

## SUMMARY

### The administrative and political development of Papilė valsčius in 1918–1940

*/PAPILĖ I*

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The article analyses the administrative and political development of Papilė district which is situated in the North of Lithuania, in Šiauliai region. The study of historical development of Papilė district begins from the formation of Papilė district committee at the end of 1918. The Papilė district committee was formed when an Appeal of the Lithuanian authority “Citizens of Lithuania!” was proclaimed. The Government of Lithuania called people in the Appeal to organize local administration and to act independently.

In 1918–1919 the committee of Papilė district acted in a very complicated situation because there were many economic and political obstacles. The activity of Papilė district committee was broken by the Bolshevik and German–Russian (bermontininkai) invasion.

In 1920 the first local administration (self–government) was democratically elected.

During the period of independence the people of Papilė district achieved success in the fields of economics and culture.

On December the 17<sup>th</sup>, 1926, a coup was organized in Lithuania. The government of Nationalist party (tautininkai) restricted democracy. As a result of this restriction many people could not take part in the elections of local administration.