Letters, we get letters . . .

Foreign Service Families, this newsletter is for you. If it is to be of maximum interest and use to you, it needs your input. We welcome any and all suggestions and comments about this issue. Please write to: Community Liaison Section (Liaison), Posting Services Centre, Lester B. Pearson Building, External Affairs, Ottawa K1A 0G2.

I was a bit disappointed to see that the article on the new Chancery in Budapest (December/January 1985) was not more expansive. Having been present when the property was offered to Canada on St. Valentine's Day 1977 and again at the laying of the foundation stone in March 1981, you can imagine the memories that came flooding back when I saw the photo which accompanied the article. So, please forgive me for wanting to add to the record.

No article about the "Müemlek" would be complete without credit being paid to Tom Delworth for his courage and foresight when the site was first offered to us. While some people had strong reservations about the choice he saw the potential beauty in what was at that time a crumbling, broken-down building on a weed-infested lot in the Buda hills. Nor should one gloss over the constant pressure to achieve results placed on the Diplomatic Service Bureau by Ambassador Armstrong as we negotiated the lease from February 1977 until the weekend before Mr. MacGuigan signed it in March 1981.

For the record, the metal tube (not cube) contains a Canadian quarter, nickel, dime and penny, and copies of the Globe and Mail, Le Devoir and Nepszabadsag.

Dennis Snider CanDel NATO, Brussels, Belgium

DIRECT COMMUNICATION WITH SPOUSES

With the posting season well underway, many people are obviously on the move. Spouses on the *Direct Communication List* who are proceeding to a new posting are reminded to please fill in and forward, to ADTB, the change of address form found here.

Information Packages Sent Through The Direct Communication With Spouses Program

April 3, 1985 — NCR (1985-86 No. 1) — notice to spouses concerning community co-ordinators training workshop;

 a letter concerning contract possibilities for the above mentioned workshop.

April 15, 1985 — NCR (1985-86 No. 2) — a list of pre-posting workshops/information sessions.

PHOTO CREDITS

The Ottawa Citizen — all the photos in Mosaic.

All other photos, unless otherwise specified, were provided by the Department.

Please find enclosed, a photograph featuring "The Dipsticks". I thought it might make an off-beat item for *Liaison*.

You can see from the photograph that life in Lagos does have an amusing side. The four who appear in the photograph get together on a regular basis to sing songs from the 1950's. All in all, "The Supreme's" we are not but we have a good time pretending!

R.W. Peck Second Secretary (Consular) Lagos, Nigeria



From left to right: "The Dipsticks", Klaus Tiefenbrunner, Lynda Tiefenbrunner, Robert Peck and Marilyn Langstaff.

LIAISON is published by the Department of External Affairs

Posting Services Centre, Community Liaison Section (613) 992-2221

Editor: Jo-Lynne Sutherland

New post or division:

ISSN 0825 1800



As a Registered Nurse on contract to the Canadian Embassy in Prague and to two other western missions, I read with considerable interest the Health and Welfare article outlined in the Dec./Jan. issue of Liaison.

The standard of medical care and hospital facilities in Prague is, in general below that in Canada; equipment is outdated, and services are mediocre. Medications are limited and many of the more sophistocated medications common in North America are unavailable. Hospital conditions are rather antiquated, crowded and somewhat dreary. Disposable equipment is uncommon, but at the same time it is often reused.

While there are competent physicians, it is uncertain whether their services can be obtained when necessary. There is a diplomatic clinic, but foreigners have had so many unfortunate experiences that Canadians are using facilities in West Germany to an increasing extent.

Finally, in addition to the general medical conditions, it should be noted that residents must endure periods of 6-8 months in the winter in which fresh fruit and vegetables are unavailable. This is compounded with the fact that residents must cope with some of the highest levels of air pollution in Europe, making living conditions less that optimal.

L. Shorthouse R.N. Prague, Czechoslovakia

SPOUSES, DID YOU RECEIVE THIS ISSUE OF LIAISON DIRECTLY?
If you didn't and would like to, please fill in and return the following form:
Direct Communication With Spouses Form
Name of spouse:
Address:
Name of employee:
Division or Post:
Language requested: English French Employee's Signature
If you are already on the list, but have moved, please use this form.
CHANGE OF ADDRESS FORM
Name of spouse:
Old address:
New address:

"Although every effort and precaution is taken to ensure the accuracy of the information contained in Liaison, the Secretary of State for External Affairs and the Department of External Affairs do not accept any liability whatsoever for damages, loss or injury of any nature due to any errors, omissions or inaccuracies in the information contained in Liaison. It is the responsibility of the reader before relying on any information contained in Liaison, to verify the information with officers responsible for the administration of the program or law to which the Information relates."

Return to the Posting Services Centre, ADTB. Lester B. Pearson Building Ottawa, K1A 0G2