

Note

Re: Meeting with Mr. Ivar Saeter on 10/13/42 in the office of the Teachers Federation (National-Laerersamband, Kristian-August-gate 19, VI. Floor).

As I could not host Mr. Saeter anywhere, I had to seek him out at his office in order to finally move forward on this path.

Saeter comes from a farm and has maintained the imprint of the farmer on his character and manner. He is very cautious and quiet in his movements and speech. His outlook shows itself through great austerity. He is very much a man with no illusions, who understands quite fully the consequences of April 9 and is prepared for them. In this way he could be a unique resource for the NS.

Saeter is originally a primary school teacher without higher education. In addition he devoted all his free time to a military profession, which is possible in Norway. He passed through the NCO school and also participated in several special trainings, so that he eventually reached the highest level possible through this path, that of second lieutenant. He has no scientific ambitions, as he also has absolutely no prior education in this area. After April 9, S., who had coincidentally been held up in Oslo (luckily, as he says), became leader of the personal guard force of Quisling and as a result Chief of Staff of the Hird. He does not know why he was later dismissed, as he often confesses. Perhaps – according to S. – Quisling wished to fill this position with a commissioned officer and not an NCO. The leadership of the Teacher's federation was simply assigned to him, it is distinctly visible that he does not have a personal interest in this work.

His political views, as far as they are of general interest and provide information on the intellectual situation in Norway, can be described as follows:

Saeter truly believes in the existence of a common Germanic substance and in fact believes truly earnestly. He lives with faith in this belief completely without compromise.

He has so far encountered few Germans who are here in service and have reflected on this matter, much less are willing to draw conclusions based on this insight. The Germans have been consistently acting as conquerors here.

Also in the NS there are very few who live on such an attitude. A large group in the NS consists of sycophants, they supplement the conqueror types. They wish to please and to skim the cream through their loyalty and well-grounded behavior. The second even larger group in the NS are those who only want to exploit the German occupation to easily seat themselves in the saddle and then as quickly as possible shake off the German yoke. They essentially want the old independent Norway, but now built internally as a Führer state – it has nothing to do with real National Socialism, it is more like fascism. The third and smallest group, of which he counts himself a member, are those who truly want to work with the Germans as comrades on an equal footing.

Such collaboration is possibly only under the sole leadership of Adolf Hitler, as can only happen under National Socialism.

Germany can never again do without Norway. The geopolitical situation of German Lebensraum compels control over the entire North Sea Coast, because the Reich could never be secure without it. It would be a fatal mistake to believe that it is enough for only the coast guard to be involved militarily through German armed forces. Norway must become an integral part of the greater German Reich.

That does not mean that the Norwegians should become Germans. Rather, it means that they must become a Germanic tribe. But also the Germans must cease to be German in only the narrower sense, also they must truly again feel themselves to be Germanic. Saeter used the example of the Prussians, who unified German and arose in German.

A very interesting detail emerged at the end. Seiter was of the opinion that the Führer should make Heinrich Himmler his deputy rather than Göring. His comrades regarded Göring as a "German", of whom they were afraid.

Saeter explained that he could naturally not advocate this view publicly. However, as Chief of Staff of Hird he represented the views depicted here repeatedly in all the trainings and discussions he conducted. The German propaganda of recent years he regarded as utterly wrong and disastrous. He considered it false to believe that one could first advocate for a national-state and independent Norway and then make the demand for incorporation into a greater German Reich. The consequences are now visible. The new emphasis on the Germanic is being construed by a majority of Norwegians, including NS-members, as ongoing German deceit.

The discussion with Saeter should be resumed shortly, namely on the occasion of an invitation which I have extended. In preparation for this further discussion, Saeter should reflect on whether he can name any men from his circle for our special work. I do not expect much from this, as he is not a leader in his foundation and has no close contact with the teacher circles it encompasses.

Oslo, on 10/17/42

Schwalm

SS-Hauptsturmführer