

SOCIOLOGICAL ISSUES

Heartlessness Is More Terrifying Than Cold

The day I arrived in Bogotol the temperature was nearing the -40 mark. The city was submerged in a frosty haze. I walked into a railway station office to warm up and heard a conversation about the unexpectedly early cold:

It is only seven degrees in our apartment - said a woman, shivering. My daughter sleeps with her felt boots on.

And we are warming ours with electric heaters - joined in another.

...A hoarse female voice replies from the hotel that there are vacancies, but if I don't have a fur coat, I better not take the risk, the temperature in the room is zero.

One of the authors of collective letters to the editor, N. Mikeshin, assistant engineer on an electric locomotive of the Bogotol locomotive depot, swore that the walls of his apartment in a multi-storied brick house at 2, Kirov Street were translucent.

Inside them there is a vacuum. There is no filler between the outer and the inner layers. That is if you don't consider the vodka bottles, a goodly number of which have been hidden there by the builders. Which means that even the electric heater is not much help in our case!