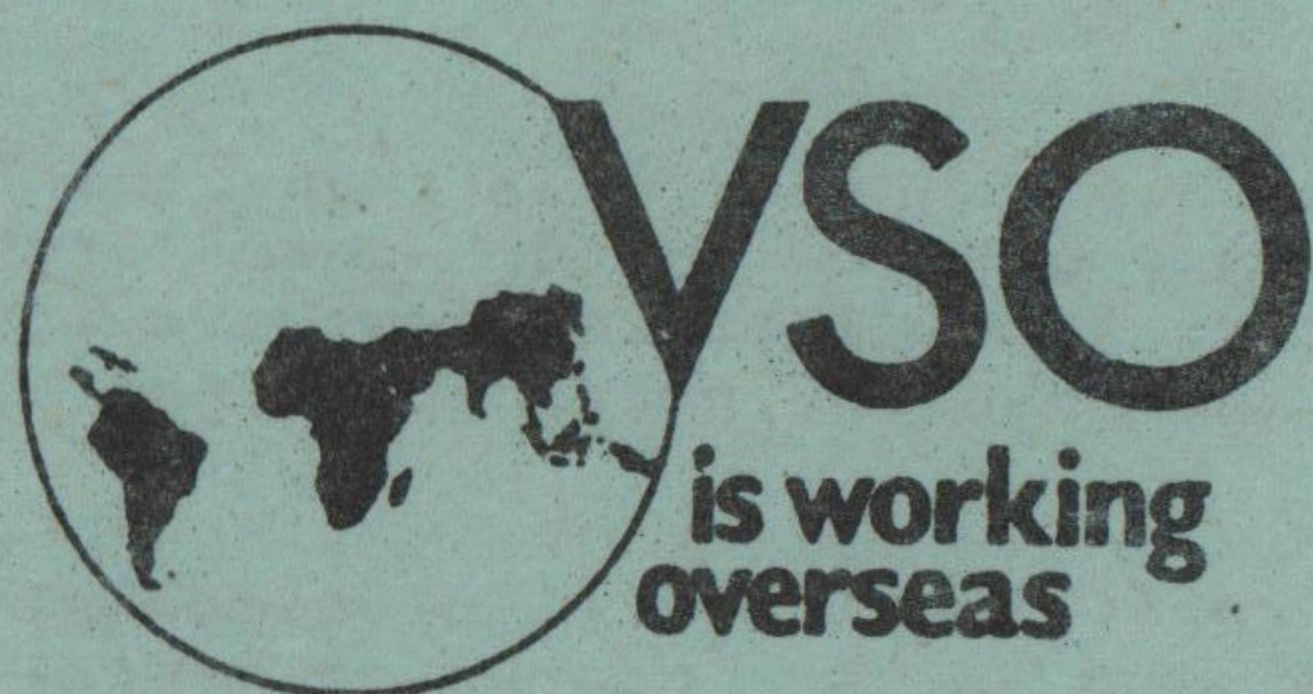
In May, in Acid Rain Week, they funded the production of a joint leaflet and poster, with the aim of helping to raise funds for FOE. You may ask, as I did, "What's behind it?" The Body Shop's ethics are basically about 'Beauty without Cruelty' - i.e. body care products that have not involved chemicals requiring animal testing; products made from traditional, mainly plant, materials. In addition, as they explain in the leaflet, they use ingredients like Aloe Vera that grow in the delicate environment of rain forests, and so they have an interest in preserving these natural resources. The next joint venture will be in Recycling Week.

Links are now being developed between local FOE groups and Body Shops. Croydon FOE were sponsored to the tune of £700 for collecting cans for recycling! FOE Birmingham hope to team up with the chain's outlets in the city and hope that FOE supporters, when they need to purchase toiletries, will take their custom to this High Street success that isn't just thinking of profit per se.

SHROPSHIRE & BLACK COUNTRY V.S.O. invite you to a Regional Conference

"WORLD TRADE" -

"Confrontation or Co-operation" ?



Saturday 24th OCTOBER 1987

10.00a.m. - 4.15p.m.

Chetwood Hall, Phoenix Community Centre

Webb Crescent, Dawley

For further details please 'phone Heather on Ryton 334

WOMEN AND DEVELOPMENT

The problem of inappropriate aid has be-devilled relations between rich and poor nations. A 'rich' nation, e.g. the USA or Britain, may direct large amounts of aid, whether as food or money, to a poor nation without producing any improvement in the living standards of its inhabitants.

The reasons for this have often been analysed. One likely reason is that inappropriate aid actually helps support unjust power structures within poorer nations. Another more fundamental reason is that aid which is meant to improve the nutrition of a people needs to be targeted at those most concerned with nutrition, that is, the women.

When we talk about aiding poor farmers we invariably think of the farmer as male. And Third World governments probably repeat that mistake. But it is women the world over, who are at the centre of subsistence food production. The nutritional health of households depends on women more than on men.

This was established in Britain years ago when it was found that if child benefit was paid to the man of the family there was only a 50-50 chance of its reaching the children. Hence the principle was fixed that child benefit be paid to mothers rather than fathers.

Women in many parts of the world are farmers. However, they are not recognised as such. When 'progressive' farmers are picked out for a development scheme, the real farmers - the women - are left out.

A major cause of the crisis in food self-sufficiency is this suppression of the real farmer in favour of a select group of entrepreneurs who, if individually successful, are so at the expense of the farming sector as a whole.

If we are serious in our desire to see the world's people fed we must put women, not men, at the centre of development. This is the only way to cancel out the mistakes that have been made in the past.

If you want to follow up on the issues relating to Women and Development the organisation to contact is : "CHANGE", PO Box 824, London SE24 9JX, who are working with support from War on Want.