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Career of Perfilieff An Amazing Story of Cossack Who Wanted To Paint

Arrived in America with Russian Flag His Only Baggage and "Cocka-tail" His One English Word

SPEAKS AT PINEHURST FEB. 7TH

By Struthers Burt

The Pilot has asked me to say something about Captain Vladimir Perfilieff who, on February 7th, at the Carolina Theatre in Pinehurst, will show his motion picture, 'The Whispering North.' At the same time there will be an exhibition of Perfilieff's drawings and paintings at the Carolina Hotel.

I have a right to do this, outside of the pleasure involved, because I was one of the very first Americans who met Perfilieff upon his arrival in this country eight years ago. I knew him when he couldn't speak a word of English and the only way we could communicate was in French—on my part bad. No, I am exaggerating—he knew one English word, 'cocka-tail.' Another friend of mine, Francis MacDonald, a professor of English at Princeton, had brought Perfilieff back with him from Tokio. For three years MacDonald had been on leave of absence as private secretary to the American Ambassador to Japan. Fleeing from the Bolsheviks in Siberia, Perfilieff had in some way reached Tokio and there had met MacDonald and the latter had discovered that the one thing this blood-stained and burly young Cossack was interested in was painting. He never had had a chance to paint, for six years, ever since the age of nineteen, he had been engaged in chasing his fellow-men up and down the earth, but all the while what he had wanted to do was to paint.

MacDonald brought him back to America and pretty soon Perfilieff was painting. He became a student at The Academy of Fine Arts in Philadelphia, and before long one began to hear of him. Then you heard that John Singer Sargent, a year or two before his death, had asked him to be his pupil—the only pupil Sargent ever had. All that was from 1920 to around 1924. Now Perfilieff is a well known painter and his exhibitions are annual affairs in Philadelphia, New York and Chicago. He has a genius in catching the likeness and character of his sitter. His drawings and portraits are enormously clever, as you will see if you will take the trouble to go to look at them at the Carolina Hotel this coming Wednesday.

An Amazing Career

But, being a friend of Perfilieff, what has always interested me ever more than anything he does is Perfilieff himself. He is one of the most amazing, amusing and charming men I have ever met, and his history is amazing.

He was born a Cossack in Eastern Siberia where his father was Hetman of his tribe and Governor of the province. Very early in his life he developed the taste for traveling that later on was so to mark him. Before he was sixteen he had been to St. Petersburg nine times and back, a distance of about 80,000 miles. When he was nineteen he entered the Guard Cossack Regiment. Almost immediately the war broke out and Perfilieff became a captain and fought for three years on all fronts. When Bolshevism raised its head, Perfilieff found his way to the Crimea, where for awhile he fought, and subsequently was sent to join Admiral Kolchak in Siberia. When that leader was killed, Perfilieff decided that he had had about enough fighting and set out, as I have said, for Japan. I don't blame him for his decision—he had had six years of slaughter. Quite a long spell for a man who wanted to be an artist.

The first time I ever saw Perfilieff was in Princeton, just after MacDonald had arrived with him. I met MacDonald on the street and MacDonald said, 'Do you want to look at him?' 'Hotel. Do you want to look at him?' 'He took me to the Nassau Hotel and there on a cot in a room on the third story was a blonde young man in trousers and undershirt, sound asleep. Pinned to the wall over his head was a tiny Russian flag. "That's his entire baggage," said MacDonald. "It's

A TALE OF PERFILEIEFF, A BUCKING HORSE AND FIFTEEN DOLLARS

By Struthers Burt

At one of the annual artillery shows of the Princeton University R. O. T. C. several years ago a horse was discovered that no one could ride, not even the five West Pointers attached to the Princeton unit. Finally the Major in command stepped forward and jokingly offered anyone in the crowd fifteen dollars if he would ride the horse. A completely unknown young man volunteered and mounted. The first thing that happened was that the horse's bridle came off; the next thing that happened was that the horse 'broke in half,' as we say out West, and settled down to a first-class exhibition of Far-Western bucking. The unknown young man, not in the least perturbed, rode the horse. It was Perfilieff. Hearing about this incident several years later, I asked Perfilieff what he knew of bucking horses. He grinned. "Nothing, but I'm a Cossack." And then he grinned even more widely, "And oh my goodness, how I needed those fifteen dollars in those days!"

about all he's got. He pins it to the wall the moment he gets on to a steamer, or enters a train, or stops at a hotel. And it was just about all Perfilieff had. When the Russian revolution broke out there were nine members of his immediate family living; since then he has had no knowledge of their whereabouts and no word from them. But he is an extraordinary Russian (I beg his pardon—Cossack) in more ways even than those I have mentioned—although destitute when he reached this country and unable to speak a word of English for at least three years to come, I never heard of him asking a favor of anyone and from the very beginning he began to take care of himself. At present he speaks fluent, if at times odd, English and he knows more about the United States than any American I have ever met. Also he loves the United States better than most Americans. At intervals he buys or hires some delapidated Ford or Dodge truck, and putting cooking utensils and a bed in the back, starts out to see the country—Arizona, New Mexico, Kansas—anywhere. When he sees a town he likes, he stops off for a week and gets a job of some kind; washing dishes, porter at the station, policeman; anything to enable him to study the town and make a living meanwhile. He is immensely interested in people and his principal study is of native types. This accounts for his motion picture, "The Whispering North." It is a by-product of an expedition he headed last summer to the Arctic and the Yukon in search of Eskimo faces. The summer before he was the artist member of William Beebe's expedition to the West Indies and Haiti under the auspices of the New York Zoological Society. His drawings of the negroes of the West Indies are as fascinating as his sketches of Eskimos.

To Tell Experiences

I have never heard him address an audience, even for a few minutes as he does with this motion picture. 'I don't bother them very long,' he recently wrote me, but I imagine it's a grand talk—short or long. I have much faith in Perfilieff's ability to interest people no matter what he does. And James Pond, of the Pond Bureau in New York, under whose management the motion picture—"The Whispering North"—is produced says it is "splendid and exciting." So it must be. The name Pond Bureau is a guarantee. You can't show anything under its management unless it is good. That the trip was exciting (Please turn to Page 8)

ASSOCIATION TO BOOM HIGHWAY NO. 1 PLANNED

Organization to Promote Travel Over Route from Maine to Miami

FRANK PAGE ON BOARD

United States Highway No. 1, which passes through Vass, Southern Pines and Aberdeen, is one of the longest continuous Federal marked highway in the country. It begins at the international boundary at Fort Kent, Maine and terminates at Miami, Florida. The American Association of State Highway officials gives the mileage of this route as 2,328 miles. The longest highway is No. 30, which goes from coast to coast, beginning at Atlantic City and terminating on the coast of Oregon. The distance is 3,472 miles.

The entire distance over Route 1 from Maine to Florida is paved with the exception of a portion through South Carolina, from the South Carolina line to Camden and from Montetta to Aiken, which is being paved but is not as yet open to traffic. The route across Georgia and into Jacksonville is all paved and open.

Association Formed

The United States Highway No. 1 Association has been recently organized in Georgia. This is the beginning of what is expected to be a large organization to promote travel over the entire route. Frank Page, retiring State Highway Commissioner, has been named a member of the Board of Directors.

Since the completion of the highway north of the Sandhills, traffic has greatly increased and the cities and towns along its route have enjoyed considerably increased patronage. Persons who used to come into this section by train are now motoring down, which means increased business along the route and usually longer stays here. Federal Route No. 1 will continue to grow as the main artery and trunk line between the North and the South, and it is with the idea of stimulating this growth that the association has been formed.

Secretary Howard Burns of the Southern Pines Chamber of Commerce has made application for one of the new wall maps just issued by the Bureau of Good Roads, Department of Agriculture, showing the entire Federal Highway system. This map is to be framed and prominently displayed in Southern Pines for the use of tourists.

CRAZED NEGRO WITH GUN SCARES THE COUNTRY SIDE

Because the Olive brothers who conduct a dairy business in Southern Pines deducted a doctor's bill from his wages, a certain colored man started some shootin' over by the dairy the other night and 'most frightened everybody to death. Corn liquor is said to have aroused him after the pay deduction, and he ran rampant, shooting right and left.

A posse was quickly formed to give chase, and bloodhounds imported from Fayetteville. They trailed him over into the Aberdeen country, to a house in which he is believed to have sought refuge, but they couldn't go farther without a search warrant, and that's where the story ends as far as we have been able to gather. It's the meat of it, anyway.

PINE NEEDLES OPENS FOR ITS SECOND SEASON

Pine Needles Inn got away to its second season with a goodly list of registered guests and a large field for its first golf tournament last Saturday. Manager Richardson reports heavy bookings for the remainder of the season.

The landscaping and gardening which have been done since last winter have won the praise of those who have registered at the inn on Knollwood Heights thus far, and the grounds all about, including the eighteen-hole golf course, are in the best of condition.

Many dinner parties are being given by Pinehurst and Southern Pines residents at Pine Needles, which is fast becoming one of the social centers of the Sandhills.

BEN LINDSEY NOT BULLET PROOF, THE GANG FINDS

They finally got Ben Lindsey. It had begun to look as if Ben was bullet-proof. In fact he had boasted that he was too tough for a bullet to pierce his hide. Ben had been hit, but never hurt.

But the other night he broke out over at Amos Broadway's billiard parlor in West Southern Pines, and there were some fireworks. Four shots went in Ben's direction, and three of them disproved the theory about the bullet-proof hide. Ben was hit. And hurt.

They carried Ben off to a hospital, Chief Kelly and others, and when they had extracted the lead, they carried him on to Carthage. The county seat is there, and the "coht-house." Ben, they say, has a few things to explain to the "jedge."

But what the folks around Southern Pines are wondering is, whether the powers that be are going to arrest Ben's assailants or give them medals.

Moore Co. Educators Affiliate with Clubs in 2 Other Counties

Educo Clubs of North Carolina Organized by Schoolmen at Raeford Meeting

TO IMPROVE PROFESSION

Believing that they have entered a new field of educational endeavor that contains wonderful opportunities for advancing the cause of education, the schoolmen of Cumberland, Moore and Hoke counties met at the Bluemont Hotel Tuesday evening, January 22, and organized the Affiliated Educo Clubs of North Carolina. There is an Educo Club in each of the three counties composed of the schoolmen of the counties, and they had arranged a dinner and get-together meeting for the purpose of perfecting a district organization of the three clubs, and at this meeting the organization was perfected and a constitution adopted.

The officers of the new organization are as follows: President, K. A. McDonald, principal of Hope Mills school, Cumberland county; vice-president, Edwin A. West, principal of Elise High School of Moore county; secretary - treasurer, Superintendent Hawfield of the Hoke County Schools; publicity chairman, J. V. Baggett, teacher in the Fayetteville High School. Forty schoolmen were present; sixteen from Cumberland, seven from Hoke, and seventeen from Moore.

The aims of the new organization, as stated in the first article of the constitution, are to promote fellowship and acquaintances among the men of the teaching profession, through regular meetings at the luncheon table, to improve the members professionally, to improve the profession as a whole, and to secure the advancement to the cause of education.

The idea of Educo originated with K. A. McDonald of Hope Mills some years ago. His first success was to organize the schoolmen engaged in school work in Cumberland into a club known as the Educo club, and this organization has proven highly successful in inspiring and encouraging the men. The movement later spread to Moore and Hoke counties, both of which now have active clubs doing successful work. The plan of Educo is to work principally through the local clubs, believing that in this way invaluable work can be done to advance the cause of education and improve the teaching profession.

Study Withdrawals Here

A knowledge of the work that is being done by the Educo clubs may be gained from the following facts: At the last meeting of the Educo club of Cumberland the members of the County Board of Education were guests and at this meeting various phases of the high school work of the county were discussed and reports had from all of the high schools of the eastern section of the county where schools have been consolidated this year. At the previous meeting Dr. J. Henry Highsmith addressed the members of the club and commended them highly on their work in the club. In Moore county the members of the Educo club have undertaken a piece (Please turn to page 8)

KIWANIS TELLS FRANK PAGE OF GROWTH HERE

Speakers Review Accomplish- ments in Sandhills at Din- ner to Commissioner

OPTIMISM IS KEYNOTE

The meeting of the Kiwanis club Wednesday at the Pinehurst Country club was scheduled as a dinner to welcome Frank Page back home after a practical absence of ten years in Raleigh as road builder of the state and the head of the State Highway Commission. Mr. Page said he didn't want any reference to his work or his ability or anything of that sort, but that he would appreciate just a homecoming where everybody mixed with everybody else a little and talked about matters and things in an informal way. So it was decided to ask a few of the old timers to tell him a bit about what the county has done during his absence, and Dr. McBrayer led the educational program by a statement about the Sandhills Sixteen which was present to speak for itself. The doctor talked a bit about some related matters, but presently he told the Sandhills Sixteen to stand up and be seen, and then Charlie Picquet set them at work to sing and they needed no further introduction or approval. They made their usual hit.

Bion H. Butler was called on to tell something about the publicity given Moore county in various ways, and made the astounding statement that in the last five years the advertising of the Sandhills has been of the value of fully a million dollars. Pinehurst alone figures on about \$125,000 a year, while Southern Pines and the other interests add a big sum to this. But in addition the newspaper correspondents send out miles of stuff and piles of pictures, so that in every town of any size the papers print the events from the Sandhills. Millions of papers every day tell what is going on at Pinehurst, and many papers pay large sums of money to their correspondents who write about Pinehurst.

Sounds Optimistic Note

Richard Tufts followed with one of the most instructive addresses that has been heard in a long time. Richard has a fashion of looking over the daily records of business at Pinehurst, and his figures are positive, no guess and no "about." He noted that the income tax figures show that many more people are each year reaching a place in the lists of generous incomes, which means that the possible patronage of a winter resort is bigger every year. This and the good geographical location have permitted the Sandhills to increase its business steadily. Pinehurst has played fair with the people who come, and that brings them back and their friends with them. No real estate boom has been tolerated. But Pine- (Please turn to Page 8)

NEW TELEPHONE BUILDING OPENED IN ABERDEEN

Aberdeen's new telephone office on Poplar street opened this week, with congratulations on its attractive and complete building pouring in upon the Piedmont Telephone Company which is now operating in Aberdeen.

The company has installed the most complete switchboard outfit and accessories in this section, and vastly improved service is expected. The operators will be the same heretofore employed, Mrs. Bertha Herring, Mrs. Elwood Creel and Miss Margaret Wilson.

BRIG. GEN. HOLBROOK TO COMMAND AT FORT BRAGG

Brigadier General Lucius R. Holbrook has been assigned by the War Department to the command of the 13th Field Artillery at Fort Bragg. General Holbrook has been on duty in the Philippines since 1926. Graduated from West Point in 1896, he has had a distinguished army career. During the World War he was especially cited for skillful handling of the artillery in the Cantigny operations and during the second battle of the Marne, and was decorated with the Distinguished Service medal, Legion of Honor and Croix de Guerre.

SUPPORT URGED FOR CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Southern Pines Body Asks Aid in Beautification and Bet- terment Program

HAS ACCOMPLISHED MUCH

An appeal to join the Chamber of Commerce and aid in the work which it is doing for the beautification and betterment of the town has been sent to the citizens of Southern Pines during the past week. The program outlined by the Chamber for its work in 1929 requires the expenditure of funds in excess of annual receipts: during past years, and the officers and directors are appealing for additional support on the merits of the work which has been accomplished in the past.

That the Southern Pines Chamber of Commerce has done much in improvement of the Town from the standpoint of landscaping and planting is acknowledged by all citizens who have witnessed the transition of bare spots into beauty spots in the last few years. But not all know of what has been accomplished along the line of bringing more people into Southern Pines annually.

Publicity Work

Howard Burns, secretary, tells The Pilot that he is receiving hundreds of inquiries each month from people in all parts of the country. These inquiries are the result of publicity which Mr. Burns and his office have been sending to newspapers and magazines during recent months. He showed us this week a huge stack of clippings containing stories in New York, Philadelphia, Pittsburgh and other northern city newspapers, articles describing the "Mid-South Resort," many of them illustrated with photographs of local golf courses, hunting scenes and other attractions to be found here. Southern Pines plays a prominent part in booklets issued by the Seaboard Railroad, by the American Automobile Association, and other such publications. The publicity work has had a far-reaching effect in telling the country about the attractiveness of Southern Pines both as a winter resort and as a place to live permanently.

More homes are being built here by northern people all the time. Publicity brings these people here. The town and its people hold them. The Chamber of Commerce, in cooperation with the Town Board of Commissioners, starts the work of attracting them. The climate, the attractiveness of the section and all that it offers for the enjoyment of life holds them. (Please turn to Page 8)

Plans for 1929

The Chamber this year plans further planting, completing that along North Broad street from Maine avenue to the double road to Pinehurst. Pines, dogwood and holly are to beautify this thoroughfare. The space between the passenger and freight station of the Seaboard is to be beautified. It hopes to begin planting and beautifying May street, through which all tourists bound north or south travel. It plans to stimulate interest on the part of property owners in further grass planting.

The work of the Chamber costs money, but it is money well expended for the public welfare. It is an investment in the future. The men who give their time unstintingly and without recompense to the work of the Chamber realize this. They are setting out this week to impress the importance of the work on their fellow citizens, and a general response to the appeal for needed funds to carry out the 1929 program is expected. Memberships vary from five dollars a year to \$250. Every citizen of Southern Pines who believes in the future of his or her town should become a member.

MISS PARKER WINS MEDAL IN WOMEN'S OPEN TOURNEY

The first women's open golf tournament in which amateurs and pros have met in competition in America is now being played at the Pine Needles golf course. Miss Martha Parker, New Jersey State champion, won the qualifying round on Wednesday, making the 18 holes in 85, two better than Glenna Collett, national champion. Miss Elizabeth Gordon, the only woman "pro" entered, had a bad day and failed to qualify.