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Regarding the Case of Vladimir Clementis

RED QUISLINGS AND SOVIET RECOGNITION

From the moment when the Red Army assumed control over the three small Baltic republics, a series of obscure personages emerged out of shadow to occupy foremost positions. Thus, in Estonia a certain Vares, a country physician, immediately became prime minister. In Latvia, Bruno Kalnins, a lieutenant in the reserve army, put on a general's uniform. In Lithuania, Paleckis, a starving journalist, hastily became vice-president of the republic. These are only three typical examples. The other more or less important government posts were entrusted to equally obscure personages, equally devoted to the Soviet cause.

It is noteworthy, as in the case of the Baltic States, that the Soviets have found collaborators not only among the communists, who numerically were very weak, but also among the socialists. In the first days of the Russian occupation, Ansis Rudevics, leader of the Latvian socialists, went to Moscow where he was received by Vichinsky. During this meeting it was decided that the Latvian social-democrats must merge with the bolshevik party of the URSS. "General" Kalnins, already mentioned, had also been a socialist. (At present he is residing in Sweden, as a refugee, and has reassumed the face-color of a social-democrat, and is collaborating with the socialist press in Switzerland.) At the time when he wore the Soviet uniform, his chief assignment was to disperse the Latvian National Army and create a new one - "the people's army", to be placed under the Soviet command.

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