Historisches Museum Libau

August 2024

Teil 1



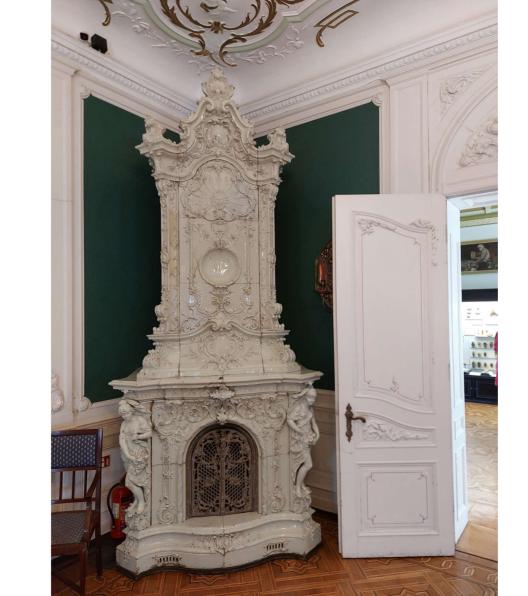
















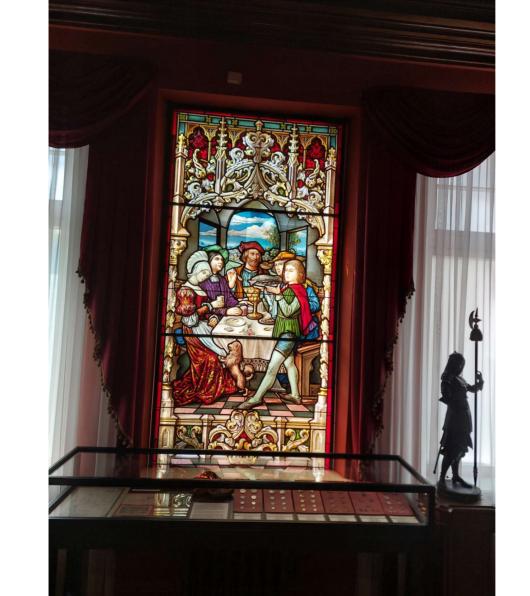












































uzvarēja Neatkarības karā un nosargāja Latvijas neatkarību.

On 18 November 1918, the Republic of Latvia was proclaimed. To gain the right to establish an independent state, Latvians had to fight severe battles against the opponents of independence in Latvia and abroad. Liepāja played a decisive role in these dramatic events. The city was the seat of the Latvian Provisional Government from 6 January to 7 July 1919.

In the early 20th century Liepāja was a flourishing city with a large commercial port, developed industry and diverse cultural life. During World War I and the occupation by the German Army, a large part of the city's wealth was destroyed. The wartime and the first post-war years were very hard for the civilian population. People suffered from a shortage of food and other essential everyday goods; smuggling and the black market thrived; sanitary conditions significantly deteriorated and infectious diseases spread.

Initially, the establishment of the Republic of Latvia did not stabilize the situation. Liepāja was still under the German control, and the status of the Latvian Provisional Government was quite uncertain. However, it was in Liepāja where the Provisional Government was busily involved in international activities and where essential steps were taken to make the Latvian state a reality: a land reform was initiated; teaching of the Latvian language was introduced in schools as compulsory; the first currency of the independent Latvia was issued; the foundation was laid for the Latvian Army that won the War of Independence and safeguarded the independence of Latvia.

PATEICÍBA

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Liepāja

Liepāja" Liepāja" exhibitior





Liepājas laikā bija rīkojums par zemes piešķiršanu bezzemniekiem. Tas bija sākums agrārajai reformai, kas nodrošināja latviešu zemnieku atbalstu jaunajai varai. Vienlaicīgi Pagaidu valdība uzsāka aktīvu starptautisko darbību, no Liepājas valdības ministri devās uz Lielbritāniju, Zviedriju, Franciju, Somiju un Dāniju, Igauniju un Lietuvu, lai iegūtu atbalstu Latvijas neatkarībai un praktisku palīdzību Neatkarības karā.

When the Latvian Provisional Government arrived in Liepāja on 6 January 1919, it had to solve a whole range of urgent tasks. To win the public trust, the government had to demonstrate its ability to satisfy the basic needs of people for security, food and healthcare. At the same time, it had to prove to the Latvian society and to the governments of other countries that Latvia was a viable independent state and was able to defend itself.

The formation of the Latvian Provisional Government started immediately following the decision of the People's Council to proclaim an independent Republic of Latvia. Kārlis Ulmanis was chosen to be the first Head of State, the Prime Minister. At first, the goal of the government to establish an effectively functioning state without broad public support, finances and military forces might have seemed unrealistic. However, the power vacuum in Latvia and the unclear international situation presented opportunities.

The Provisional Government established the Ministry of Supplies and applied to the Allies for aid in the form of supplies of food, weapons, ammunition and medication. At the rear of the front line, sections of the paramilitary organization Aizsargi (the Home Guard) were formed to protect public order. The Provisional Government issued the first currency of the independent Latvia and introduced taxes. The decree on granting land to landless peasants was one of the most important resolutions adopted by the Provisional Government during the period of its work in Liepāja. It was the beginning of the Agrarian Reform, which ensured the support of Latvian Liepāja. It was the new government. At the same time, the Provisional Government was busily farmers to the new government. At the same time, the Provisional Government was busily international activities. From Liepāja the government ministers travelled to Great involved in international activities. From Liepāja the government ministers travelled to Great Britain. Sweden, France, Finland, Denmark, Estonia and Lithuania to gain support of these countries for the independence of Latvia and to obtain effective assistance in the War of landerendence.



Lielä iela 6 - Bio Liepäjä, kur 1917. gads. Fato: autors nem The building at 6 Lielä Street in















