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# Düna Conference

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The Düna Conference was a short lived Russian church unit that operated from 1914 until sometime after 1917.

## Territory and Statistics

Period: 1914-1917.

Territory: The Riga, Walk, Wenden, and Wolmar counties in the governorate of Livonia; and the governorates of Pskov and Vitebsk.

Membership 525 (after first quarter of 1914), churches 11 (after first quarter of 1914).<sup>1</sup>

## Organizational History

The territory of the Dūna Conference belonged to the Baltic Conference and before that to various church units. For the origin of Adventist work in the territory, see the article on the Baltic Conference and its preceding church units.

In 1913 the governorates of Pskov, Vitebsk, and the counties (*Kreise*) of Riga, Wenden, Walk, and Wolmar of the governorate of Livonia were cut off from the Baltic Conference, and the Dūna Conference was organized. It took effect on January 1, 1914.<sup>2</sup> By the end of the first quarter, there were 525 members.<sup>3</sup> Initial officers were president, D. Isaak; secretary, P. Brandt; treasurer, L. Wojtkiewicz; and executive committee members were J. Wilson, K. Sutta, and J. Drymann.<sup>4</sup> The conference became part of the West Russian Union.<sup>5</sup>

Due to World War I and the Russian Civil War, there were no reports from Russia in *Zions-Wächter* after the first quarter of 1914 or in the *SDA Yearbook* from 1918 to 1921. When reports started again, the Dūna Conference had been abolished and its territory belonged to other church units. After the Baltic Independence Wars, the territory of the Livonian governorate belonged to Estonia and Latvia. The Estonian and Latvian Conferences were organized in 1920.<sup>6</sup> In 1923 the Pskov governorate was listed as part of the territory of the Neva Conference.<sup>7</sup> Vitebsk did not appear in the *SDA Yearbook* until 1927, when it was listed as part of the territory of the Upper Dnieper Field.<sup>8</sup>

## List of Presidents

D. Isaak (1914-1917)

### SOURCES

“Berichte der Westrussischen Union vom 1. Januar bis 31. März 1914.” *Zions-Wächter*, May 4, 1914.

Christian, Louis H. “The Baltic Provinces,” *ARH*, March 3, 1921.

*Seventh-day Adventist Yearbook*. Battle Creek, MI: Seventh-day Adventist Publishing Association, 1883-1886; Battle Creek, MI: Review and Herald Publishing Association, 1887-1892. Battle Creek, MI: General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists, 1893-1894. Washington, D.C.: General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists, 1904. Washington, D.C.: Review and Herald Publishing Association, 1905-1918.

### NOTES

1. For period and territory, see the present article; for membership and churches, see “Berichte der Westrussischen Union vom 1. Januar bis 31. März 1914,” *Zions-Wächter*, May 4, 1914, 273.?
2. For territory and date, see “Duena Conference,” *Seventh-day Adventist Yearbook* (Washington, DC: Review and Herald Publishing Association, 1915), 121; “Baltic Conference,” *Seventh-day Adventist Yearbook* (Washington, DC: Review and Herald Publishing Association, 1914), 111.?
3. “Berichte der Westrussischen Union vom 1. Januar bis 31. März 1914,” *Zions-Wächter*, May 4, 1914, 273.?
4. “Duena Conference,” *Seventh-day Adventist Yearbook* (Washington, D.C.: Review and Herald Publishing Association, 1915), 121.?
5. *Ibid.*?
6. Louis H. Christian, “The Baltic Provinces,” *ARH*, March 3, 1921, 12-13. The Estonian Conference appears in the *SDA Yearbook* in 1921 and the Latvian Conference in 1922. “Esthonian Conference,” *Seventh-day Adventist Yearbook* (Washington, DC: Review and Herald Publishing Association, 1921), 96; “Lettonian Conference,” *Seventh-day Adventist Yearbook* (Washington, D.C.: Review and Herald Publishing Association, 1922), 99. I am not familiar enough with the history to know whether the Livonian counties, which belonged to the Dūna Conference, later constituted part of Estonia or Latvia exclusively, or both.?
7. “Neva Conference,” *Seventh-day Adventist Yearbook* (Washington, D.C.: Review and Herald Publishing Association, 1923), 103.?
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“Upper Dnieper Field,” *Seventh-day Adventist Yearbook* (Washington, D.C.: Review and Herald Publishing Association, 1927), 141.?

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