

[Foreword]

Gentlemen,

I give you herewith a notice of my operations between Easter Monday 24th April 1916 and Saturday 18th May 1916 when we were able to partly resume official duties, using - by the kindness of the Technical Instruction committee - a couple of rooms in the Technical schools, Ballsbridge.

The Military Headquarters Staff are still in possession of the Town Hall premises, yard etc., and part of No.18, Merrion Road.

Martial Law is still in force.

I have the honour to be,
Gentlemen,
Your obedient servant,

J.C. Manly

Clerk to the Council.

To / the Pembroke Urban District Council,
Town Hall, Ballsbridge,
Pembroke, Co. Dublin.

(Technical Schools, Shelbourne Road,
Ballsbridge.)

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EASTER MONDAY, APRIL 24/16

Attended at Town Hall in morning and went through correspondence &c.

TUESDAY, APRIL 25/16

Attended at Town Hall and made further arrangements as regards correspondence, &c. &c., with a view to resuming work after the Easter Holidays tomorrow, advised of post card Members of the Staff not to come in if necessary - in view of the Lord Lieutenant's Proclamation which was published to-day placing the City of Dublin, and County of Dublin under Martial Law for a Month from 26th April, 1916.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 26/16

Commenced business at the Office after Easter Holidays, Staff in attendance, but had to allow Staff off with a view of returning home owing to the disturbed state of affairs, and uncertainty of position generally. The Military arrived about noon and took possession of the Town Hall Premises.

THURSDAY, APRIL 27/16

Military Authorities Head Quarters of 58th (North Midland) Division took possession of the Council's Ballsbridge Premises and stopped all communication in the Urban District, save on Passes. Obtained a Pass for myself and various Officials and when required by the Military Authorities identified as far as possible persons applying for Passes.

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FRIDAY, APRIL 28/16

Military in possession of premises and all communication in Urban District stopped, save on passes; attended at Town Hall on permit of 27th inst., but with exception of Chairman, Mr. W. Forayth and Mr. Crowe, did not any Member of Council, in any event the Special Meeting of the Council could not be held as the Members could not get permits in time and the place is under Military control, the various Offices being occupied by the Head Quarters Staff, and the Council Chamber as sleeping apartment, and Offices by certain Officers. With the Chairman and Mr. Price interviewed the General with the object of obtaining Military Protection for the Electricity Works which were being fired on. The General said he would take a note of the matter to which attention would be given. Identified many applicants for permits. With the kind co-operation of Mr. Timothy Crowe and one or two others, and temporarily applying the Office Cash in hands, I was able to pay the Workmen's wages for a week.

SATURDAY, APRIL 29/16

Military still in occupation much fighting taking place in various portions of the Urban District.

SUNDAY, APRIL 30/16

Much fighting; an attack having been made on Head Quarters, the Dispensary Ballsbridge and certain houses in Serpentine Avenue were shelled by the Military.

MONDAY, 1st MAY 1916

Much fighting still continues. Attended at Ballsbridge and identified many further applicants for passes.

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Aberdeen House,
Monday, 1st May, 1916
9.45 p.m.

Telephone call from Mr. Clark, Caretaker Pembroke Technical Schools, Ringsend, that there was and had been for several days and nights serious firing there, he thought from Ringsend Park, and that the people at the North Side of the River Liffey informed him they were under the impression the firing was coming from the Schools, this strongly denied and wished me to understand that there was not any truth in the accusation; he also informed me that he had telephoned to the Military Authorities at Ballsbridge, and at the north side of the River, as he was afraid that unless they understood that the firing was not from the Schools, the buildings might be shelled. I told him he had done quite correctly in telephoning the Military Authorities.

Tuesday, 2nd MAY 1916

Again attended at Ballsbridge and gave any assistance I could to the Military Authorities as regards identifications &c., &c.

Tuesday, 2nd MAY 1916, 8.45 p.m.

Called up by Mr. Gray of, I understand, the Government Food Committee (Telephone Number 270, Kingstown) who stated he was connected with the Food Supply question, and asked me how the district was off in this respect, I informed him that the supplies of every thing were, I believed, very short; he then asked about the Bread Supply, I told him that Johnston, Mooney & O'Brien were baking as much as possible, but I understood

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flour was not very plentiful with them, and that there was probably a difficulty in getting at their reserve stock at the North Side of Dublin; he said he had seen their representative to-day at Kingstown and given him a supply of Yeast, and that they would work on all right. Mr. Gray then asked about the various local trade centres and I mentioned:-

Baggot Street,
Ballsbridge,
Donnybrook, Sandymount,
Ringsend, &c.,

He mentioned that to-day he had supplied some food to Ringsend from the North side of the River Liffey, he asked about the local traders, and I mentioned those as nearly as I could who are engaged in the supply of provisions. I also drew his attention to the fact that the Post Offices being closed, Separation and such like allowances are not being paid, those due on Tuesday being now two weeks in arrear and so on. I also got my wife to speak to Mr. Gray with a view to informing him of her experiences as regards the shortage of food stuffs: he promised to speak to me again to-morrow and I said I would enquire as to when the Post Offices were likely to be re-opened, and also see some of the Traders.

WEDNESDAY, 3rd MAY 1916

I visited various traders in Ballsbridge, Donnybrook, and Baggot Street areas, being unable to get to either Ringsend or Sandymount owing to the difficulty of getting a permit to do so. I found that there were plenty of provisions available, but that the traders in Donnybrook and Ballsbridge were somewhat short of Butter, Margarine, Eggs, Bacon, and Flour; they however, expected to obtain supplies either in the afternoon to-day or tomorrow. Military Motor Wagons were arriving with supplies in Donnybrook,

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this I saw myself. The Merchants told me they had provisions but that many of their customers were short of cash to enable them to purchase goods, probably the result of the closing of the Post Offices, thus stopping the Old Age Pension and Separation allowances; I said I would report this and subsequently called at the Donnybrook, Upper Baggot Street and Ballsbridge Offices, the Baggot Street Office being open. At the Ballsbridge Offices I found that they expected to open to-morrow, at Donnybrook Office the Postmaster would re-open at any time, but was waiting cash, about £80, which he would require. It appears that Mr. H. J. Tipping of 12 Villiers Road, Rathmines is Controller G.P.O. for this purpose.

The traders I visited were:-

BALLSBRIDGE:-

Moore,
Fagan,
Edison,

DONNYBROOK:-

Woods,
Farrall,
Long,

UPPER BAGGOT STREET:-

Wilson,
Davy,
Brophy,
Bolton,
Findlater.

I may mention that Mr. Gray who telephoned me last evening did not either write or telephone me during to-day.

THURSDAY, 4th MAY 1916

Visited the Post Offices and several Traders and found that the closed Post Offices would be re-opened this afternoon; I subsequently ascertained that they had received a supply of cash and had re-opened and paid Old Age Pensions and Separation Allowances. I enquired again to-day at the Town Hall as to the

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likely time the Military authorities would vacate the premises that the Councils Municipal work could be resumed, but I failed to obtain any information on the subject, I learned however that the General was endeavouring to obtain suitable premises for the Head Quarter Staff nearer Dublin, but that so far nothing had been decided upon. I must again see the Chairman or communicate with him when able on the subject, as there are many passing important matters to be dealt with; I found during the day that the Council's employees in Dodder View Cottages were unable to obtain Coal and were practically without any, and instructed Mr. Hirst, Foreman of Roads, to get two tons in my name for distribution among the employees in question. I found most of the traders had received food supplies from Dublin Houses and that they had ample stock in hands.

FRIDAY, 5th MAY 1916

Called at the Town Hall three times during the day and also arranged for payment of wages &c.; had another interview with the Military Officer with a view of ascertaining probable date upon which the Council's Staff could take up duty again at the Town Hall. That Officer informed me he could not say at present but that he thought they, the Military Authorities, would remain in occupation of the premises for some time. Permits still required over the bridges and examination posts, Ringsend and Irishtown districts still closed even against permits. Workmens wages paid - cash obtained at National Bank, Upper Baggot Street.

SATURDAY, 6th MAY 1916

Three times at Town Hall but could gain no information as to when the Council's Staff could resume duty, ascertained for the Post Office people that the local delivery of letters was resumed

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subject to posting before 4 p.m.
Ringsend and Irishtown Districts still closed.

SUNDAY, 7th MAY 1916

A quiet day; wrote to the Chairman of the Urban Council as follows:-

Aberdeen House,
Pembroke,
Co. Dublin,
Monday, 8th May 1916

My dear Sir,

I cannot ascertain when it is likely we shall be permitted to resume our work at the Town Hall, or 18 Merrion Road, and consequently I am carrying on from here as well as I can but, in a very small way. There are a number of most important subjects to be attended to at once, such as, special Meeting to sign Rate Books, &c., &c., and other pressing matters. The Official Staff and our other employees have done all possible under the circumstances and I trust the Council will approve.

With Kind regards and best wishes,

Yours faithfully
J.C. MANLY.

C.P. O'Neill, Esq., J.P.,
'St. Brendan's',
Sandymount Avenue,
Sandymount.

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MONDAY, 8th MAY 1916

Attended at Town Hall and endeavoured to ascertain when the Military would vacate the premises but without any result. Received a letter from the Chairman of the Urban Council and Relief committee requesting that I should write the Local Government Board, asking for a Grant to enable the Committee to give employment, and that a meeting of the Committee should be called for 5 o'clock tomorrow Tuesday evening 9th inst. I wrote the Local Government Board and issued summonses by post card for the meeting, I also arranged for the use of a room in the Technical Schools, Ballsbridge, for the meeting.

TUESDAY, 9th MAY 1916

Attended as usual at Town Hall. Received letter from Local Government Board in reply to mine of yesterday and asking for particulars of Distress and Scheme of Relief work. This was submitted to the Relief Committee in the evening and reply sent asking for first instalment of £100 to meet pressing expenses, and that if found necessary a scheme of Relief Work would be prepaid and forwarded. Dr. Brown of Local Government Board called about bodies stated to be buried in back gardens and other places, Sanitary Sub-Officers Healy and Redding had already been instructed in this matter in consultation with Dr. Cremin, Medical Officers of Health, and the District Medical Officers of Health, Drs. Burke and Walters. Three burials at Parochial Hall ground, Northumberland Road, one at 25 Northumberland Road, and a horse at National Schools, Northumberland Road; had horse removed by Messrs. O'Keeffe during the day, and arranged for the removal of the dead body from 25, Northumberland Road, (Civilian Volunteer) and Civilian at

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Parochial Hall ground to-morrow by the Guardians of the Poor, the other two there being soldiers - again reported these cases to the Military Authorities.

WEDNESDAY, 10th MAY 1916

Wrote to the Local Government Board as directed by Committee of yesterday. The two dead Civilians were removed to-day from 25, Northumberland Road, and Parochial Hall ground, same road; again drew attention of the Military Authorities to the cases of the two soldiers in Parochial Hall ground, Northumberland Road, but I could get nothing done, had an interview with Drs. Burke and Walters, and several Military men sent to investigate into the question of burials generally and explained to them that all the burial grounds in the Urban District were closed by the Local Government Board against interments therein. I understood that the two cases would be looked after at once.

THURSDAY, 11th MAY 1916

Again took up the question of the dead soldiers at Parochial Hall, Northumberland Road, the bodies not yet having been removed as nothing was done, communicated in the afternoon with the Poor Law Authorities who promised to send over for the bodies at once, but later some difficulty arose. The bodies of the two soldiers, in spite of every effort made by the Urban Sanitary authority, were not removed to-day.

Asked permission of the General through the A.P.M., (Mr. Robinson) to hold meeting of the Council at the Technical Schools, Ballsbridge, on Monday, 15th May 1916 at 5 o'clock, to make the Rates, &c. &c., and was informed the General had no objection,

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I asked for a certificate, saying so in writing, and Mr. Robinson took a note of my application. Sent out Summonses for the meeting, so as to give proper notice to the Members.

FRIDAY, 12th MAY 1916

Working all day at Technical Schools, Shelbourne Road, but in the absense [sic.] of official records and papers, was not able to do very much. Registered and acknowledged, as far as possible, various communications received, amongst others a great number of claims for Criminal Injury to property.

Conferred with Drs. Cremin, Burke, and Walters. No further dead bodies reported. The two dead soldiers buried at rere [sic.] of Parochial Hall, Northumberland Road, were removed this afternoon under supervision of Sanitary Sub-Officer W.J.Healy, who handed to the Military Authorities at Town Hall, the ammunition found on them.

The three bodies buried in the grounds of St. Bartholomew's Church, (Military) were removed during to-night for internment elsewhere.

Endeavoured to ascertain when the Military would be leaving the Town Hall, but could get no information on the subject. Received from the Military Authorities the following, in connection with the holding of a Special Meeting of the Urban Council on 15th May, 1916, for which a requisition was received by me on 9th May 1916.

TO ALL WHOM IT MAY CONCERN

The Military Authorities are aware of no objection to the Pembroke Urban District Council's application for sanction to hold a special meeting of the Council on the 15th inst. at 5 p.m. in order to strike the Township Rates. Meeting to be held in Technical School, Ballsbridge.

(Signed) Cecil T. Robinson A.P.M.
Head Quarters,
177 Inf. Brigade,
Ballsbridge.

Head Quarters,
12th May, 1916,
59th (North Midland) Division.

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SATURDAY, 13th MAY 1916

Attended at Ballsbridge, and went through correspondence and dealt with it as far as possible at the Technical School. The various members of Staff were in attendance. Sent reminders of Special Meeting to all Members of the Council.

Received cheque for £100 from Local Government Board, to afford Relief in urgent cases, advised the Chairman of the council of this.