

Military Archives

577/12

Mr O'Connor



This appears to
be a case for Army Finance.

CSH

10⁴/₂₃.

Military Service
Pensions Collection

*my Finance
by reference*
Military Archives

not checked

ACKD.
10 APR. 1923

4, De Burgh Terrace,
Infirmary Road, Parkgate,
Dublin. 6th April 1923.

To.
Minister of Home Affairs,
Government Buildings,
DUBLIN.

RECEIVED
-7 APR. 1923

RECEIVED AIR 510
-9 APR. 1923
NO. 577/12

A Chara,

In gratitude for the loyal and devoted services rendered to Ireland by the late Staff Captain Fedk Lidwell, who lost his life while on duty with the National Forces in Kilkenny on the 22nd Dec. 1922, I am sure the Government will generously compensate his Widow Mother for the irreparable loss and intense sorrow she has suffered by the decease of her beloved child.

I enclose Mrs Lidwell's application, with a full statement of the record of her son whom I personally knew whilst he was serving with the National Forces at the Harbour Barracks, Dun. Laoghaire.

This is a case that cries out for compensation. I hope that you will see your way to interview the heart-broken Mother of this true child of his country, and I feel certain that, when you shall have fully investigated the case with all its poignant circumstances you will conclude that it is a special one which demands especial

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treatment.

Mise, le meas,

Francis A. Gleeson

DUBLIN COMMAND CHAPLAIN.

ACKD.
10 APR. 1923

Military Service Pensions Collection

Application of Mrs Josephine Lidwell, 6, Corrig Avenue, DunLaoghaire for Compensation arising out of the death of her Son.

Staff Captain Frederick Lidwell.

While on duty with the National Forces at Kilkenny Barracks on 22nd December, 1922.

To the Competent Authority,

Irish National Forces.

The Applicant requests respectively that this her application for a substantial allowance or grant be acceded to in the following circumstances showing her dependency on the Deceased and the great loss she has suffered by his death.

The Applicant's Husband the late Mr. John George Lidwell was a Solicitor practising at 33, Upper Ormond Quay in the City of Dublin and he died in July 1919 leaving the Applicant and the following children him surviving. Mabel (Over 21 years of age) the Deceased Frederick, Sheila, and Doreen. Sheila has since married, but Doreen is still a child of tender years. The Deceased J.G. Lidwell died intestate leaving as his only assets the business carried on at 33, Upper Ormond Quay which turned out to be of no selling value. The Applicant and her family continued to live in the rented house occupied by them at 6, Corrig Avenue DunLaoghaire and an arrangement was made whereby the said business was taken over by another Solicitor Mr. Phillip O'Reilly on the basis of a division of profits out of the business which would continue to be carried on and from this source the Applicant is at present in receipt of an Income worth 35/- per week part of said arrangement was that the Deceased Frederick who was an apprentice to his late father should continue his apprenticeship with Mr. O'Reilly and upon becoming qualified as a Solicitor would carry on business

in Partnership with Mr. O'Reilly. Owing to insufficiency of means (due to the debts of the late Mr. Lidwell the expenses of supporting and providing for her family and the payment of house rent it being found impossible to provide a cheaper house) Mrs Lidwell was forced to sell portion of her furniture and to take lodgers in her house in order to supplement her income. This state of things continued despite the fact that Sheila and Mabel married and left the place without so far being paid the shares to which they are entitled out of the Estate of their Deceased father. The real value of the said Arrangement was that the Deceased Frederick should qualify and practise as a Solicitor in which case he could provide or help to provide for the Applicant and the child Doreen.

The Deceased Frederick whilst a law student was attracted to the service of his Country and early in the movement participated in the General Elections of 1918 in support of the Sinn Fein Candidate for South Co. Dublin. He was since then Member of the Sinn Fein Organization and in 1920 joined the I.R.A. and was attached Applicant in informed to an active Service Unit. He also acted as Registrar of the DunLaoghaire District Court at the same time he pursued his legal work and passed the Intermediate Examination whilst reading for the final Examination and he applied for a legal position in the National Army and was appointed in this capacity to Kilkenny as Staff Captain at a salary of £400 per annum with allowances which sum was primarily to be devoted to supporting the Applicant his Mother and his Sister Doreen.

He took up duty at once and was at the same time a candidate for the Final Examination and whilst on this duty he met his death.

The Applicant's circumstances at the time of his entering into said position were greatly straitened and are now of very extreme gravity the applicant had been carrying on her household under circumstances of great

difficulty barely managing with the Income derived from lodgers until such time as her said Son should qualify and meantime being assured of considerable financial assistance from him in the position he had attained and which it was expected he would attain for some time past. The Applicant and especially the child Doreen were at the time of his death virtually totally dependant upon the salary which would accrue to the Deceased Son but none of which in fact became payable.

In all the circumstances she respectfully submits to the kind consideration of the Irish Government Authorities whose loyal and devoted servant her son was at all times.

Dated this 25th day of January, 1923.

(Signed) Josephine Lidwell.

**Military Service
Pensions Collection**

Solicitor,
4, South Frederick Street,
Dublin.

Re Staff Captain F. Lidwell Deed.

Copy/

CLAIM

for

COMPENSATION.

**Military Service
Pensions Collection**

Albert Woodcock

Solicitor,

4, South Frederick Street.,

Dublin.