

Of course, the work in Arctic skies is a very difficult job. But the pilots of the Krasnoyarsk, Yakutsk and magadan civil aviation administrations can never take things for granted. What they most need is reliable equipment, but instead they "retired" the famous IL-14 only to get essentially nothing in return. It seems that new planes of a "northern design" do exist, but they don't really measure to that "work-horse", the IL-14. Perhaps this is why aviation workers are saying: instead of reinventing the wheel, wouldn't it be simpler to dig the plans for the IL-14 out of the archives, bring its design up to date and start producing it again? But, as usual, this good idea merely remains an idea.

The pilots are now in the air; it is the day when everyone here is impatiently awaiting the next flight carrying mail and newspapers so they can try to make out, on their own, all of the ups and downs of that bustling life thousands of kilometres away from the rather small block of ice on which these courageous people work.

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TRANSPORT-WATER

First Private Ship Owner on the White Sea

Arkhangelsk - this port city founded over four hundred years ago at the mouth of the Severnaya Dvina River, has lived from the sea for a long time. A local museum has a photograph of this river town dating back to the beginning of the century showing a line-up of sailboats. After the October Revolution all of them fell on hard times. Their ships were confiscated, they were fined, and the new authorities closed the border to them. In the days of mass repression the captains were classified as "kulaks" and this private fleet with soon abolished...

It seems as if owning one's own ship is beginning to make a comeback. In Arkhangelsk, at least, there is now a private ship owner named A. Makarenko, captain of the yacht "Grumant." For many years he sailed on board the ships of the Northern Maritime Steamship Line, and would spend his holidays restoring old abandoned ships. When he retired he decided to realize his old dream: to build a large ship capable of sailing anywhere its owner desired.