

Roinn

Cosante

F.C.1

Fo-Roinn

ná cuirtear éantúairisc ar an sclúdác só.

Tá annro, leir

An Uimhir

An Snó

I/RBA/107

An Uimhir as Roinn Eile.

I RB 4091

*Sweeney Mr Bridget
Main Street
Newport, Co Mayo*

Do cuirtear cun

Dáta

Do cuirtear cun

Dáta

Do cuirtear cun

Dáta

Military Archives

To—THE MILITARY SERVICE REGISTRATION BOARD.

I am directed by the Minister for Defence to transmit the accompanying application of

Bridget Sweeney,

Alan St., Newcast. Co. Mayo.

for investigation and certificate in accordance with Section 8 of the Army Pensions Act, 1932, as amended by Section 15 of the Army Pensions Act, 1937, and the Regulations made thereunder.

Date.....193....

A.S. Runal

A.S. RUNAL.

Military Service Pensions Collection

The Cottage
Tourmaline
Co Mayo

29. 5. 1937.

A Cara.

This is to certify that I have known Mrs Bridget Sweeney Main St. Newport Mayo to be associated with the national movement as active members of Cumann na nGael since 1916

During the years from 1918 to 1924 her activities in assisting the volunteers movement + J. R. A. brought her under the notice of the enemy. Her house + shop were raided on many occasions by the Blacks + Ears and later by the Free State Army and I am sure in many of these raids she was subject to abusive treatment which I believe has caused a marked break in her health. She always supplied wholeheartedly to the J. R. A. all goods in her shop that was required, and had them delivered safely under difficult circumstances.

Her sincerity in helping had caused her many sleepless nights and when any of the many engagements with the enemy took place in or around Newport she was always visited and subject to terrifying abuse by the enemy.

I have great pleasure in stating that all the officers + men of West Mayo Brigade always placed the greatest confidence in Mrs B. Sweeney. No words that I could use would be good enough in praise of her unselfish assistance to the movement.

Signed John Connolly Batt Comdt
2nd Battalion
West Mayo Brigade

DEPT. OF DEFENSE
RECEIVED
22 JUN 1937

PENSION
BRANCH

Military Archives

Mr. Bridis Terrace,
Newport.
5/6/37.

To whom it may concern.

This is to certify that I have known Mrs Bridget Sweeney, Main St. Newport, Mayo, to be an active member of Cumann Na mban and that as a result of her activities and the activities of her husband in the National Movement, she came under the notice of Crown forces and Free State troops who continually raid her house and shot, with the result this lady is a physical wreck for the rest of her life



Signed. Michael Gallaghe,
late Batt. Adj., IV Batt.,
West Mayo Brigade.

Military Service Pensions Collection

Military Archives

Newcastle,
Galway,

15th June, 1937.

Service Registration Board,
Griffith Barracks,
DUBLIN.

Sirs,

I have known Mrs Bridget Sweeney of Newport, Mayo to have been a very active member of the Cumann na mBan and to have rendered very valuable service to the I.R.A. in the collection of funds, receipt and forwarding of despatches collection of information of enemy activities, provision of food, clothing etc.,

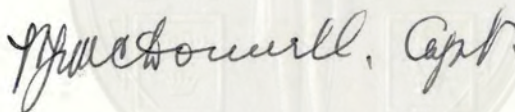
I was in close touch with Newport district during the Civil War Period. During this time the town changed hands several times and owing to the active support given to our Forces by Mrs Sweeney and her husband, their house was one of the few picked out for special attention by the National troops.

It was constantly raided both night and day and the occupants threatened to be shot. The house was placed 'out of Bounds' and people prevented from doing business there.

The direct results of these raids was that their business was ruined and Mrs Sweeney's health so undermined that she became a physical wreck from nervous breakdown and had to have constant medical attention.

Her illness did not prevent the raids they still carried out, she never recovered her health and is still an invalid as a result of the persecution inflicted on her on account of her support of the Republican Cause.

Signed.



Late O.C. 4th Western Division. I.R.A.

Military Service Pensions Collection

Military Archives

DÁIL ÉIREANN



AGORSTAT ÉIREANN

TIGH LAIGHEAN
(Leinster House)

BAILE ÁTHA CLIATH
(Dublin)

7th June, 1937.

Main St.,
Newport, Mayo.

I certify that Mrs Martin Sweeney, joined the Cumann na mBan in 1918. She was an Active member of that organisation during both the Tan war and the Civil war. Her husband has a Licenced Premises. They had been subject to many raids by the enemy day and night. On one occasion her husband was taken out of bed in his night-shirt on to the street to be shot. Their premises had been put out of bounds for long periods during the occupation of the town by the Free State troops, while raid followed raid so frequently that their entire business was practically closed down. All this resulted in a complete ~~break~~ breakdown of health for Mrs Sweeney from which she has never recovered.

While in the organisation during the troubled periods she rendered valuable service in the raising of funds, procuring of equipment, first aid outfits and arranging for delivery of despatches.

The Officers of the I.R.A. held many meetings on her premises. She also billited members of the organisation on many occasions and frequently served meals to large numbers of our army while in occupation of Newport.

Newport changed hands between both parties about four or five times during the civil war.

Signed. *Michael Kilroy*

Late O.C. Western Command.

Military Service
Pensions Collection

Military Archives

Medlicott St.,
Newport,
Co. Mayo.

17th June, 1937.

The Secretary,
Military Registration Board,
Griffith Barracks,
DUBLIN.

Mrs B. Sweeney was an active and trusted member of Cumann na mBan and for her activities with me personally was a marked woman. Military Troops even commandeered her bedroom for an observation post. She had to leave her home on several occasions and take her baby with her.

Dr. Lee is attending her since 1922 and Dr. Maddén when he practiced in Westport.

Her case presently is serious as the glands of her throat are greatly swollen and I am sure she needs Hospital treatment.

I would like if her case could be considered soon.

Yours faithfully,

CUMANN NA MBAN O.C.



P.S.

I have been appointed to act on the Provisional Executive of Old Cumann na mBan.

Military Service Pensions Collection

Military Archives



Wain St.
Newport

June 17th 1937

To the Secretary,
The Military Registration Board.

I have a general break-down due
I understand to the fact that my nervous
system is completely wrecked, owing to my
activities in Cuman-na-bhan.

Therefore I beg to apply for a disability
pension

(Mrs) Budget Sweeney



5
Military Service
Pensions Collection

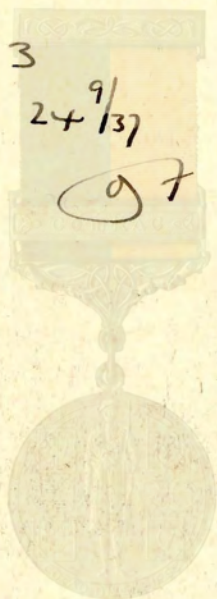
Cent. of

Military Archives
D. Madden

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Military Service
Pensions Collection

ARMY PENSIONS ACTS, 1932 AND 1937.

SERVICE CERTIFICATE ISSUED BY THE MILITARY SERVICE REGISTRATION BOARD
IN RESPECT OF A LIVING PERSON ALLEGED TO HAVE BEEN A MEMBER OF
AN ORGANISATION TO WHICH PART II OF THE ACT OF 1932 APPLIES.

Reg. No. of Applicant I/RB/4091 Name of Applicant Sweeney, Bridget (Mrs.)
Address of Applicant Main Street, Newport,
Co. Mayo.

WHEREAS an application for the grant of a pension *or* gratuity to the said applicant has been referred to us by the Minister for Defence under Section 8 of the Army Pensions Act, 1932, as amended by Section 15 of the Army Pensions Act, 1937;

NOW, WE, the Military Service Registration Board, in pursuance of the said Section 8, as amended, hereby certify as follows:—

1. ~~The applicant was not at any time a member of any organisation to which Part II of the Act of 1932 applies.~~

or

The applicant was a member of Cumann na mBan
(State organisation or organisations of which applicant was a member.)

2. ~~The applicant was not engaged in military service within the meaning of Part II of the Act of 1932.~~

or

The applicant was engaged in military service within the meaning of Part II of the Act of 1932, and the following are particulars of such military service:—

| Organisation or organisations of which applicant was a member | Particulars of military service | | |
|---------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------|------|---------------------------------------|
| | (*) Period of service | | Nature and extent of military service |
| | From | To | |
| Oglaigh na h-Eireann (Irish Republican Army) | - | - | - |
| Irish Volunteers | - | - | - |
| Irish Citizen Army | - | - | - |
| Fianna Eireann | - | - | - |
| Hibernian Rifles | - | - | - |
| Cumann na mBan | 1918 | 1923 | Member, Newport Area. |

(*) If the service was not continuous throughout, particulars of the period or periods of actual military service should be stated.

3. The applicant did not receive a wound or injury while engaged in military service.

or

~~The applicant received a wound or injury while engaged in military service and the following are particulars of such wound or injury:—~~

(a) Nature of wound or injury
(b) Date on which wound or injury was received

(c) Circumstances in which wound or injury was received
.....

(d) Particulars of any negligence or misconduct on the part of the applicant which in the opinion of the Board should be taken into consideration in determining whether the wound or injury was attributable to military service

4. ~~There is no evidence that the applicant contracted any disease during his military service.~~
or

There is evidence that the applicant contracted a disease during his military service and the following are the particulars of such evidence:—

(a) Nature of disease **Psychoneurosis.**

(b) Actual conditions under which applicant performed his military service **Applicant was active in various forms of Cumann na mBan work - raising funds, procuring equipment, arranging for delivering of dispatches, housing I.R.A.**

(c) Particulars of any illness from which the applicant suffered during his military service **Haemorrhage.**

(d) Detailed report on the applicant's statements in reply to questions 3 D (i) and (ii) in the application of the applicant **It is certified that on account of her activities in both Pre and Post Truce periods, her house was continually raided, and as a consequence she had to endure nerve-racking experiences.**

(e) Full particulars of any negligence or misconduct on the part of the applicant which in the opinion of the Board should be taken into consideration in determining whether the disease was attributable to military service **NIL.**

5. *

* This paragraph will be used for certifying such other particulars in respect of the applicant as the Minister may request the Military Service Registration Board to ascertain and certify.

Signed..... **S. O'Killy** Chairman } of
..... **Michl. Hilliard** Member } Military
..... **Gascolbert** Member } Service
Registration Board

Dated this **24th** day of **September** 193**7**

Hold for Fresh
certificate.

Military Archives *AB. 15/6/38*



Military Service
Pensions Collection

Military Archives

To—THE MILITARY SERVICE
REGISTRATION BOARD.

I am directed by the Minister for Defence to transmit the accompanying application of

Mrs. Bridget Sweeney

Main Street, Newport, Co. Mayo

for investigation and certificate in accordance with Section 8 of the Army Pensions Act, 1932, as amended by Section 15 of the Army Pensions Act, 1937, and the Regulations made thereunder.

Date *17 Jan* 1938.

W.S.
A.S. RUNAL

Military Service
Pensions Collection

ARMY PENSIONS ACTS, 1932 AND 1937.

SERVICE CERTIFICATE ISSUED BY THE MILITARY SERVICE REGISTRATION BOARD
IN RESPECT OF A LIVING PERSON ALLEGED TO HAVE BEEN A MEMBER OF
AN ORGANISATION TO WHICH PART II OF THE ACT OF 1932 APPLIES.

I/RBA/107.Reg. No. of Applicant..... Name of Applicant..... **Sweeney, Bridget (Mrs.)**Address of Applicant **Main Street, Newport,**
.....
Co. Mayo.

WHEREAS an application for the grant of a pension *or* gratuity to the said applicant
has been referred to us by the Minister for Defence under Section 8 of the Army
Pensions Act, 1932, as amended by Section 15 of the Army Pensions Act, 1937;

NOW, WE, the Military Service Registration Board, in pursuance of the said Section 8,
as amended, hereby certify as follows:—

1. ~~The applicant was not at any time a member of any organisation to which
Part II of the Act of 1932 applies.~~

or

The applicant was a member of **Cumann na mBan**
(State organisation or organisations of which applicant was a member.)

2. ~~The applicant was not engaged in military service within the meaning of
Part II of the Act of 1932.~~

or

The applicant was engaged in military service within the meaning of Part II of the
Act of 1932, and the following are particulars of such military service:—

| Organisation or organisations of which applicant was a member | Particulars of military service | | |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------|-------------|------------------------------------------|
| | (*) Period of service | | Nature and extent of military service |
| | From | To | |
| Oglaigh na h-Eireann (Irish Republican Army) | - | - | - |
| Irish Volunteers | - | - | - |
| Irish Citizen Army | - | - | - |
| Fianna Eireann | - | - | - |
| Hibernian Rifles | - | - | - |
| Cumann na mBan | 1918 | 1923 | Member, Newport Area. |

(*) If the service was not continuous throughout, particulars of the period or periods of actual military service
should be stated.

3. The applicant did not receive a wound or injury while engaged in military
service.

or

~~The applicant received a wound or injury while engaged in military service and
the following are particulars of such wound or injury:—~~

(a) Nature of wound or injury -
.....
(b) Date on which wound or injury was received -
.....

(c) Circumstances in which wound or injury was received
received
.....

(d) Particulars of any negligence or misconduct on the part of the applicant which in the opinion of the Board should be taken into consideration in determining whether the wound or injury was attributable to military service
.....
.....

4. ~~There is no evidence that the applicant contracted any disease during his military service.~~
or

There is evidence that the applicant contracted a disease during his military service and the following are the particulars of such evidence:—

(a) Nature of disease **Psychoneurosis.**
.....

(b) Actual conditions under which applicant performed his military service **Applicant was active in various forms of Cumann na mBan work - raising funds, procuring equipment, arranging for delivering of dispatches, housing I.R.A.**
.....

(c) Particulars of any illness from which the applicant suffered during his military service **Haemorrhage.**
.....

(d) Detailed report on the applicant's statements in reply to questions 3 D (i) and (ii) in the application of the applicant **It is certified that on account of her activities in both Pre and Post Truce periods, her house was continually raided, and as a consequence she had to endure nerve-racking experiences.**
.....

(e) Full particulars of any negligence or misconduct on the part of the applicant which in the opinion of the Board should be taken into consideration in determining whether the disease was attributable to military service ... **NIL.**
.....

5. *
.....
.....

* This paragraph will be used for certifying such other particulars in respect of the applicant as the Minister may request the Military Service Registration Board to ascertain and certify.

Signed..... *E. O'Rielly* Chairman } of
..... *Michl. Hilliard* Member } Military
..... *James Bullock* Member } Service
Registration Board

Dated this *24th* day of *September* 1938