

Miss O'Connell,

The Private Secretary to the Minister for Social Welfare has informed me that Miss Reynolds was informed in December, 1946, that her employment would cease on 12th December, 1947. Consideration of her case in December 1947 was not completed until the 9th instant and Miss Reynolds was informed immediately. The shortness of the notice given was caused by the efforts made to retain her service for a further period, and it was not possible to convey the decision to her at an earlier date. There was no question of being unfair to her or giving her 'short notice'. Miss Reynolds is 72.

J. M. L.
21/1/48.

Seen by Miss O'Connell, who will await a further visit from Miss Reynolds.

dm
22/1/48.

January 15th, 1948

Dear Miss Reynolds,

I received your letter and will of course be glad to see you if you call. Any time between 10 and 12 noon tomorrow (Friday) or Saturday would be the most suitable time for me.

Yours sincerely,

Personal Secretary

Miss Reynolds,
45 Wellington Road,
Dublin.

17/1/48

Miss Reynolds called this morning about 10.15. Said she got only 3 days notice. Was informed on the 9th Dec. that she had to leave on the 12th. Said this was very unfair. Asked if we could ~~get~~ *her employed in (some) way.*

45 Wellington Rd
11 Jan '48

J. Chas.

Thank you for letter of 24th Dec.
I understand it would be difficult
for you to ask Mr. Jarvis each at the
present time.

Would you be kind enough
to see me yourself as it is a
matter of extreme urgency.
With your recommendation I
would have a chance of employment.
I could explain that to you,
if you would see me.

Yours, le man
Anne Reynolds

24ú Nollaig, 1947.

A Chara,

I am to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 11th instant. It has not yet been possible for me to bring it to the notice of the Taoiseach but I will do so at the first opportunity.

Mise, le meas,

PERSONAL SECRETARY.

Miss Anne Reynolds,
45, Wellington Road,
DUBLIN.

Personal

142/44
45 Wellington Rd
11 Dec. 1947

Mrs O'Connell

My - I ask you again to kindly bring our case to the attention of the Taoiseach.

I am sorry to say that my employment in the service has been terminated this week owing to age limit.

You will understand that this is a very serious matter to me, as it was the only income myself and sister had. I always hoped that I should be kept on as long as I was able to work. Surely this is a small thing to ask on account of my brother's heroic death for the Country.

I am sure the Taoiseach will see his way to do something for us now, perhaps he would be good enough to give us an interview.

Anne Reynolds.



11ú Meitheamh, 1947.

A Chara,

In the absence of Miss
O'Connell, who is on sick leave,
I am to acknowledge the receipt
of your letter of the 3rd instant.

Dear Sir, Mise, le meas,

2 PRIVATE SECRETARY

Miss Anne Reynolds,
45, Wellington Rd.,
DUBLIN

*Sinn Féin Funds Bill
declared repayment to
the Constitution by the
Supreme Court on 31/7/47.
S.W.*

DESPATCHED

11 MIN. 1947

45 Wellington Rd ¹⁷⁰
3rd June '47

Miss O Connell

[On Taoiseach
min. Sec 5/6/47]

May I call your attention
to your kind letter of the 13th
March in which you told me
the Taoiseach would be glad
to recommend our case for the
"Sinn Féy Fund."

The reason I am writing
again is that we are both
very anxious about my job;
I was yesterday told to report

at 6 Harcourt St and am
employed there for the present.
as the job I had in the battle
has now been dissolved.

Perhaps you would be
good enough to mention
about us again to the
Troiseach.

Anne Reynolds.

13ú Márta, 1947.

A Chara,

I duly received your letter of the 3rd instant which has now been brought to the attention of the Taoiseach. He desires me to inform you that if the scheme outlined in the Sinn Féin Funds Bill, at present before the Dáil is accepted by the Oireachtas he will be glad to recommend your case for consideration by the Board which it is proposed to establish on the Bill becoming law.

Mise, le meas,

K.O'b.

Personal Secretary

Miss Anne Reynolds,
45 Wellington Road,
Ballsbridge,
DUBLIN.

Personal

45 Wellington Road
Mallsbridge
3rd March 47

Miss O Connell

The position (Food Allowance
Dublin Castle) which was given to me
by the Government in 1941, is about
to be dissolved. I shall be very
grateful if you would again speak
to Mr Troiseac about us, as my
sister and myself are altogether
dependant on this money which I
receive as a Temporary Clerical
Assistant. We shall be very grateful
if Mr Troiseac could do something
permanent for us, as he knows all
about our case.

Father Polycarp takes a deep

interest in us, I know she would
be very pleased if you would
use your influence on our
behalf.

Anne Reynolds.

R/s

20ú Samhain, 1945.

R.A.143/44

A Athair, a chara,

I have to acknowledge the
receipt of your letter of the
17th instant.

Mise, le meas,

PRIVATE SECRETARY.

Rev. Fr. M.F. Egan, S.J.,
35 Lr. Leeson St.,
DUBLIN.

24/11/45

Spoke to Fr Egan

DESPATCHED
20 NOV 1945

Telept 1e
61242



35 LOWER LEESON STREET
DUBLIN
November 17th, 1945

Dear Mr. de Valera

Forgive me for writing to you again about the Misses Reynolds. Miss Reynolds has been informed that her appointment is at an end, as she is over the age. This leaves the two sisters with nothing between them and starvation except £50, the remainder of the £100 which you entrusted to me for them.

I remember that you told me nothing further could be done; but there is an element in their case which perhaps has not been put before you. It is this : they supplied the Volunteers with goods for which they were never paid, and which I believe amounted in value to much more than £100 - they could, I expect, furnish the particulars. No doubt they should have put in a claim, but they did not, as they were fairly well off then, and I suppose the Volunteers would not have been in a position to pay, at least until the Free State was established.

I daresay that owing to the lapse of time they have no technical legal claim, but it does seem to me that they have a claim in natural justice, and that the State, without compromising any principle, could compensate them - indeed, I feel I might substitute 'ought to' for 'could'. At any rate, if anything can be done for these poor old ladies, I shall be profoundly grateful.

Yours sincerely

M. F. Ryan S.J.

Leite den Taoiseach.
habhaicidh se lein an Rth
Mac Aogain ar an telefaon
ann eigin. Suibh
21/11/45.

DESPATCHED

9 - MAR 1945

R.A.143/44

9ú Márta, 1945.

A Athair, a chara,

I am directed by the Taoiseach to refer to your letter of the 19th January last and to inform you that he asked me to confirm the statement contained in the second paragraph of my letter of the 24th idem.

Mise, le meas,

(Sgd.) P. S. O MUIREADHAIGE

RÚNAÍ PRÍOBHÁIDEACH.

Rev. M.F. Egan, S.J.,
35, Lr. Leeson St.,
DUBLIN.

R.A.143/44

NOTE:

I brought Fr. Egan's letter to the notice of the Taoiseach on the 8th instant. He proposes to have a word with the Minister for Finance.

from

10:2:45

Minister for Finance not aware of
any legislation which wd. be of assistance
to the Messrs Reynolds. Son.

S.2410.Wt.1270.3781.S.O.250,000.7/40.Ed.Ca.Ltd.(Sch. 188) G.37.

21.2.45.

R.A.142/44

24adh Eanáir, 1945.

*He dough have go
bejuncted again - sa. J. J. 24/2*

A Athair, a chara,

I have to acknowledge receipt of your letter of the 19th instant and to express regret that it has not yet been possible to bring it to the attention of the Taoiseach.

It should perhaps be stated at this stage that nothing has been heard in this Department in regard to the introduction of legislation under which provision could be made for the Misses Reynolds.

Mise, le meas,

PRIVATE SECRETARY.

Rev. M.F. Egan, S.J.,
35, Lr. Leeson St.,
DUBLIN.

Telephone
61248



35 LOWER LEESON STREET
DUBLIN

January 19th, 1945

Dear Mr. de Valera,

R.P.M.

I hope you will pardon me for troubling you again about the Misses Reynolds. What struck me was that as I heard that there was to be some new legislation about such cases, it might be perhaps possible to have a clause under which they might benefit.

I understand that if such a clause could be introduced, the Opposition party would be sympathetic - of course the Government has a majority which renders it independent of all other parties, but I take it that it would be preferable to have agreement.

I am

Yours with much respect

M. F. Egan S.J.

M. F. EGAN S.J.

DESPATCHED

23 NOV 1944

R.A.142/44

23adh Samhain, 1944.

A Athair, a chara,

I have to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 22nd instant and enclosed receipt. The present address of the Misses Reynolds is 45 Wellington Road, Dublin.

Mise, le meas,

(Sgd.) P. S. O-MUIREADHAIGH.
RÚNAÍ PRÍOBHÁIDEACH.

Rev. M.F. Egan, S.J.,
35 Lower Leeson St.,
DUBLIN.

Telephone
6124E

35 LOWER LEESON STREET
DUBLIN

22/11/'44

Dear Mr. de Valera,

Many thanks for the draft for £100 for
the Misses Reynolds, for which I enclose a receipt.*

I will bear in mind what you say in your
letter about the need for extreme care in administering it.

Yours very sincerely

W. F. Egan Esq.

P.S. I am afraid I do not know
the present address of these two
ladies. Perhaps your secretary
could let me have it.

W. F. E.

* bartha at S. 10397.

23/11/44.

R.
DESPATCHED
21 NOV 1944

November 21st, 1944

Dear Father Egan,

I received your letter intimating your agreement to act as trustee for the Misses Reynolds. Accordingly I enclose a draft for the sum of £100, which in your discretion you will apply for their benefit.

I think I told you that this sum was from an old fund which is all but exhausted. It is I fear too small to be of much use unless it is carefully husbanded to meet extreme needs only.

I am grateful for your kindness in undertaking this difficult matter. Will you please sign the enclosed receipt form for my files.

Sincerely yours,

(Signed) Eamon de Valera

Rev. M. F. Egan, S.J.,
35, Lower Leeson St.,
DUBLIN.

Telephone
61248

35 LOWER LEESON STREET
DUBLIN

17-11-44

Dear Mr de Valera,

Mr Provincial has kindly
given me leave to act as trustee for
the money for the Misses Reynolds,
so you can take me as agreeing
to act. Yours sincerely

W. F. Egan Esq.

R.S.

10adh Samhain, 1944.

A Athair, a chara,

I am directed by the
Taoiseach to acknowledge the
receipt of your letter of the
9th instant.

Mise, le meas,

(Sgd.) P. S. O'MUIREADEIR

PRIVATE SECRETARY.

Rev. Fr. M.F. Egan, S.J.,
35 Lr. Leeson St.,
DUBLIN.

*Taoiseach spoke
on telephone to
Fr. Egan 10.00 am.*

16/11/44.

DESPATCHED

10 NOV 1944

Telephone
61243

35 LOWER LEESON STREET
DUBLIN

November 9, 1944



Dear Mr de Valera,

I am sorry to trouble you when you have so many anxious and important things to consider, but I am sure you will pardon me if I say a word for the two Misses Reynolds, whose brother was killed at Mount Street in 1916 when under your command.

I understand that the relevant facts have been put before you and that they have got a promise that something will be done for them. I only wish to say that at present they find

themselves in a very difficult
and precarious situation, and
that it would add greatly
to the value of any help that is
given them if it could be given
as quickly as possible.

With apologies, and
all good wishes, I am

Yours very sincerely

W. F. Egan Esq.

Miss O'Connell

I think you had
recently
previous corr. re the case
L
of the Misses Reynolds

Don,

23/10/44

Ln dated 9/5/44 & encl
recd fm Sean Collins
handed to me by Mrs
O'Connell
Don
25/10/44

R.S.

25adh D. Fóir, 1944.

A Cháirde,

I have to acknowledge the
receipt of your letter of the
21st instant.

Mise, le meas,

(Sgd.) P. S. O MURREADHAIGE

PRIVATE SECRETARY.

Máire agus Áine Ní Raghnaill,
45, Wellington Road,
DUBLIN.

DESPATCHED

25 OCT 1944

45 Wellington Rd
21st Oct. 1944
ROINN AN TAOIS
23 OCT 1944
ÉIRE

A Chapin

May me, with great respect, again
draw your attention to the
representations which have already
been made to you regarding our
claim for compensation which
we think is long overdue to us
in view of the great and heroic
part which our beloved
brother, George, played in
the struggle for the liberation
of Ireland in 1916. As a
result of his activities during
that fateful period when he
was in charge of a small number
of men in Clann William House,

not alone did he lose his life
but the British Military, in
revenge, burned out his
business premises in Middle
Abbey St.

We ourselves had a clothing
establishment in Redmond's
Hill and supplied many of
the men in Jacob's Factory
during Easter Week with
clothes for which we never
received a penny.

Since 1916 our business
steadily declined and when
the Dublin Corporation
compulsorily acquired our
property we were left penniless
after we had discharged
all our debts to our creditors.
One of us (Miss Anne Reynolds)

is a temporary official
in the Department of
Industry and Commerce
at £2-3-0 per week and
with the exception of this
small weekly wage, we have
nothing. We are
dependent on the charity
of a friend for housing
accommodation but we are
expecting to receive notice
at any time to vacate the
rooms which she so kindly
gave us and we shall have
to seek ~~lodging~~ in some
poor neighbourhood at
the lowest possible cost
to enable us to eke out
an existence from the

balance of the mages
which one of us receives.

If George were allowed
to return to earth to day we
wonder what his thoughts
would be when he found
his sisters living in
misery and want.

We are convinced that he
would be amazed at their
present plight and that
he would leave no stone
unturned to secure for
them a pension which would
enable them to live in a
moderate degree of comfort.

It is no consolation to us
to be told that legal
difficulties preclude the
grant of such a pension.

If it were not for our
brother and his small band
of heroes in Blannwilliam
House who held up for
two or three days the
entry of the British Army
into Dublin; the position
of this country might be
different from what it is
to day.

— We now, Sir, appeal to
you to give our Case your
most earnest and
favourable consideration
and we make it not
because we are looking
for charity, but because
we feel in our inmost
hearts that we are entitled

to a pension for the
sake of our brother
who gave his all for
Ireland.

Sinne Comap mór

Mary Reynolds

Line to Russell

COMMISSIONER GENERAL OF LANDS
IRISH LAND COMMISSION
DUBLIN

9/5/44

Dear Miss O'Connell,

The enclosed was handed to me by one of the "Directors" in this Dept. Mr J. F. Scott, and, as it a very sad story that's disclosed therein, I would be very grateful if you showed it to An Taoiseach. When M Scott first told me of the plight of these poor ladies, and, as George Reynolds was one of the Officers who fought under Commandant De Valera during Easter Week 1916, I asked for a statement of the facts relating to the present pitiable condition of these poor creatures, with a view towards putting their case before the Head of the Government for consideration.

Now, I must appeal to you to seek as early opportunity as you can to put this case before An Taoiseach, and, should he require fuller information about these poor creatures, I would be only too pleased to introduce Mr Scott to him, when he could hear of what they have and are suffering for a very long time. I hope you are keeping well and that you will forgive me for adding to your words.

Yours Sincerely, Sean Collins.

1
George Reynolds of Redmonds,
Hill, Dublin was from his
earliest years a fluent Irish
speaker, and he taught Irish
in one of the Gaelic League
branches in the city.

When the call came in 1916
he answered it at once and
was placed in charge of a
number of Volunteers who were
assigned to Blennwilliam
House, Mount St Bridge.

It is unnecessary to recall
the extraordinary fight, the
monderful courage and the
indomitable spirit of the
men who in this house
held at bay the might of

2 the British Army until the
Wednesday of Easter Week, when
might of numbers ultimately
overcame these gallant few
and, although, some escaped,
~~two~~ were shot dead and
George Reynolds wounded
in the thigh, was it is
surmised burned to death.

His business premises in
Abbey St were destroyed by
the British Military and
no Compensation was paid to
his next of kin as while his
Countrymen rightly regarded
him as a patriot, the
British Authorities looked
upon him as a rebel. He
had a room in his sisters

premises in Redmond's Hill where he kept a stock of guns and ammunition and he effected repairs to many of the guns on these premises.

When the fight was at its height his sisters handed over a large quantity of ammunition to the Volunteers in Jacobs Factory and there is no doubt that this helped to prolong the struggle in this district.

During Easter Week 1916 Commandant Mac Donagh who was in charge of

4
the Volunteers in Jacobs
Factory informed the sisters
Mary and Anne Reynolds
that their brother George
was in Blamilliam House,
and sent a horse and
car for boots ~~clothing~~
etc, which he required
for men who had arrived
from the Country. He
further informed the
sisters that all the
goods taken would be
paid for, but owing to
the stress of the times
this would appear to
have been forgotten

5
as the sisters never received
one penny for them.

Unfortunately for the
sisters their business
which was a prosperous one
declined in recent years
and when the Dublin
Corporation took over
their premises for street
widening purposes, the
compensation paid to
them was only sufficient
to discharge all their
debts and they were left
penniless.

"They never made application
to the Government for

6
a pension until recently
when dire necessity
compelled them to do so.

One of the sisters is
employed in a temporary
capacity in the castle
at £2.3.0 per week and
this is the only money
upon which they have to
live.

They are dependent on
the charity of their friends
with one of whom they are
staying and who is not
charging anything for
the rooms which they
occupy.

3

Their case is one of particular hardship having regard to the fight for freedom in which their brother took such a prominent part and it is felt that the Government should in the sisters distress grant each of them a pension one of which should not however take effect until the position which she at present hold ceases to exist and she is left without means to

⁸ help her in her old age.

The sisters feel that if all the facts were brought to the notice of the Taoiseach he would give the case his most sympathetic consideration and they have no doubt that he would take immediate steps to help them in their necessity.

Their brother George died for Ireland; surely the

Nation will not allow
his sisters to end their
days in penury and
want.

Mary Reynolds.

Anne Reynolds
45 Wellington Road

R.A.1466/33

13th December, 1933.

A Chara,



With reference to your letter of the 20th October last on the subject of your compensation claim in respect of goods commandeered during Easter Week 1916 by the Volunteers who were in possession of Jacob's Factory, I am desired by the President to say that he has communicated with the Minister for Finance in the matter. As you are, no doubt, aware, the compensation legislation in existence prior to the enactment of the Damage to Property (Compensation) (Amendment) Act, 1933, provided for the recoupment of property losses sustained only between the 21st January, 1919, and the 12th May, 1923. When the above-mentioned Act was drafted, very careful consideration was given to the question of including in its scope losses which were sustained during and after the Rising of Easter Week 1916 and which had not been recouped by the British Government. It was eventually decided that the Measure should embrace damage to property between 24th April, 1916, and 20th January, 1919, for which compensation had not previously been paid and which was sustained while the property was being defended in arms against British Forces, or while the owners of the property were under arrest or endeavouring to evade arrest. It was not found possible to make provision for claims in respect of the supply or the commandeering of goods between the dates in question no compensation has at any time been paid by the Government of the Saorstát for property taken or supplied to the Volunteers during the 1916 Rising.

It is noted, however, from your letter that property belonging to your brother, who lost his life during the Rising, was destroyed in Abbey Street. It is possible that his legal personal representative could make a claim for this destruction under

15th December, 1933.

R.A. 1466/33



under Section 2(1)(a) of the Damage to Property

with reference to your letter of the 20th October last on (Compensation) (Amendment) Act, 1933, and you may

the subject of your compensation claim in respect of goods think it well that the advice of a Solicitor should

be obtained in the matter. I am desirous by the President to

Mise, le meas,

(Sd.) M. O'CAIN

PRIVATE SECRETARY

in existence prior to the enactment of the Damage to Property

(Compensation) (Amendment) Act, 1933, provided for the resumption

of property losses sustained only between the 1st January, 1919,

Miss Mary Reynolds,

and the 12th May, 1933. When the 1st January, 1919, and the 12th May, 1933,

DUBLIN.

very careful consideration was given to the question of including

in its scope losses which were sustained during and after the

Rising of Easter Week 1916 and which had not been recovered by the

British Government. It was eventually decided that the measure

should embrace damage to property between 24th April, 1916, and

20th January, 1919, for which compensation had not previously been

paid and which was sustained while the property was being defended

in arms against British Forces, or while the owners of the property

were under arrest or endeavouring to evade arrest. It was not

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ing to your brother, who lost his life during the Rising, was

destroyed in Abbey Street. It is possible that his legal representative

representative could make a claim for this destroyed under

Tag

Reynolds

Egan

Specie Relief Fund.


2/11/1911