

ORIGINAL

BUREAU OF MILITARY HISTORY 1913-21

BURO STAIRE MILEATA 1913-21

NO. W.S. 87



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Telefón 61018.

ROINN COSANTA.

BURO STAIRE MILEATA 1913-21

(Bureau of Military History 1913-21),

26 RAEDH NA NIARTHARACH,  
(26 Westland Row),

BAILE ÁTHA CLIATH.  
(Dublin).

DOCUMENT W.S. 87.

Statement by: Bulmer Hobson,  
Mill House,  
Whitechurch,  
Rathfarnham,  
Dublin.

Dated:- 26th January, 1948.

On: The position of Secretary,  
I.V., 1913-1914.

2 pp. typescript - foolscap.

File No. S.527

STATEMENT BY

MR. BULMER HOBSON

ON

I.R.B. AND IRISH FREEDOM.

A copy of this statement was sent at Mr. Hobson's request to each of the following, and any comments received in the Bureau as a result are registered and filed, as indicated hereunder:

<u>Name.</u>	<u>Relevant Register No.</u>
Dr. P. McCartan	S. 63
P.S. O'Hogarty	S. 49
D. McCullough	S. 62
P. O'Riain	S. 32
S. O'Conner	S. 53
S. Fitzgibbon	S. 54
Captain R. Mentelth	S. 50

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87  
**ORIGINAL**

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SECRETARY OF THE IRISH VOLUNTEERS.

Statement by Bulmer Hobson.

From the beginning there were two honorary Secretaries - Eoin MacNeill and Lawrence Kettle, the former of whom acted also as Chairman of the Provisional Committee.

In addition, there was a paid assistant Secretary from early in 1914.

In January of that year I went to the U.S.A. to contact Count Von Bernstorff with a view to interesting Germany in Ireland, bringing with me a document drawn up by Casement somewhat on the lines of his later document "Ireland, Germany and the next War".

When I left Ireland the headquarters of the Volunteers were at my private office at 12 D'Olier Street, Dublin.

On my return from the U.S.A. the headquarters had been transferred to an office in 206 Great Brunswick Street, now Pearse Street, and there I found Liam Gogan, one of the members of the Provisional Committee, installed in a secretarial capacity. Whether he was paid or not I do not know, but I presume that he was as MacNeill and Kettle were still and continued to be joint Honorary Secretaries.

Gogan, a young graduate, was not equal to the task, and I went to MacNeill and pointed this out. As a result of our discussion, Gogan was replaced by Liam

Mellows as paid assistant Secretary, with satisfactory results.

Associated with Liam Mellows in the office at a later date were his brother, Barney, and Eimer O'Duffy. The latter wrote many of the training notes for the official paper "The Irish Volunteer".

Liam Mellows continued to be Secretary of the Irish Volunteers until August or September 1914 when he went organizing volunteer companies in the country.

Rulmer Ashton  
26.1.48

26 January, 1948.

Witness:

*mund survey*

Director, Bureau of Military History

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