

**Papers of Kathleen Barry Moloney**

**P94**

**Descriptive Catalogue**



**UCD Archives  
School of History and Archives**

**archives @ucd.ie**  
**www.ucd.ie/archives**  
**T + 353 1 716 7555**  
**F + 353 1 716 1146**  
**© 2007 University College Dublin. All rights reserved**

## **CONTENTS**

---

### **CONTEXT**

Biographical History	<b>iv</b>
Archival History	<b>v</b>

---

### **CONTENT AND STRUCTURE**

Scope and content	<b>vi</b>
System of arrangement	<b>vii</b>

---

### **CONDITIONS OF ACCESS AND USE**

Access	<b>ix</b>
Language	<b>ix</b>
Finding Aid	<b>ix</b>

---

### **DESCRIPTION CONTROL**

Archivist's Note	<b>ix</b>
------------------	-----------

---

### **ALLIED MATERIALS**

Allied Collections in UCD Archives	<b>ix</b>
------------------------------------	-----------

---

---

## CONTEXT

### Biographical History

Kathleen Barry Moloney was born in Dublin on 19 October 1896 in the family home at 8 Fleet Street. She was the eldest of seven children, two boys Michael and Kevin and five girls Sheila (or Shel), Eileen (or Elgin), Mary Christina (or Maureen or Monty) and Margaret (or Peggy or Peg). Her parents Thomas and Mary (née Dowling) and her aunt Judith ran a prosperous dairy that included an eighty-six acre holding in Tombeagh, Hacketstown County Carlow and a retail outlet below the family home in Fleet Street. When Thomas Barry died in 1908 the Barry family found themselves split between their homes in Dublin and Tombeagh. Kathleen, Shel and Elgin remained in Fleet Street while Kevin, Monty and Peg went with their mother to the family farm in Carlow.

The Barry family were staunch republicans, in particular the older Barry Children. Michael was active in the Carlow Brigade and the girls, particularly Kathleen, in Cumann na mBan. She joined the University branch of Cumann na mBan in 1920 and was close to the most senior republicans including Michael Collins, Austin Stack, Richard Mulcahy and Eamon de Valera throughout the 1920–24 period. She opposed the Treaty. In April 1922 she was asked by de Valera to accompany Countess Markievicz as a member of a republican delegation that travelled to the USA. Shortly after her return the Civil War started and she, along with Mary MacSwiney and Linda Kearns, remained in the Hammam Hotel in O'Connell Street during the week long siege that ended in the death of Cathal Brugha. Between June and October 1922 Kathleen organised and maintained a line of communication between Dublin and General Liam Lynch in the South.

In December 1922 she was asked to reorganise the Irish Republican Prisoners Dependents Fund and acted as general secretary of the fund until September 1924, a position held in high regard by Frank Aiken and Eamon de Valera who recognised her tireless work in organising and distributing relief throughout the country. To this end she was asked to travel to Australia with Linda Kearns in September 1924, on behalf of the Reconstruction Committee of the IRPDF to raise desperately needed funds to provide financial aid to released prisoners. Shortly before her departure Kathleen married Jim Moloney in Westland Row church. She returned to Ireland in April 1925 and effectively retired from republican service, settling into married life and raising her growing family.

Jim Moloney, a native of Tipperary was born in January 1896. Son of a chemist, PJ Moloney, the family owned a medical hall in Tipperary. During his service with the IRA Jim held the rank of Battalion Adjutant, 3 Tipperary Brigade, Divisional IO 2 Southern Division, Command IO Southern Command and Director of Communications on Liam Lynch's staff. He was arrested in the Glen of Aherlow, along with his brother Con (Adjutant General of the anti-treaty forces during the Civil War) on 7 March 1923 and imprisoned in Limerick. He was subsequently moved to Newbridge and Harepark internment camps. He acted as OC in Newbridge Camp and went on hunger strike over five weeks in the autumn of 1923. Jim Moloney trained as a chemist in Dublin and although it was intended that he take over the family business in Tipperary, circumstances changed and Jim struggled to establish himself in full time employment until 1934 when he got a position in the Irish Sugar Company in Carlow. Jim and Kathleen had five children, twin girls,

Helen and Mary, Patrick, Katherine (who married the poet Patrick Kavanagh) and Judy.

From around 1930 Kathleen began working as Sales Publicity Advisor with the Electricity Supply Board (ESB) and was employed there until the 1950s when she retired due to ill health. During her time with the ESB Kathleen became a very active member of the union, the ATGWU, and various staff committees, once again displaying enormous energy and resourcefulness in campaigning for equality and workers rights on behalf of staff in the ESB.

Kathleen remained a committed republican throughout her life, campaigning against the executions of republican prisoners between 1939 and 1947. She also acted as committee member of the Women's Industrial Development Association (WIDA) between 1932 and 1939. She and Jim supported the establishment of Clann na Poblachta and its involvement in the first Inter-Party government in 1948. Kathleen Barry Moloney died, at the age of 72, in Dublin on 10th January 1969.

---

### **Archival History**

Deposited by her grandson Eunan O'Halpin in February 1990.

---

---

## **CONTENT AND STRUCTURE**

### **Scope and Content**

#### **Kathleen Barry Moloney**

Files of newspaper cuttings and correspondence relating to her tour of the USA as a member of the republican delegation April–May 1922.

Administrative material, financial records, correspondence dating to her position as general secretary of the Irish Republican Prisoners Dependents Fund (IRPDF) July 1922–August 1925.

Extensive files of correspondence dating to her tour of Australia on behalf of the Reconstruction Committee of the IRPDF, October 1924–April 1925. Also newspaper cuttings, photographs and memorabilia.

Correspondence concerning her conditions of employment as Sales Publicity Advisor, Electricity Supply Board (ESB) 1930–49. Series of files relating to her work on staff committees in the ESB and as the ATGWU representative for women staff in the ESB, 1942–50.

Large body of mementos, personal items, correspondence, newspaper cuttings, poems, printed matter, photographs concerning her brother Kevin Barry, 1919–68.

#### **Jim Moloney**

Files of correspondence, mostly from Kathleen, prior to his arrest and during his internment 1923–24, during her tour of Australia 1924–25 and early years of marriage 1927–34. Comprehensive file relating to his successful application for a Military Service Pension 1935–48.

#### **General**

Photographs, correspondence, memorabilia concerning the extended Barry and Moloney families, 1800s and 1905–57. Photographs, correspondence concerning the Barry-Moloney children 1926–68

---

---

## **System of Arrangement**

### **1 KATHLEEN BARRY MOLONEY**

1.1.	Dissociated Republican Material, 1916–42	<b>1</b>
1.2.	National Activities, 1922–66	<b>7</b>
1.3.	Tour of USA on behalf of the Republic, 1922	<b>10</b>
1.4.	Irish Republican Prisoners Dependents Fund, 1922–25; 1940–41; 1958	<b>12</b>
1.5.	Tour of Australia on behalf of the Reconstruction Committee, Irish Republican Prisoners Dependents Fund, 1924–26	<b>14</b>
1.6.	Correspondence Received	
1.6.1.	Not dated	<b>20</b>
1.6.2.	1920s	<b>21</b>
1.6.3.	From her husband Jim Moloney, 1922–24; 1934	<b>24</b>
1.6.4.	1930s	<b>27</b>
1.6.5.	From her children, 1937–49	<b>28</b>
1.6.6.	1940s	<b>28</b>
1.6.7..	1950s	<b>29</b>
1.7.	National Organisations, Associations, Campaigns, Political Parties, 1932–49	<b>30</b>
1.8.	Employment	
1.8.1.	General, 1933–34	<b>31</b>
1.8.2.	ESB	
1.8.2.1	Sales Publicity Advisor, 1930–51	<b>32</b>
1.8.2.2	Staff Committees and ATGWU Representative, 1942–50	<b>33</b>

### **2 BARRY FAMILY**

2.1.	Kevin Barry, 1919–68	<b>35</b>
2.2.	Elgin Barry, 1923	<b>40</b>
2.3.	Mrs Mary Barry, 1941–42; 1953	<b>41</b>

<b>3</b>	<b>JIM MOLONEY</b>	
3.1	National Activities, 1920–48	<b>42</b>
3.2	Imprisonment and Internment, 1923–25	<b>44</b>
3.3	Correspondence Received	
3.3.1	General, 1920–39	<b>50</b>
3.3.2	From his wife Kathleen Barry Moloney during her tour of Australia, 1924–25	<b>51</b>
3.3.3	From his wife Kathleen Barry Moloney, 1925–34	<b>52</b>
3.4	Photographs, 1958	<b>53</b>
<b>4</b>	<b>BARRY-MOLONEY CHILDREN, 1926–68</b>	<b>54</b>
<b>5</b>	<b>DISSOCIATED MATERIAL AND PHOTOGRAPHS, BARRY AND MOLONEY FAMILIES, 1800s; 1905–57</b>	<b>55</b>
<b>6</b>	<b>DEATH OF KATHLEEN BARRY MOLONEY, 1969</b>	<b>57</b>

---

---

## **CONDITIONS OF ACCESS AND USE**

### **Access**

Available by appointment to holders of a UCDA reader's ticket. Produced for consultation in microform.

---

### **Language**

English

---

### **Finding Aid**

Descriptive catalogue

---

## **DESCRIPTION CONTROL**

### **Archivist's Note**

Descriptive catalogue prepared by Orna Somerville, February 2007

---

## **ALLIED MATERIALS**

### **Allied Collections in UCD Archives**

P9 Papers of Con Moloney  
P93 Papers of Kevin Barry  
P95 Papers of Patrick Barry Moloney  
P200 Papers of Elgin O'Rahilly



**1. KATHLEEN BARRY MOLONEY**

**1.1. Dissociated Republican Material, 1916–42**

- P94/1** Not dated  
1 item  
Information card issued by the Republican Information Committee inviting visitors to Ireland to information meetings concerning the current political situation.
- P94/2** Not dated  
1p  
Reprint from the press of an appeal issued by the Irish National Aid Society for financial contributions.
- P94/3** Not dated  
6pp  
Voting list for Dáil Éireann. Lists deputies and their constituencies, indicating how each deputy voted but not what they were voting for or against.
- P94/4** 1916  
246pp  
Copy of the *Sinn Féin Rebellion Handbook: Easter 1916* published by the *Weekly Irish Times*, Dublin. The covers and pages i–iv and 247–248 missing.
- P94/5** 20 September 1919  
16pp  
Copy of a newspaper entitled *The Irish World and Industrial Advocate* volume III, number 2.  
Includes:  
▪ photograph of Eamon de Valera and a group of American leaders among the Friends of Irish Freedom taken at the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel. Harry Boland and John Devoy are also depicted in the photograph.

**P94/6**

15 January 1920

3pp

Blank results sheets for the election by proportional representation of councillors in three electoral areas of Lurgan UDC including the names of the candidates and the number of seats in each area.

**P94/7**

13 October 1920

3pp

Copy of a letter from Kathleen Barry Moloney, 8 Fleet Street, Dublin to Dr Hallett. Concerning an article by him published in the *National Municipal Review* entitled 'Ireland Again' and his conclusions concerning the elections in Ireland. Takes issue with a number of statements made by Hallett in his article. Remarks '... I do think you should have been a little more sure of the facts before putting an article like that before the American public. We are fighting at present for our life—in the national sense and in many cases for our lives in the physical sense—and I think those who cannot help us might at least make sure that they do not injure us by statements which they cannot back up—because there is no truth in them.'

**P94/8**

[1922?]

1p

Copy of a circular notice entitled 'Terms of Agreement Between Mr Michael Collins and Mr Eamon de Valera' concerning the formation of a National Coalition Panel for the Third Dáil. Encourages a vote for the four candidates Eamon Aylward, Alderman Cosgrave, James Lennon and Gearóid O'Sullivan.

**P94/9**

2 January 1922

1p

Copy of a circular notice issued by Seamus Leonard, Secretary of the County Carlow Executive, Sinn Féin. Refers to an amendment to a resolution for ratification at a meeting of the Executive. The meeting resolved that the Treaty should be ratified by Dáil Éireann and that the deputies of the Carlow area, Liam Cosgrave, Seamus Lennon, Gearóid O'Sullivan and Liam Aylward should 'carry out the will of their constituents by voting for the pact.'

**P94/10**

28 March 1922

4pp

Document entitled 'Declaration of the Political Situation in Ireland adopted by the National Council of the Friends of Irish Freedom'. The document outlines in chronological order the events that occurred in Ireland from 6 February 1920 to 6 December 1921 and after, in an effort to understand the confusion that arose in Ireland and the seriousness of the political situation. The document served as a supplement to the 'Declaration of Principles' adopted by the National Convention of the Friends of Irish Freedom in December 1921 and resolutions adopted at another convention held in January 1922. A note in Kathleen Barry Moloney's handwriting declares that she does not recall reading the document. Remarks '(I) would not have believed it then as de Valera when I asked him about Document No. 2, when he was briefing me for America told me categorically it "was a desperate remedy to meet a desperate situation once the Treaty was signed". Even after Fianna Fáil I believed he was telling the truth to a young mug whom he was sending out to put his case. Even after the executions 1940/44 I still believed he would not have lied in this but during the debates on the Republic of Ireland Bill 1949 I heard him boast about Doc. No. 2 being his idea before ... the delegates went to London in 1921. KBM'.

**P94/11**

9 April 1922–January 1933

18pp

Printed matter relating to the organisation of the IRA and commemorations held by the organisation.

**P94/12**

[June–July 1922?]

2pp

Copy of a list of GHQ staff and copy of a memorandum explaining the staff structure during what is described as 'a very involved ... situation during the period immediately prior to, during and immediately after the attack on the Four Courts'.

**P94/13**

[1923?]

8 items

Black and white photographs of various unidentified people. A note in Kathleen Barry Moloney's handwriting states 'Obviously from 4th Western Division. No recollection'.

Includes:

- photograph of people attending a demonstration demanding the release of 500 women political prisoners [1923?].
- photographs of people at a demonstration holding a banner concerning the imprisonment of thousands of Irish men and women [1923?].

**P94/14**

[1923?]

7pp

Copy of a document issued by Diarmuid Ua Murcada summarising the objections of republicans to the political situation in Ireland and the new Dáil. A note on the back of the document in Kathleen Barry Moloney's handwriting admits that she has no memory of the origin of this document, why it is in her possession or who Diarmuid Ua Murcada was. Indicates that the document would appear to predate the Cease Fire and Dump Arms Order issued by IRA Chief of Staff, Frank Aiken, 24 May 1923.

**P94/15**

6–30 March 1923

1p

Copy of a circular notice entitled 'Lest We Forget' listing the republican prisoners who died during March 1923. Concludes 'Are we to forget these murders, forgive the murder cabinet and slavishly accept British domination, the cause of all our evils. When we have broken every link of the connection with the British Empire and removed every trace of the conquest. Then, and only then, shall we forgive and forget.'

**P94/16**

25 August 1923

1p

Notice signed by Matthew P. Kearney, Election Agent for Michael Barry, Carlow/Kilkenny constituency appointing Kathleen Barry Moloney to attend the counting of votes on his behalf.

- P94/17** 15 October–1 November [1923]  
9pp  
Copies of *Freedom*, a civil war anti-treaty publication including information about republican prisoners.
- P94/18** [1924?]  
1p  
Copy of dietary recommendations for hunger strikers after their release.
- P94/19** 27 June 1924  
6pp  
Letter from Ella Young, Rydal Mount, Milltown, County Dublin to Kathleen Barry Moloney referring to a republican memorial consisting of illuminated vellum pages containing the names of those who died for the republic since 1916. Asks Kathleen Barry Moloney if she could get subscriptions from her many contacts to support the production of the volume. Remarks that two sample pages by the artist Art Ó Murnihan are available to view. Encloses a leaflet about the memorial.
- P94/20** 18 February 1927  
3pp  
Copy of a letter from Kathleen Barry Moloney, Medical Hall, Main Street, Tipperary to Eamon de Valera referring to a forthcoming meeting of the Fianna Fáil Party. Remarks that although she does not support the party's policy on republicans she does wish the meeting to be a success. Advises de Valera on the general feeling amongst the farmers and shopkeepers of Tipperary. Remarks that if a spokesperson was sent to the area to speak about the future of the economy she is confident that there would be a positive reaction. Remarks: 'Patriotism is at its lowest ebb. There will be no reception for an impassioned speech dealing with the iniquities of the Government and the glories of the past. What is needed here is a little present indication of your way of securing that future. I believe a calm considered statement of your economic policy would help you enormously here.'

- P94/21** December 1937
- 4pp
- Copy of a publication entitled *Saoirse na h-Éireann* (Irish Freedom) recognising the validity of the Second Dáil Éireann as the legal government of the Republic of Ireland.
- P94/22** 28 February–5 September 1940
- 14pp
- Mostly dissociated material relating to the reorganisation of the republican movement with a view to finally settling the differences between the government (ostensibly the Fianna Fáil Party) and the IRA and the declaration of an Irish Republic.
- Includes:
- summary of the policy of *Córas na Poblachta* inaugurated at a meeting of republicans in the Mansion House, Dublin on 2 March 1940.
  - copies of a draft statement issued by the IRA with annotations in the handwriting of Kathleen Barry Moloney [1940?].
- P94/23** 15 April 1940
- 2pp
- Copy of a telegram from Kathleen Barry Moloney to Archbishop Mannix, Melbourne appealing to him to use his influence with Eamon de Valera to grant political status to all republican prisoners. Remarks that six men are on hunger strike.
- P94/24** April 1941
- 1p
- Circular letter issued by the National Aid Association seeking items and mementos for an exhibition to mark the twenty fifth anniversary of the proclamation of the Irish Republic.

**P94/25** 30 April 1942

2pp

Circular letter issued by T.R. Atkins, Honorary Secretary, 1916–21 Commemoration Dinner Committee, inviting men and women who served in the Irish Volunteers, Irish Republican Army, Irish Citizen Army, Cumann na mBan, Fianna Éireann and Sinn Féin to attend a function in the Gresham Hotel in order to show solidarity during the ‘present emergency’ (WW2).

### **1.2. National Activities, 1922–66**

**P94/26** April–May 1922

5pp

Letter and notes relating to the Republican Courts and a case heard at the District Court, 41 York Street. Kathleen Barry Moloney acted as one of the justices who heard the case.

**P94/27** 16 June 1922–29 March 1940

20pp

Printed matter, circular notices, and correspondence relating to the organisation and activities of Cumann na mBan.

**P94/28** 8 July 1922–9 February 1923

44pp

Letters, scribbled notes mostly to Kathleen Barry Moloney relating to anti-treaty forces and their campaign during the civil war.

Includes:

- letter from Austin Stack concerning the arrest of Kathleen Barry Moloney and Mary MacSwiney and the death of Cathal Brugha. Remarks that Mrs Brugha sent him Cathal’s rosary beads and cross. ‘It makes me feel so small and ashamed to be alive when he is dead. The worthy ones make the sacrifice always. His example and spirit should urge us all on now towards the goal’ (8 July 1922).
- letter from Eamon de Valera to Kathleen Barry Moloney referring to the death of Cathal Brugha. Asks Kathleen Barry Moloney to call on Mrs Brugha on his behalf to ‘say that I feel that robbed of Cathal we are all robbed of the one man who could have made

**P94/28 contd**

victory possible—I cannot write to her whose loss is the greatest of all. Oh cruel cruel that it is by Irish men he should be killed’ (8 July 1922).

- scribbled note from Kathleen Barry Moloney to her sister Shel concerning her movements over the next couple of days. Refers to the death of Harry Boland and how much it has affected her [31 July 1922?].
- letter from Liam Lynch, IRA Chief of Staff to Kathleen Barry Moloney regarding her request to be transferred to a different department and his support for this request. Remarks that it would have been unfair to keep her in the south of the country during the winter. Praises her work for the Irish Republican Prisoners Dependents Fund (IRPDF) and how much it means for the morale of the men on active service and the cause (27 January 1923).
- letter from Liam Lynch to Kathleen Barry Moloney regarding their correspondence. Advises her not to ‘fret’ over the Liam Deasy affair. Remarks ‘It is not a plot and the priest only carried out Liam’s wishes, it is clear to me that Liam did not fear death but wished to be alive to try to save the nation from its present disastrous troubles, he did not expect his appeal would be acted on but hoped it would develop negotiations. I hope people properly judge his actions as he has no concern for himself’ (9 February 1923).

**P94/29**

25 May 1924

1p

Notice from Eamon Hennessy, Director of Elections, Limerick Sinn Féin constituency to Kathleen Barry Moloney and Art O’Connor informing them of the locations and times of public meetings taking place before the bye-election.

**P94/30**

7 July 1932

3pp

Typescript [copy] of a letter from Kathleen Barry Moloney, 4 Wilton Terrace, Dublin to Frank Gallagher, editor of the *Irish Press* concerning an article about the civil war, the fighting in Dublin and the death of Cathal Brugha. Remarks that the details about Cathal Brugha’s death are incorrect and that if time permitted she would like to write a history of the collapse of the republican military resistance and in particular the effect of Liam Lynch’s death. Encloses a draft of another letter giving a detailed account of Cathal Brugha’s death but acknowledges that it is probably too long to publish.

**P94/31**

19 November 1951–31 September 1953

97pp

Correspondence and statements concerning the Bureau of Military History relating to Kathleen Barry Moloney's national activities and the national activities of her brother Kevin Barry.

Includes:

- copy of Kathleen Barry Moloney's witness statement to the Bureau with various appendices (29 May 1952)

**P94/32**

28 October–3 November 1952

Letters from Florrie O'Donoghue, Loch Léin, Eglantine Park, Douglas Road, Cork to Kathleen Barry Moloney, 3 Palmerston Road, Dublin. seeking an interview with her for a book he is writing about the civil war period. Remarks that he would like to bring Moss Twomey with him.

**P94/33**

[1958?]

2pp

Draft of a letter from Kathleen Barry Moloney to Oscar [Traynor] concerning her memoirs, in particular her national activities during the war of independence and the civil war. Refers to the Bureau of Military History and remarks that after her statement about her brother Kevin to the BMH she could not face writing her own but that she is now anxious (following a stroke in November 1958) to record her memories of the beginning and end of the civil war. 'My part especially after the death of Liam Lynch [reads] so like a resistance thriller that I thought I'd better get verifications as I went along'.

**P94/34**

12–13 May 1960

2pp

Letter from Oscar Traynor, Minister for Justice to Kathleen Barry Moloney, 3 Palmerston Road, Rathmines, Dublin enclosing a statement regarding Kathleen Barry Moloney's service in Barry's Hotel and O'Connell Street during the civil war. Remarks: 'The work which the Cumann na mBan carried out during this period, under the leadership of Miss Barry, was of the utmost importance, not only to the positions occupied by the Dublin Brigade in O'Connell Street but also to members of the GHQ staff, who were in occupation of the Four Courts and with whom we maintained close communication until the building was surrounded' (12 May 1960).

**P94/35** 26–29 April 1966

8pp

Correspondence and press cutting relating to an article published in the *Irish Times* concerning a talk about Cathal Brugha given by Florrie O'Donoghue at a meeting of Cumann Tír Chonaill.

Includes:

- drafts of letters from Kathleen Barry Moloney to Florrie O'Donoghue and the *Irish Times* correcting a number of points made in the article, in particular the last stand taken by republicans who had occupied various buildings along O'Connell Street, and the death of Cathal Brugha. The letters do not appear to have been sent.

### **1.3. Tour of the USA on behalf of the Republic, 1922**

**P94/36** [1922?]

4pp

Typescript copy of a speech for use by Kathleen Barry Moloney during her tour of the USA as a member of the delegation sent by de Valera in order to raise funds and support for the republic.

Includes:

- note in Kathleen Barry Moloney's handwriting explaining that she had a copy of the speech with her at all times. Remarks 'I had only begun to be a good speaker and I was always afraid of my mind and my knees going so I always had a copy—in case'. An additional note scribbled, it would appear, while she sat listening to one of her fellow delegates deliver a speech remarks how bored she is and how she has heard the same speech over and over again. Describes how much she misses her home, her family and her friends and how she longs to dance and gossip.

**P94/37** 29 March 1922

1p

Certificate signed by George Nicholls, Assistant Minister for Home Affairs on behalf of the Irish government granting permission to Kathleen Barry Moloney, 8 Fleet Street, Dublin to leave Ireland for a limited period of one year.

- P94/38** 30 March 1922, 17 May 1925
- 2 items
- British passports belonging to Kathleen Barry Moloney and Máire McKee. Kathleen Barry Moloney's passport is stamped with a visa for entry to the USA dated 31 March 1922 and issued by the American Consulate in Dublin.
- P94/39** 5 April–6 June 1922
- 11pp
- Letters, receipts and memorabilia belonging to Kathleen Barry Moloney and Countess Markievicz from the Cunard Steam Ship Company *en route* home from the USA.
- P94/40** 8 April–27 May 1922
- 71 items
- Newspaper cuttings relating to the tour of the USA undertaken by Kathleen Barry Moloney and Countess Markievicz to raise support for and awareness of the republic. The cuttings report on their arrival, the various meetings and events they attended and spoke at, and profiles of the two women.
- Includes:
- certificate of greeting and welcome from the Thomas Ashe Council of the American Association for the Recognition of the Irish Republic of Butte, Montana to Kathleen Barry Moloney and pledging their continuing support for the Republic (25 April 1922).
- P94/41** 27 April 1922
- 6 items
- Black and white photograph taken during Kathleen Barry Moloney's tour of the USA as part of a delegation working to raise awareness and support for the republic. No one is identified.

- P94/42** [May 1922?]  
7pp  
Itineraries for the tour of the USA conducted by Kathleen Barry Moloney and Countess Markievicz.
- P94/43** 26–30 May 1922  
3pp  
Hotel and income tax receipts belonging to Kathleen Barry Moloney and Countess Markievicz from their tour of the USA.
- P94/44** 7 April–17 June 1922  
182pp  
Letters sent to Kathleen Barry Moloney during her tour of the USA describing events at home, in particular the political situation, forthcoming elections and the rumoured peace conference between The Chief (Eamon de Valera) and Michael Collins. Letters from her sisters refer to the censorship of their letters and their suspicion that some of the letters are not getting through the postal system.  
Includes:  
  - letter from Austin Stack, representative in the USA of the American delegation of the Republican Party of Ireland referring to the itinerary of Kathleen Barry Moloney and Countess Markievicz and the problems arising from a change in their schedule. Urges Kathleen Barry Moloney to continue to organise speakers and venues without the need for an assistant as the expense would be too costly. A note in Kathleen Barry Moloney's handwriting explains the context of this letter and the dissatisfaction of Countess Markievicz who was threatening to return to Ireland and personally complain to Eamon de Valera (24 April 1924).

**1.4. Irish Republican Prisoners Dependents Fund, 1922–25; 1940–41; 1958**

- P94/45** Not dated  
c60pp  
Bound notebook listing the secretaries of the IRPDF committees in each county and their addresses.

**P94/46** 17 July 1922–25 August 1925; 19 September 1940–26 April 1941

84pp

Mostly correspondence relating to the work and organisation of the IRPDF and Kathleen Barry Moloney's role as general secretary. Some of the letters describe the desperate need for assistance in different parts of the country by prisoners dependents. Others relate to the administration and day to day work of the organisation.

Includes:

- copy of organisational scheme for the IRPDF outlining the chain of command, the collection of money, communication, involvement of the army, Cumann na mBan and Sinn Féin (4 October 1923).
- letter from Paddy Ruttledge, Acting President of the 'Republic' to Kathleen Barry Moloney expressing delight that she has agreed to go on a fund raising mission on behalf of the IRPDF to Australia (11 July 1923).
- copy of a letter from Kathleen Barry Moloney, 3 Palmerston Road, Dublin to Gerald Boland, Minister for Justice relating to the proposed formation of the Green Cross Fund to work on behalf of republican prisoners (28 October 1940).
- copy of a report from Kathleen Barry Moloney to the auxiliary committee of the Green Cross Fund summarising her communications with Gerald Boland TD and William Norton TD and advising the committee to write to William Norton to thank him for his support. Concludes 'Since this is my last report as a go-between I want to say again ... that I think somebody else would have done better as there is obviously a deep mistrust of me in high places' (29 October 1940).

**P94/47** 30 May 1923

1p

Newspaper cutting appealing for financial contributions issued by the IRPDF.

**P94/48** 27 October 1923–24 July 1924

10pp

Receipts relating to the Limerick committee of the IRPDF.

- P94/49** 12 November 1923–24 April 1925; 12 May 1958  
100pp  
Duplicate letter book belonging to Mrs Máire O'Donovan, Honorary Secretary of the IRPDF committee in Limerick containing copies of letters sent by Mrs O'Donovan, copies of receipts, summaries of receipts and payments.  
Includes:  
▪ letter from Donnchadh Ó Briain, Office of the Parliamentary Secretary to the Taoiseach to Kathleen Barry Moloney explaining that he is sending her the letter book and other records relating to the Limerick committee of the IRPDF at the request of Mrs O'Donovan who is moving house (12 May 1958).
- P94/50** 21 January [1924]  
51pp  
Accounts, mostly receipts relating to the IRPDF from the 3rd Eastern, 3rd Western, 4th Western and 3rd Southern Divisions and a tally of prisoners and unemployed from IRA Brigades I–IV.
- P94/51** 8 July 1924–13 August 1925  
11pp  
Letters concerning the work of the Limerick committee of the IRPDF. Mostly relating to the payment and receipt of money, the situation of prisoners' dependents in the Limerick area and details about some of those applying for assistance

**1.5. Tour of Australia on behalf of the Reconstruction Committee, Irish Republican Prisoners Dependents Fund, 1924–26**

- P94/52** [1924?]  
4 items (11.5x7cm)  
Black and white photographs taken on board the 'Niagara' *en route* to Australia of various passengers in fancy dress. Includes one of Kathleen Barry Moloney and another female passenger, Miss Johnson, in their costumes. Annotated.

- P94/53** [1924?]  
8 items (11.5x7cm)  
Black and white photographs taken on board the 'Niagara' *en route* to Australia of some of the ports visited during the journey including Fiji, Java and Honolulu. Annotated.
- P94/54** 1 September 1924  
1p  
Letter from Eamon de Valera, President, Dáil Éireann addressed to 'Every friend of the Irish Republic in Australia' introducing Kathleen Barry Moloney and Linda Kearns and appealing for support for their mission.
- P94/55** 6 September 1924  
4pp  
Copies of letters issued by the Reconstruction Committee of the IRPDF, 27 Dawson Street, Dublin introducing Kathleen Barry Moloney and Linda Kearns as delegates authorised to collect funds in Australia for and on behalf of the IRPDF. Outlines the purpose of the Reconstruction Committee and explains its relationship with the IRPDF. Signed on behalf of the Honorary Treasurers by Mrs Clarke and Mrs McKeane and by the Chairman of the Committee Art O'Connor. A copy of the aims and constitution of the Reconstruction Committee of the IRPDF is also included.
- P94/56** 10 September 1924–10 January 1926  
364pp  
Extensive file of letters received by Kathleen Barry Moloney from friends and family during her tour of Australia as one of the delegates representing the Reconstruction Committee of the IRPDF. The letters concern news of mutual friends and acquaintances, her extended family and the political situation in Ireland. Some of the letters are from people she met during her tour of Australia.  
Includes:  
  - letter from her sister Elgin. Refers to the IRPDF which she describes as 'flourishing' but that the fund will not last as there is hardly any money coming in. Remarks that it is the same situation for the Reconstruction Committee of the IRPDF. Updates her on the political situation, in particular the northern election results, the arrest of Eamon de Valera in Newry, the resignation of

P94/56 contd

Joe McGrath and his supporters from the Dáil. Refers to Remembrance Day describing it as the 'worst shock of all'. Remarks 'The Armistice celebrations were absolutely huge. Talk about the country being Free State or Republican or Mutineer or anything. It's British right through. There never was anything like the crowd that attended the ceremony. And Red Poppies. I dream about them now ... Really I think we are rather wonderful to have the cheek to think that we could ever make a Republic out of this country.' Refers to the re-interment of bodies (executed by the Free State Government during the civil war). Describes the huge funerals in Dublin and around the country. Remarks that an attempt was made by the Free State Army to arrest the men who fired a volley of shots in Glasnevin. Continues: 'In Carlow, at the funeral of James Lillis they could not have a volley fired at all because the Staters had placed a machine gun on a height over the graveyard and had it trained on the crowd'. Informs her of the tragic death of Mrs Figgis (13 November 1924).

- letter from Mary Mac[?], Secretary of the IRPDF, 27 Dawson Street, Dublin. Refers to the financial position of the Reconstruction Committee and remarks that it is at a 'stand still'. Continues 'You know to do any efficient work our grants must naturally be larger than those of the IRPDF ... Our little nest egg is nearly gone but we have given decent help to some of the best. It worries the life out of us to see good men who could start a good business and would mind it if they had £100 or so and we can't let them have it' (13 November 1924).
- letter from D.M. O'Flynn, Brisbane advising Kathleen Barry Moloney and Linda Kearns to contact Archbishop Duhig directly about their mission in Queensland. Refers to his hostility towards Ireland and the 'cause' but that a direct communication may meet with a more sympathetic view (29 November 1924).
- letter from Mary Mac[?], Secretary of the IRPDF, 27 Dawson Street, Dublin. Refers to the delight of the Reconstruction Committee at the delegation's success in raising money in Australia. Remarks that they have decided to wait until they receive as many applications as possible before choosing the most deserving cases. Refers to the last grant made to a group of ex-prisoners in the west of Ireland who established a motor engineering works and who hope to become the agents for Ford in the west (11 December 1924).
- letter from Sighle Humphreys thanking Kathleen Barry Moloney for her letter and Christmas greetings. Remarks that she would be very pleased to receive any amount of money as she receives requests every day from different counties requesting help to re-organise Cumann na mBan. Refers to republican and political news including rumours about the *Freemans Journal* being sold, the registration of the Treaty with the League of Nations, the Boundary Commission, Cosgrave's illness and the wish of some people to promote Kevin O'Higgins to the position of President of the executive Council, and the release of prisoners (16 December 1924).
- letter from Archbishop Daniel Mannix (Archbishop of Melbourne), Raheen, Kew, Victoria concerning the fundraising tour. Refers to the committee set up in Sydney for the purposes of raising money

**P94/56 contd**

for the IRPDF and remarks that it is operating successfully (29 December 1924).

- letter from Moss Twomey congratulating her on her marriage and wishing her mission a success. Refers to the upcoming elections and the tough battle her brother Michael will have in the Carlow/Kilkenny constituency. Concludes: 'The factionism which has crept into the Staters party should help us' (31 December 1924).
- letter from Peter A. M'Lachlann, Secretary, Self-Determination for Ireland League of Australia, Queensland Section concerning Kathleen Barry Moloney's request that representatives of the League attend meetings of the Queensland Irish Relief Committee recently formed in Brisbane. Informs her that the League has been disbanded. Outlines resolutions passed at a meeting of the executive and that he is prepared to forward a cheque if the resolutions are adhered to (8 January 1925).
- copies of the minutes of the provisional committee and committee of the Queensland Irish Relief Fund (29 December 1924, 2 January 1925).
- copies of resolutions, copy of the constitution, copy of a statement outlining the aims of the Queensland Irish Relief Fund (24 December 1924–11 January 1925).
- letter from Mary Mac[?], Secretary of the IRPDF, 27 Dawson Street, Dublin telling her how delighted the committee are with the delegation's success in raising £2,000 in two months. Explains how the fund is being used in both the Free State and the north. Remarks that the cases from the north are very bad following the release of prisoners. 'Every man's hand is turned against them. The best—those who have stuck out prison and camp life for years—are absolutely determined to stick it out still, their homes are broken, their farms derelict, their tools stolen or destroyed and no compensation for the most glaring wrongs. Some of the best with big farms which have gone to rack and ruin during their absence are actually starving—that is no exaggeration' (15 January 1925).
- letter from J.J. Flaherty, General Secretary, Irish National Foresters Benefit Society to Kathleen Barry Moloney and Linda Kearns. Advises them that Irish sentiment in South Australia is apathetic. Remarks that they do not have the benefit of leadership from the church as they do in Victoria and that the 'mixed state of affairs' in Ireland has led to a split in opinion in Southern Australia. Remarks that he will bring their forthcoming visit to the attention of the Irish National Foresters Benefit Society and the Irish National Association as he is secretary to both bodies. Remarks that their visit to the area is well timed to coincide with St Patrick's day festivities and advises them which towns to visit. Assures them he will give them every assistance he can (19 January 1925).
- letter from Eamon de Valera, Sinn Féin, 27 Dawson Street, Dublin to Kathleen Barry Moloney asking her to speak with Mrs Childers about her tour of Australia. Remarks that Mrs Childers is 'helping' them in Foreign Affairs (30 April 1925).

**P94/57**

11 September 1924–20 January 1925

123pp

Letters from Jim Moloney to his wife Kathleen Barry Moloney during her fundraising tour of Australia describing how much he misses her, conveying news from home, what he has been doing, the people he has met and their reaction to the couple's marriage which took place immediately prior to Kathleen Barry Moloney's departure. It would appear that the couple married without the knowledge of their extended family or close friends; and that Kathleen's journey to Australia was also not made public.

Includes:

- letter referring to a visit from Ernie O'Malley as he was returning from Gort, County Galway where he attended a fair with Liam Tobin. Remarks 'He wore a muffler and breeches and leggings and looked very much on the run. He bought five sheep for himself and is very pleased with himself generally' (1 October 1924).
- letter referring to the Moloney family business (a Medical Hall) in Tipperary and explains where he stands as the eldest son. Remarks 'There is always a kind of understanding that the oldest son takes over the business but before the taking over comes off everyone else has to be provided for and the eldest son just works away on the off chance of something being left for him.' Explains that the business is not paying its way or making a profit. Refers to his brother Con and his new job which will not pay him a wage for the first few months (5 October 1924).
- letter referring to the elections in Northern Ireland and a mass meeting in Dublin where de Valera will make an address prior to his departure for the election campaign. Remarks that it is rumoured that he will be arrested if he attempts to make a speech (22 October 1924).
- letter referring to de Valera's arrest in Newry 'as expected'. Continues: 'of course he hasn't had enough yet and is to speak in Derry tonight and if not again arrested he'll continue his tour as arranged.' Refers to the Dan Breen testimonial and the collection of money outside all the churches in the area. Remarks that the amount collected was quite small: 'I think it has been a huge failure all round but doesn't deserve any better. He has a nice comfortable pension from the FS (Free State) people and its surely a bit thick of him to expect Republicans to be very interested in him when he announces his retirement from everything Republican. Let's be charitable and say he is not responsible' (26 October 1924).
- letter referring to the election results and the success of Sinn Féin. Refers to the desire of the people for the country to settle down and the irony of the situation between pro and anti-treaty who will have to work together to achieve this (23 November 1924).
- letter referring to the Moloney family business in Tipperary and describing how much of a struggle it is to support everyone on the income from the business (3 December 1924).
- letter referring to the Free State Government and problems with Joe McGrath (Minister for Industry and Commerce until March

**P94/57 contd**

1924, when he resigned over the government's handling of the army crisis) and the rumours that Cosgrave will no longer be President by the end of the year 'They (the papers) say that the monied people are refusing to give financial support to state schemes unless O'Higgins who is supposed to be a thorough imperialist is at the head of affairs ... A big number of TDs is said to have sent an ultimatum to the cabinet demanding the McGrath policy and a settlement with the McGrath party'. Remarks that the state party have survived beyond all expectations and that he hears very little about 'our people' (Sinn Féin). Continues 'They are trying hard to raise the necessary money for the paper but ... they are finding it a slow task' (21 December 1924).

**P94/58**

1 September–8 November 1916; 15 September 1924–April 1925

83pp

Drafts of appeals, information notices, financial details, itinerary, extracts from newspapers, memorabilia relating to Kathleen Barry Moloney's fundraising tour of Australia on behalf of the IRPDF Reconstruction Committee.

Includes:

- details of the Queensland Central Dublin Relief Fund established after the 1916 Rising (1 September–8 November 1916).
- copy of a memorandum for the attention of Kathleen Barry Moloney and Linda Kearns outlining the importance of their mission and the establishment of a 'reliable information bureau ... outside Ireland.' Refers to the importance of supplying Australian newspapers with good quality pieces that are 'logical and coldly analytical, rather than impassioned' (not dated).
- copy of an account of the first meeting of the Reconstruction Committee of the IRPDF. Outlines the aims and objectives of the committee as well as detailing some of the relief work carried out (1 October 1924).
- draft of a constitution for the establishment of the Queensland Irish Relief Committee for the purposes of raising funds in New South Wales on behalf of the Reconstruction Committee. Annotated ([January 1925]).
- Kathleen Barry Moloney's itinerary for her tour of Queensland (18 January–11 February 1925).

**P94/59**

17 November 1924–23 February 1925

63 items

Newspaper cuttings relating to the tour of Australia, reporting on events and meetings organised by Kathleen Barry Moloney and Linda Kearns as well as profiles of the two women .

**P94/60** January–February 1925

2 items

Black and white photographs of Kathleen Barry Moloney, Mr Jones (Minister for Mines, Queensland), Linda Kearns, the ex-attorney general for New South Wales and his father. Annotated.

## **1.6. Correspondence Received**

### **1.6.1. Not dated**

**P94/61** [1920s–50s]

51pp

Undated letters from friends, acquaintances and Moloney family to Kathleen Barry Moloney relating to current events, personal and family matters.

**P94/62** [1920s–50s]

166pp

Undated letters from the Barry family to Kathleen Barry Moloney. The Barry family rarely if ever dated their correspondence. They were frequent correspondents and the letters often appear to have been hastily written with just the day of the week to differentiate them. They often wrote several letters in a week covering various topics mostly discussing family news, travelling plans between the family homes in Tombeagh, County Carlow and Fleet Street, Dublin and occasionally political events.

**P94/63** [1920s–50s]

65pp

Letters from Nora Bulfin mostly written from her home Derrinlough House, Birr, County Offaly to Kathleen Barry Moloney, concerning news about her growing family, their health, the farm and arrangements between the two friends to visit each other. Kathleen Barry Moloney spent January, February and March 1950 convalescing in Nora Bulfin's home.

**1.6.2. 1920s**

Extensive series of letters from various friends, acquaintances and family members to Kathleen Barry Moloney dating to the 1920s. Letters found in the earlier part of the series mostly relate to the political situation in Ireland. Both her sister Elgin and her future husband Jim Moloney were imprisoned and on hunger strike during the period 1923–24 and those letters are described elsewhere in the collection. Later in the series the letters deal mostly with family and domestic issues, the birth of children and the struggles faced in settling into new homes and finding employment. The series is broken down by year starting in 1922. During March and April 1922 Kathleen Barry Moloney was part of a delegation that visited the USA in order to gain support and recognition for republicans. In 1924–25 she embarked on a similar mission to Australia in order to raise funds for the Reconstruction Committee of the IRPDF. The material from the missions to the USA and Australia, including correspondence, is described elsewhere in the collection.

**P94/64** 1 April–29 December 1922

37pp

Includes:

- letter from Austin Stack remarking that Kathleen Barry Moloney will be sought after for a government post and expresses the wish that they will be associated with the same department (21 December 1922).

**P94/65** 12 February–26 December 1923

49pp

Includes:

- letter from Moss Twomey concerning his experiences and his luck in 'getting away'. Refers to the fact that many of their fellow republicans and friends are now scattered and to the death of Liam Mellows and Erskine Childers. Refers to the civil war and remarks 'I wish we did win, but we have only ourselves to blame ... and deserve everything we get ... one thing appears pretty certain, namely that it will be some time before we have anything like peaceful conditions' (28 November 1923).
- letters from her future brother-in-law, Con Moloney written from Mountjoy Gaol (4–21 December 1923).
- letter from Ernie O'Malley acknowledging her letters to him. Refers to recent events, Kathleen Barry Moloney's work for the IRPDF and the best channels to use to get letters and/or parcels through to him. Asks her to write more 'plainly' to him as his eyesight has not fully recovered after the hunger strike. Continues 'Please also

**P94/65 contd**

do not refer to question of release. I did not strike for release and the question never worries me save when someone writes of it. Subjects absolut. taboo are (a) Release (b) My condition (c) Glorious (!!!) results of strike'. Refers to the condition of Austin Stack and others since the end of the hunger strike and remarks that he does not feel well enough to be out of bed. Continues: 'I think a number of our people seem to think that because I did not die when I wanted to that I am to be some kind of "big gun" if and when I recover. Nothing doing! ... I certainly think that unless we start where Pearse and co. left off that we are only hitting in the dark aimlessly. My experience of fighting, organising ... has been that there is an absolute minimum of a spiritual side to the movement'. Refers to reading material, the *Dream of Gerontius* and Milton and remarks that he has always preferred study and wonders how he ever fought (11 October, 15 December 1923).

**P94/66** 17 January–27 December 1924

59pp

Includes:

- letters from friends and family expressing their delight and relief at the news that Jim Moloney has been released from prison (14–15 July 1924).
- letter from Ellie Moloney, The Medical Hall, Tipperary wishing Kathleen Barry Moloney happiness in her marriage to her son Jim Moloney. Kathleen and Jim were married prior to her departure for Australia (5 September 1924).

**P94/67** 26 February–25 December 1925

186pp

Includes:

- letter from her sister Elgin describing how members of Cumann na mBan removed [British] flags from various buildings around Dublin marking remembrance day. Describes the sequence of events and the gathering crowd as flags were taken down and burned—some outside Trinity College. Refers to the Cumann na mBan convention and efforts by the members present to ascertain if Madame (Countess Markievicz) was intending to enter the Dáil. Remarks that after much questioning she admitted that she would enter the Dáil on the condition that the Oath was removed 'said of course there was no immediate danger as far as she knew and all that sort of thing but also spoke of "recent discussions" ... and refused to act or refused to accept the presidency of C na mBan again this year as her conscience wouldn't let her ... I don't understand her. She gave us to understand that she would do what was thought best not what she thought best' (13 November 1925).

- P94/67 contd**
- letter from Máire Nic Suibhne, 4 Belgrave Place, Cork thanking Kathleen Barry Moloney for her letter. Refers to her travels on missions and delegations and remarks that she hopes not to do anymore. Refers to the change in the presidency of Cumann na mBan. Remarks 'I am told that the censor is particularly busy with some of us lately. He is welcome to all the comfort he can get from me' (22 December 1925).

**P94/68** 7 January–8 October 1926

220pp

Includes:

- letters written in January congratulating Kathleen Barry Moloney on the birth of her twin daughters.
- letter from [Annie], Melbourne, Australia concerning mutual friends in Australia. Encloses a copy of a document concerning the Melbourne branch of Cumann na mBan, difficulties with the acting president and the resignation of some of the committee (11 January 1926).
- letter from Eamon de Valera congratulating her on the birth of her twins. Adds in a postscript: 'I am sorry you are out of town. I would like to know your view on certain questions now being discussed' (26 January 1926).
- from Máire McKee, Quambatook, Victoria, Australia referring to her journey home from Australia and that she expects to be back in England in April. Refers to the disbanded branch of Cumann na mBan in Melbourne and refers to it as having a 'very unprofitable, undignified existence of a few months'. Remarks that there were two opposing groups within the branch and despite her best efforts it was impossible to keep the peace (2 February 1926).

**P94/69** 14 January–12 October 1927

134pp

Includes:

- letters from family and friends concerning Kathleen Barry Moloney and her three children moving to the Barry family home in Tombeagh, County Carlow as a result of their changed circumstances on foot of Jim Moloney's father remarrying..
- letter from Jim's Aunt Alice in Cork to Kathleen Barry Moloney discussing the impending sale of the family business and home (11 July 1927).
- letter from Máire [?], Mount St Benedict, Gorey, County Wexford concerning the possibility of an opening for Jim Moloney in the area, particularly Ferns. Outlines the attractions of the town and hinterland and the potential for opening a medical hall. Mentions some drawbacks, namely that the Ferns area is very 'Free State' and that Jim and Kathleen would have to keep a low profile.

**P94/69 contd**

Advises that they contact two doctors in the area. Remarks 'I could drive you over there myself but it would not be a good move as they don't like me in Ferns since I held up the post office for election funds an age ago!!' (12 July 1927).

**P94/70**

3 April–1 September 1929

19pp

Includes:

- letters and telegrams from her sister Elgin concerning her journey and arrival home from a fundraising trip to the USA on behalf of St Ita's, Mary Mac Swiney's school in Cork (22 August–1 September 1929).

### **1.6.3. From her husband Jim Moloney, 1922–24; 1934**

**P94/71**

28 November 1922–11 February 1923

83pp

Letters from Jim Moloney to Kathleen Barry Moloney written to her during the civil war and in the months leading up to his arrest and internment. It would appear that the majority of the letters were written from the Glen of Aherlow, County Tipperary At the time Jim was director of communications on Liam Lynch's staff. The letters refer to various skirmishes, raids, fighting, arrests, escapes, and searches by the Free State Army.

Includes:

- letter referring to the war and wondering how long it will continue. Refers to a mutual friend Rick [?] and his resignation from the IRA 'he told me that he'd never again take part in anything for the freedom of this country. He said since the beginning of the Anglo-Irish wars the men who fought were always let down by their leaders just when things were beginning to look well. He maintained that there was never an Irish leader who was prepared to stick out for absolute independence ... I don't envy poor Dev his job. I'm sure the whole thing is terrible to him but he is so far in that he can't very well get out now' (December 1922).
- letter referring to the Deasy surrender document (a dictated document signed by Liam Deasy after his court martial and sentencing to death calling on his anti-treaty colleagues to surrender). Remarks 'I had no idea of his mind before his arrest and I can only say that he is probably honest in the step he has taken. The one awful thing about the business is his signing that document after being condemned to execution. Had he taken the line he did before his arrest he could be excused but taking it after sentence tells very much against him' (14 February 1923).

**P94/71 contd**

- letter referring to the capture of a senior republican but does not name him. Remarks that it is a 'blow' and describes it as one of the worst yet. Continues 'If they keep picking our "big fellows" up as they have been well we'll be soon out of the running. The "big fellows" count infinitely more this time than they did in the old days ... there is a terrific amount of war weariness amongst our chaps and leaders, with records, are needed to keep them together' (21 January 1923).
- letter referring to Denis Lacey, shot dead at Ballydavid, Glen of Aherlow after the house in which he was staying was surrounded by the Free State Army. Remarks 'Poor Dinny's loss is a very serious blow especially to the 3rd Tipperary brigade. Fate is surely against us'. Refers to the fact that the clergy refused to allow his remains to be brought to the chapel in Tipperary. Remarks that he and his companions spend the nights in their 'new quarters', presumably a hideout. Refers to the dampness and the rain but remarks that at least they are safe. Expresses his despair and remarks that he thinks the cause is a lost one. Wonders it here is a split between de Valera and the army chiefs (19 February 1923).

**P94/72**

12 March 1923–7 July 1924

112pp

Letters from Jim Moloney to Kathleen Barry Moloney written from Limerick County Gaol following his arrest and later from Newbridge and Harepark Camps where he was interned. Most of the letters sent from the internment camps were censored but some were smuggled out of the camps.

Includes:

- letter referring to his arrest and Kathleen Barry Moloney's release. Remarks that his pocket book containing some of her letters, cards and a photograph were seized. Reminds her that his letters will now be censored (12 March 1923).
- letter referring to prison restrictions including a ban on letters. Remarks that some of Kathleen Barry Moloney's letters have not been allowed in. Confirms he was not one of the thirty prisoners who escaped from Limerick County Gaol (5 April 1923).
- letter describing Newbridge Camp and how he prefers it to Limerick. Informs her that he is permitted to write one letter a week of no more than 400 words and that her letters to him must not exceed 400 words (21 April 1923).
- letter referring to a letter received from his mother who informed him that she intends to write to Dick Mulcahy for a pass to visit Jim Moloney. Remarks 'Dick is a very nice fellow and all that but I'm blessed if I'll have any visits of that kind ... No I don't want any favours from Dick and Co. and anyway I'm sure he'd refuse' (1 July 1923).
- letter referring to prisoner releases but remarks that he does not expect to be among them. Refers also to 'sub rosa' letters between himself and Kathleen Barry Moloney (11 October 1923).
- letter asking if there is a hunger strike in Mountjoy and

**P94/72 contd**

wondering if his brother Con is still a prisoner there. Remarks that his mother will be very concerned (17 October 1923).

- letter referring to the hunger strike in Newbridge and that they are on their 20th day. Refers to Kathleen's sister Elgin, imprisoned in the North Dublin Union and also on hunger strike 'tell her that she and the other girls may well be proud of their fight, they have shown up the poor IRA alright'. Concludes 'Remember me to everyone and tell them all that they should have no blame to anyone who gave in, that the number now on will blot out all disgrace if there's any and that it's only a matter of days now till the fight's won' (8 November 1923).
- letter referring to his move to Harepark Camp. Remarks that most of the Mountjoy and Kilmainham prisoners and others from Newbridge have also been transferred (7 January 1924).
- a 'sub rosa' letter informing her that the censor is more strict and that her letters to him have been heavily censored and that he has received a second notice from the censor warning him of receiving letters without the full name and address of the correspondent. Describes Harepark as the 'dirtiest, muddiest hole imaginable'. Continues 'everyone of importance in the IRA is here now. They are nice and quiet so far and I'm praying that they won't start any of the 'Joy fights. I want a quiet life for the rest of my time in jail and I think everyone knows by this time that the prisoners only come off a bad second best in the fights with jailers' (17 January 1924).
- letter referring to the arrival of Ernie O'Malley in Harepark. Remarks 'He is very weak of course and can't be expected to get strong till he has all the lead removed out of him. He is a marvel and needed to be to come through everything' (20 April 1924).
- letter referring to a number of releases and revision of sentences. Expresses his hope that his sentence (originally death but commuted to ten years) will also be reviewed (25 May 1924).
- letter remarking that he expects to be released any day and that the number of prisoners in the camp has been dramatically reduced (11 June 1924).
- letter referring again to his expectation of being released 'Optimism has taken the place of the anything-may-happen feeling but with it comes impatience' (1 July 1924).

**P94/73**

13–22 August 1924

14pp

Letters from Jim Moloney to Kathleen Barry Moloney written after his release from Harepark Internment Camp and while he was working in the family business, a medical hall in Tipperary and deal mainly with the arrangements for their marriage.

Includes:

- letter from Fr. John Hannon S.J. to his step-brother Jim Moloney outlining the various procedures the couple must attend to prior to their marriage and offering to perform the ceremony if they wish (13 August 1924).

**P94/74** 24 January–17 May 1934

137pp

Letters from Jim Moloney to his wife Kathleen Barry Moloney written while Jim was working as a clerk for the Irish Sugar Company in Carlow. At the time Kathleen and their five children were living in Dublin. The letters describe his work, the progress he is making, the factory, fellow employees, and lodgings.

Includes:

- letter from Seán MacEntee, Minister for Finance to Kathleen Barry Moloney acknowledging her letter of thanks for assisting her husband in securing the position in the Irish Sugar Company. Remarks: 'I and the rest of us in matters of this sort regard ourselves as trustees to do what we can for those of our people who have suffered' (24 January 1934).

#### **1.6.4. 1930s**

**P94/75** 25 October 1930–23 December 1939

204pp

Letters from various friends and acquaintances and family members to Kathleen Barry Moloney relating to domestic issues, the birth of another child to Kathleen and Jim Moloney, the family's move to Carrickmines in Dublin, Christmas and new year greetings.

Includes:

- letter from Elizabeth Yeats, Cuala Industries Limited, 13 Lower Baggott Street, Dublin asking if her daughter Helen would be interested in joining a class. Provides details of times and cost and mentions the names of some of the other pupils. Remarks how keen she is to have Helen join the class (19 September 1939). [Helen Moloney became a stained glass artist and was a founding member of Aosdána]

**P94/76** 3–27 March 1933

77pp

Letters from Jim Moloney to his wife Kathleen Barry Moloney sent during her convalescence in the Bon Secours, Cork. The letters refer to domestic issues, politics, family news, the ESB (where Kathleen Barry Moloney was employed). Jim Moloney wrote a letter to her every day during her convalescence.

**1.6.5. From her children, 1937–49**

**P94/77** 7 March 1937–4 October 1949

220pp

Large file of letters from the Moloney children to their mother Kathleen Barry Moloney sent while the children were on holiday or in the Gaeltacht or when Kathleen Barry Moloney was away from home.

**1.6.6. 1940s**

**P94/78** 1 January 1940–2December 1949

202pp

Letters from friends, acquaintances and family to Kathleen Barry Moloney.

Includes:

- letter from Lieutenant Tom Barry, “PV Fort Rannoch”. Encloses a copy of a report concerning an operation conducted by him and other crew who acted as a boarding party for an abandoned ship SS “Ceturti”. Following days of attempting to keep the ship from wreckage and attempting to secure a safe anchorage he, another Lieutenant and their commanding officer were placed under arrest on suspicion of looting from the ship. Concludes his letter ‘Must away Kitby (Kathleen Barry Moloney). Got to be off Wexford coast by dawn. Mine sweeping and I on £50 bail. Hope this is censored’ (28 January 1941).
- letter from the Honorary Secretary, National Aid Auxiliary Committee regretting Kathleen Barry Moloney’s continued illness and her inability to take part in the activities of the committee. Advises her to resign for the present and that following her recovery she can rejoin (29 May 1941).
- letter from Kathleen O’Connell, Secretary to the Taoiseach Eamon de Valera to Kathleen Barry Moloney acknowledging receipt of her letter and advises that the Taoiseach would be free to meet her concerning the confidential subject she wrote of. There is no specific reference to the confidential subject (1 May 1943).
- letter from Hannah Sheehy Skeffington, 7 Belgrave Road, Rathmines, Dublin concerning her intention to run as an independent candidate in the general election. Seeks support and donations for her campaign. Remarks ‘I have received encouraging help and support from good republicans of the old guard—such as Mrs Stack, Mrs Brugha, Madame MacBride, Mrs Sean MacBride, Miss Helena Moloney’. Encloses publicity leaflets (11 February 1943).
- copy of a circular asking for donations to a fund established on

**P94/72 contd**

behalf of Hannah Sheehy Skeffington and the memory of her husband. Remarks that Mrs Sheehy Skeffington is suffering from ill health but is obliged to continue to work to support herself (10 November 1945).

- letter from Seán MacEoin, Minister for Justice to Kathleen Barry Moloney regarding her brother Kevin Barry and enclosing a copy of a letter sent to her mother regarding the difficulty Mrs Barry has been having in visiting her son Kevin's grave in Mountjoy. Offers her the use of his car and remarks that he will accompany her on her first visit and issue her with a pass for other visits (30–31 July 1948).

### **1.6.7. 1950s**

**P94/79**

5 January 1950–21 October 1953;27 February 1956

218pp

Letter from friends, acquaintances and family to Catherine Barry. Many of the letters were received during January–March when Kathleen Barry Moloney, suffering another bout of illness, moved to Derrinlough House, Birr, County Offaly, the home of her friend Nora Bulfin. Includes

- letter from her brother Michael Barry, Tombeagh, County Carlow apologising for not calling to see her. Refers to a proposed memorial to their brother Kevin Barry in Hacketstown, and remarks that the committee would like to obtain the family's views on the proposed scheme (9 January 1950).
- letters from her daughter Mary telling her of her engagement and how happy she is (February–March 1950).
- letter from Gladys MacNevin, 43 Merrion Square, asking her to obtain Madame Gonne MacBride's autograph for a friend. The autograph on notepaper headed Roebuck House, Clonskeagh, is enclosed (27 January & 2 February 1951).
- letter from Rita Hamilton, Calcutta, India sympathising with Kathleen Barry Moloney following her mother's death (6 October 1953).

**1.7. National Organisations, Associations, Campaigns,  
Political Parties, 1932–49**

**P94/80** 15 July 1932–17 February 1939

c80pp

Correspondence, circulars, minutes, newspaper cuttings relating to the Women's Industrial Development Association (WIDA). Kathleen Barry Moloney acted as a committee member.

Includes:

- copy of the constitution and agenda of the first meeting of the executive committee (25 November 1932).
- copy of a letter from Kathleen Barry Moloney, 4 Wilton Terrace, Dublin to Alec [?], [Secretary to the Department of Finance/Industry and Commerce] enclosing a history of the publicity scheme of the WIDA with regard to manufacturers, peat and the development of the WIDA to have more influence across the country (28 June 1933).
- copy of an appeal issued by the WIDA to sixty provincial papers and periodicals to encourage people to buy Irish (not dated).
- copy of a letter to The Editor, *Irish Industry*, Abbey Buildings, Middle Abbey Street, Dublin from Kathleen Barry Moloney, 3 Palmerston Road, Dublin defending her right to membership of the WIDA and the resolution proposed by her at a WIDA general meeting that Irish goods were not priced as competitively as they should. Remarks 'It is pretty generally held by consumers and even the Minister for Industry and Commerce ... that there might be room for adjustment in the prices and quality of Irish goods'. Concludes 'I shall continue to pursue my country's welfare as I see it in any organisation to which I choose to belong—and to express my opinion freely without apology to any periodical whether representing a particular interest or not' (November 1937).

**P94/81** 5 January 1939–6 February 1947

22pp

Letters, drafts of letters, publicity leaflets, petitions, campaign material in an effort to stop the executions of Charles Kerins, Dermot Smyth, Patrick McGrath, Tom Harte, Tomás MacCurtain, Richard McCormack, Peter Barnes, [?] Kearns, Henry White.

**P94/82** 13 September 1946–29 September 1948

125pp

Letters, circulars, policy statements, printed matter relating to the newly formed political party, Clann na Poblachta.

Includes:

- circular from Michael A. O’Kelly, Honorary Secretary, Clann na Poblachta to Jim Moloney, 3 Palmerston Road, Dublin outlining the aims and objectives of the new party and seeking support to establish branches of the party in order to raise funds and a copy of an outline of provisional policy (13 September 1946).
- cutting from the *Irish Times* reporting on the Árd Fheis of Clann na Poblachta and the election of members to serve on the National Executive (1 December 1947).
- copies of *The Clann*, a weekly publication issued by Clann na Poblachta (21 December 1947–1 February 1948).
- draft of a speech in Kathleen Barry Moloney’s handwriting concerning nominations for the forthcoming general election (1948).
- draft of a letter from [Kathleen Barry Moloney] to [Seán MacBride] congratulating [him] on the success of Clann na Poblachta in the general election and the formation of the Inter Party government. Remarks ‘Only your party could have brought about the downfall of Fianna Fáil and in this Inter Party effort I see tremendous hope for the growth of free public opinion’ [1948].

**P94/83** 8 November 1948–25 May 1949

12pp

Circulars, minutes and draft constitution relating to the Irish Housewives Association.

## **1.8. Employment**

### **1.8.1. General, 1933–34**

**P94/84** Not dated

2pp

Copy of a reference letter on behalf of Kathleen Barry Moloney written by E.A. Aston, Secretary, The Proportional Representation Society of Ireland, 66 Middle Abbey Street. Kathleen Barry Moloney acted as assistant secretary and private secretary to E.A. Aston over a number of years. Annotated.

**P94/85** 11 January 1933–25 July 1934

10pp

Correspondence concerning Kathleen Barry Moloney's application for reinstatement in the Civil Service.

### **1.8.2. ESB**

#### **1.8.2.1. Sales Publicity Advisor, 1930–51**

**P94/86** 11 May 1930–29 October 1951

79pp

Mostly correspondence concerning Kathleen Barry Moloney's employment as Sales Publicity Advisor with the Electricity Supply Board (ESB).

Includes:

- correspondence relating to the twelfth annual conference of the Electrical Association for Women, 20 Regent Street, London. Kathleen Barry Moloney attended as a delegate and speaker at the opening session of the conference (5 February–3 April 1937).
- copy of a letter from Kathleen Barry Moloney to F.A. Lawler, Publicity Manager, ESB requesting him to ask the Board to consider adjusting her salary in light of Mr Lawler's resignation and the extra work that this will entail. Remarks that she has not had an increase in her salary since 1932 and that she is not graded. Refers to the humiliation of having to ask for a bonus each year and suggests that she should be graded. 'You will appreciate ... that your resignation is bound to throw upon me a much increased volume of work and responsibility. This I shall welcome, but I do feel that the Board owes me at least the recognition of grading and increments enjoyed by practically every other member of its staff (29 November 1945).
- letter from the Secretary of Staff Section, ESB, 60–62 Merrion Street, Dublin to Kathleen Barry Moloney, Public Relations Department informing her that the Board has decided to appoint her to its graded staff at a salary of £530 per annum (24 September 1946).
- correspondence relating to Kathleen Barry Moloney's decision to bring a claim for grading her position in the ESB to the Permanent Tribunal, represented by her union, the ATGWU. The case appears to have arisen due to the lack of reorganisation of the Publicity Department and a perception that there was not sufficient work in the Department for Kathleen Barry Moloney (25 March–5 April 1949).
- letter from the Secretary to the Board, ESB to Kathleen Barry Moloney regretting her decision to step down from her duties and retire due to ill health (9 September 1949).

- P94/86 contd**     ▪ correspondence relating to her pension following her retirement on medical grounds (17, 29 October, 29 November 1949).

**P94/87**           12 November 1936–3 November 1949

48pp

Letters from various individuals to Kathleen Barry Moloney seeking, on behalf of themselves, family or friends, Kathleen Barry Moloney's assistance in securing employment in the ESB.

#### **1.8.2.2. Staff Committees and ATGWU Representative, 1942–50**

Series of files relating to the Permanent Pensions and Staff Representative Committee of the ESB.

**P94/88**           27 April 1942–2 April 1946

23pp

Includes:

- notes, copies of reports, copies of correspondence relating to the medical benefits scheme for employees of the ESB.

**P94/89**           12 January 1943–14 April 1948

103pp

Includes:

- copies of reports, general circulars, copies of correspondence, statements of accounts, memoranda issued by the Honorary Secretary of the committee.

**P94/90**           24 August 1944–30 December 1947

39pp

Includes:

- copies of notices and agendas for meeting of the committee.

**P94/91** 15 September 1943–14 July 1950

1083pp

Extensive file of notes, copies of correspondence, memoranda, printed matter, membership details, copies of minutes, agendas relating to the ESB/ATGWU Staff Council and Kathleen Barry Moloney's role as the ATGWU representative for women staff in the ESB. The file does not deal exclusively with employment matters relating to female staff but the majority of the material does relate to efforts of the union and its representatives to improve the working conditions of female staff employed by the ESB. The extensive nature of the file reflect the numerous meetings attended by Kathleen Barry Moloney and the lengthy negotiations she participated in mostly between 1937–47 concerning grading of staff, promotions, wages, pay scales, employee's superannuation scheme, charter proposals for different grades of staff, establishment of a tribunal, medical benefit scheme, conditions of employment. A good deal of the file is taken up with material relating to pay scales in the context of the Wages Standstill Order implemented during the second world war and finally lifted in 1946. This resulted in wages paid to ESB staff far below cost of living expenses. By 1947 the Labour Court and government policy had introduced a new national wage structure which was not implemented immediately by the ESB resulting in protracted negotiations with the union over a number of years.

**P94/92** 5 July 1945–28 July 1947

65pp

Notes, proposals for a constitution, reports, copies of minutes and agendas, various drafts, copies of correspondence relating to the ESB Engineering and Clerical Staff Committee. The committee was established in July 1945 'for the sole purpose of working for the repeal of the Emergency Powers (No. 260) Order, 1943, popularly known as the "Wages Standstill" order' (5 July 1945). In July 1947 a resolution was passed by the committee to wind up its activities and transfer all the powers and functions to the ESB Salaried Staff Conference (28 July 1947).

**P94/93** [30 November 1946]; 5 May 1948–27 May 1949

67pp

Mostly notes compiled by Kathleen Barry Moloney relating to ESB manual workers cases A, B, C, D and E presented to the Labour Court. The cases highlighted the day to day hardships experienced by the families in the five cases and the need for an increase in salary for manual workers due to the difference between their income and cost of living expenses.

## **2. BARRY FAMILY**

### **2.1. Kevin Barry, 1919–68**

**P94/94** 28 November 1919

6 items

Mementos, personal items relating to Kevin Barry.

Includes:

- programme of Kevin Barry's first dance held at the town hall, Athy, County Kildare (28 November 1919).
- letter from his friend Bapty Maher (who later married one of Kevin's sisters, Shel), 37 Duke Street, Athy, County Kildare concerning dress suits he has arranged to be sent to Kevin's address in Dublin (not dated).
- note from Kevin to his sister Kathleen Barry Moloney asking her to let him know if the suits arrive in Dublin (not dated).
- black and white photographs possibly showing Kevin playing rugby and with a group of his friends (not dated).

**P94/95** 11 February 1920–28 August 1954

151pp

Correspondence, newspaper cuttings, poems, printed matter concerning various memorials and commemorations in honour of Kevin Barry. Also newspaper cuttings reporting on his sentence and execution.

Includes:

- draft proposal document outlining the administration of The Kevin Barry Memorial Fund by the Trustees of The Kevin Barry Memorial Club and the details of the Trust property at 44 Parnell Square, the duties of the Trustees, the constitution of The Kevin Barry Memorial Club. Annotated (not dated).
- souvenir programme of a first anniversary concert held at the Theatre Royal in Dublin organised by The Kevin Barry Memorial Club (15 November 1922).
- correspondence between Kathleen Barry Moloney and the Kevin Barry Memorial Committee concerning a forthcoming concert and the wishes of the Barry family that the proceeds of the concert be diverted to the Prisoner's Dependents Fund or the Released Prisoners Committee (6 November 1923).
- a reply from the Kevin Barry Memorial Committee informing her that the committee feel they cannot divert the funds and must go ahead with the concert for the purpose originally intended (10 November 1923).
- newspaper cuttings reporting on the unveiling of a memorial window dedicated to Kevin Barry erected by students in the council chamber of University College Dublin (2 November 1934).

*Kathleen Barry Moloney Papers*

- P94/95 contd**
- copy of the *Irish Digest* with an article entitled 'Remembering Kevin Barry' by P. Barry Moloney (November 1945).
  - letter from Dan Breen, 9 St Kevin's Park, Dartry, Dublin (but written on Leinster House headed notepaper) to Kathleen Barry Moloney enclosing a poem about Kevin Barry written by a Tipperary monk, Fr Colmcille, Mellifont Abbey, County Louth (8 July 1948).
  - invitation, exhibition catalogue and acknowledgement of material loaned to an exhibition celebrating the centenary of the Catholic University of Ireland (9 July–28 August 1954).

**P94/96** 31 October 1920

1 item (20cmx15cm)

Black and white photograph taken outside Mountjoy the day before Kevin Barry's execution. The photograph depicts an armoured car and soldier in the foreground and a gathering of people outside the gates of the prison.

**P94/97** Not dated

2 items (25cmx15cm)

Black and white photographs depicting members of the Kevin Barry Irish Pipe Band, Boston dressed in their uniforms and with their instruments.

**P94/98** 1 December 1933–30 September 1938

12pp

File of correspondence relating to Kevin Barry.

Includes:

- letter from John Brennan, 58 Upper Mount Pleasant Avenue, Ranelagh to Kathleen Barry Moloney thanking her for her help and the information she gave him for a book he is writing. Refers to her brother, Kevin Barry and remarks that he would like to write a short biography if the Barry family would permit him (1 December 1933).
- letter from John Brennan to Kathleen Barry Moloney regarding his work on Kevin Barry's life. Remarks that he has written to her mother requesting an interview and that he would like her to be present. Refers to the inaccuracies relating to the second rescue attempt of Kevin Barry and his attempts to get the matter 'properly straightened out with Oscar Traynor and Seán Russell' (28 May 1934).

**P94/99** 10 March 1937–18 January 1940

11pp

Correspondence relating to Mrs Mary Barry's application for a Military Service Pension in respect of her deceased son Kevin Barry.

Includes:

- copy of a letter from Mrs Mary Barry to Frank Aiken, Minister for Defence outlining her changed circumstances which has necessitated her applying for a pension [1937?].
- notice from the Department of Defence, Finance Branch, Coláiste Caoimhín, Glasnevin, Dublin to Mrs Mary Barry, 8 Fleet Street, Dublin informing her that no award can be made as the Minister is not satisfied that she was dependent on her son Kevin Barry (18 January 1940).

**P94/100** 19 June 1938

6pp

Correspondence, newspaper cuttings concerning a proposal to erect a memorial plaque at the location of Kevin Barry's arrest, North King Street, Dublin by members of 'H' Company, 1st Battalion, Dublin Brigade, Old IRA.

**P94/101** 26 April–3 May 1949

13pp

Newspaper cuttings, correspondence, copies of correspondence, copies of statements concerning a report published in the *Irish Press* on a speech made by Oscar Traynor at the Harry Boland Fianna Fáil Cumann and comments relating to a rescue plan for Kevin Barry as he awaited execution and a claim that the family refused to allow the plan to proceed.

Includes:

- copy of the report published in the *Irish Press* (22 April 1949).
- copy of a letter from the Barry family solicitor Seán Ó hUadhaigh, 51 Dawson Street, Dublin to the Editor calling on the paper to publish a disclaimer and an apology. Provides the wording of the disclaimer (26 April 1949).
- copy of a letter from William Sweetman, Editor of the *Irish Press* outlining the steps the paper has taken in publishing as many relevant facts relating to the proposed rescue of Kevin Barry. Remarks 'We have given our readers all the relevant information at our disposal and I do not see that there is anything more that we can do in fairness to Mrs Barry'. Continues 'The apology which you now ask us to publish implies that we questioned Mrs Barry's loyalty as a citizen of the Irish Republic. That suggestion is without foundation. It also declares that Mr Traynor made a false

- P94/101 contd** statement about an incident in which he took part. That is a matter on which we are not qualified to judge. We can only give the relevant information at our disposal, which we have done' (1 May 1949).
- letter from Seán Ó hUadhaigh to Mrs Barry, 3 Molesworth Street, Dublin advising her not to pursue the matter any further (3 May 1949).

**P94/102** 30 September 1952; 19 November 1964

71pp

Copy of Kathleen Barry Moloney's witness statement to the Bureau of Military History (BMH). The statement refers to her involvement in national activities during the war of independence but the majority of the statement is taken up with information about her brother Kevin Barry, his involvement with 'H' Company, 1st Battalion, his arrest, court martial, affidavit describing his ill treatment, efforts to secure a reprieve, rescue plans, last visit, execution.

Includes:

- a note in Kathleen Barry Moloney's handwriting remarking that she loaned her copy of her witness statement to James O'Donovan for his research on Kevin Barry. The other documents referred to in the note have been transferred to P94/104 so that all the relevant documentation relating to the James O'Donovan articles published in the *Irish Press* and his unpublished manuscript are kept together in the one file (19 November 1964).

**P94/103** 1 February–28 April 1956; 17 September–30 December 1958

31pp & 9 black and white photographs

Correspondence, photographs, invitations, guest list concerning the erection and unveiling of the Rathvilly Kevin Barry Memorial.

Includes

- copy of the plans of the memorial and a covering letter from P.M. Barnard, County Engineer, Carlow County Council outlining the design of the memorial, its location in Rathvilly and cost (1 February & 28 April 1956).
- letter from Sighle Humphreys, 18 Eglinton Park, Donnybrook, Dublin to Kathleen Barry Moloney, 3 Palmerston Road, Rathmines, Dublin 6 enclosing lines from St Patrick's breast plate and from a poem by Padraig Pearse as suggestions for the Kevin Barry memorial (16 September 1958).
- black and white photographs of the unveiling ceremony by Mrs Tom Clarke at Rathvilly on Sunday, 2 November 1958.

**P94/104** 6 July 1960–29 August 1964

115pp

Notes, newspaper cuttings, correspondence, copies of correspondence concerning James O'Donovan (Commandant-General Headquarters Staff of the Army of the Republic during 1920–21) and his articles on Kevin Barry published in the *Irish Press*.

Includes:

- draft letter from Kathleen Barry Moloney to James O'Donovan (who was also her brother in law) regarding these articles and an unpublished manuscript of a book on Kevin Barry's life by James O'Donovan. Takes issue with a number of statements made by James O'Donovan and appears not to support his work on Kevin Barry. It is unclear if the letters were sent (29 August 1964).
- notes by Kathleen Barry Moloney concerning her brother's court martial, affidavit, Kevin's Barry's own account of his part in the action that took place on North King Street on 20th September 1920, the first rescue attempt, the second rescue plan and last visit, Kevin Barry and his family's attitude towards a reprieve. A covering note in Kathleen Barry Moloney's handwriting suggests that she prepared the notes after she read James O'Donovan's manuscript *Trial and Death of Kevin Barry* [1963?].
- note in Kathleen Barry Moloney's handwriting outlining her contact with Jim O'Donovan after reading his manuscript, the number of discrepancies she found in the manuscript, her own investigations to corroborate her memory of events relating to her brother, notes she supplied to Jim O'Donovan and a comment relating to the booklet about her brother by Seán Cronin which she helped with and admires as an accurate account. Refers also to the witness statement she made to the Bureau of Military History (BMH) about her brother and the various appendices she supplied to the BMH to accompany her statement (19 November 1964).

**P94/105** 26 April–17 July 1962

16pp

File of correspondence relating to a proposed film about Kevin Barry.

Includes:

- letter from John Patrick Kelly, Head of Research, Confederate Films, 2 Talmouth Road, Croxteth, Liverpool to Kathleen Barry Moloney, 4 Winton Avenue, Rathgar, Dublin 6 enclosing a list of questions about Kevin Barry (1 June 1962).
- draft reply (which was not sent) answering the questions and a further draft and typed copy that was sent (21 June 1962).
- letter from John Patrick Kelly to Kathleen Barry Moloney informing her that the film company have decided not to pursue the project any further (5 July 1962).
- copy of a reply expressing her and her family's relief that the project has been dropped (17 July 1962).

**P94/106** 22 April–30 April 1966; 25 July 1968

33pp

Material relating to Kevin Barry lent by the Barry family for a 1916 Exhibition at Loreto Convent Balbriggan.

Includes:

- black and white portrait photograph of Kevin Barry (14.5cmx10.5cm, not dated).
- photostat copy of the sworn affidavit by Kevin Barry detailing the physical abuse he suffered during his detainment (28 October 1920).
- letter from Mother Regis, Loreto Convent, Balbriggan to Kathleen Barry Moloney thanking her for the material she loaned to the exhibition (30 April 1966).
- note in Kathleen Barry Moloney's handwriting explaining the reasons why Kevin Barry made the affidavit. Remarks that she was advised by Seán Ó Muirthuile (appointed as the liaison for Kevin Barry's family after his arrest) to arrange for the Barry family solicitor Seán Ó hUadhaigh to go into Mountjoy to take the statement from Kevin. The view was that if this statement was published in the international press a reprieve may be forthcoming. Once the statement was recorded Kathleen Barry Moloney took it to Arthur Griffith's office in Pearse Street where it was handed to Desmond FitzGerald, Dáil Éireann Minister for Publicity. The statement did not appear in the press until Monday morning 1st November. An additional note in Kathleen Barry Moloney's handwriting gives further details about the affidavit and waiting in Arthur Griffith's office for Desmond FitzGerald to arrive. Remarks 'Dick McKee's idea was to have it in the press of the world on Saturday (this was Thursday evening) I wanted to type it myself to make sure ... it appeared in the press of the world on Monday 1st November too late to do any good' (25 July 1968).

## **2.2. Elgin Barry, 1923**

**P94/107** 2 April–24 November 1923

23pp

Mostly letters from Elgin (Eileen Barry) to her sister Kathleen Barry Moloney during her imprisonment and hunger strike, describing her feelings, the rumours that the women hear from outside the prison and the possibility of their release.

Includes:

- copy of a letter from Kathleen Barry Moloney, 8 Fleet Street, Dublin to Senator Douglas, outlining the facts surrounding her sister and seven other women on hunger strike in the North Dublin Union (20 November 1923).

**P94/108** [1929?]

2pp

Copies of extracts from letters between the Committee of St Ita's High School Endowment Fund (Mary Mac Swiney's school in Cork) and Kathleen Barry Moloney concerning her sister Elgin who travelled to the USA in order to raise funds for the school, the length of time she has been away and a possible extension to her trip.

### **2.3. Mrs Mary Barry, 1941-42; 1953**

**P94/109** 8 November 1941-12 September 1942

14pp

Correspondence and statements of account concerning the estate of Patrick Dowling, brother of Mrs Mary Barry, grocer and wine merchant in Terenure and the South Circular Road. Patrick Dowling died in 1941, aged 64 and his estate was divided between his two siblings, Mary and Michael.

**P94/110** September 1953

1 item

Acknowledgement card from the Barry family to be sent to those who sympathised with them following the death of Mrs Mary Barry.

**P94/111** September 1953

1 item

Draft of a note written by Kathleen Barry Moloney on a Christmas card to Eamon de Valera thanking him for attending her mother's funeral. Remarks that the family were not expecting him and apologises that none of them thanked him personally for his attendance. Remarks: 'My mother served the Republic since it was proclaimed in 1916 and she was always proud that in Tombeagh (the Barry family home in County Carlow) she had been honoured to act as hostess to you as the President.'

### **3. JIM MOLONEY**

#### **3.1. National Activities, 1920–48**

**P94/112** [15 September 1920; 4 December 1925]

16pp

Notes compiled by Jim Moloney during his involvement with the Volunteers during the war of independence, relating to training including lectures, the organisation of parades, manoeuvres, equipment and personnel.

**P94/113** 4 January–8 March 1923

55pp

Letters from Kathleen Barry Moloney to Jim Moloney prior to his arrest by the Free State Army on 7 March 1923, his initial imprisonment in Limerick and subsequent transfers to Newbridge and Harepark Internment Camps, referring to their relationship, the civil war, the precarious nature of their lives, events they personally experienced, and Kathleen Barry Moloney's work for the Prisoners Dependents Fund.

Includes:

- letter referring to Liam Deasy and the rumour that he is in Arbour Hill Prison and that he will be shot. Remarks that the President (Eamon de Valera) did not know of Deasy's capture and that it was she who wrote to inform him (31 January 1923).
- letter expressing her worry that Jim will be found and arrested by government forces. Implores him to be vigilant: 'I don't want to cherish a hero's memory for the rest of my life ... Jim it's fine to have somebody you love die for his country but it's awful lonely'. Refers to her continuing work for the Prisoners Dependents Fund and how relieved she is that she does not have to give it up. Remarks that the work takes up a huge amount of her time and is made more difficult by having to work from three different places to ensure her papers will not be confiscated. Describes her presence in the Hammam Hotel and remarks that he (Jim) has the wrong impression of what happened. Provides him with a detailed account of her presence in the hotel and her determination to remain there until the bitter end. Describes a conversation with Cathal Brugha and the moment she eventually left the burning hotel. 'Soon afterwards Brugha ordered me out of the hotel and to surrender ... and then he rushed out and turned up the lane with his revolver. The Staters couldn't be blamed for shooting him because he wanted to be shot. He wasn't trying to get away. He was trying to give his life and he succeeded'. Apologises to Jim for her lengthy explanation of the events but remarks 'I love those three days at the end because I feel I was nearly as useful as a man and you don't know how helpless a feeling it is to be a woman when you feel you ought to be a man' (31 January 1923).
- letter referring to her work in Cork carrying dispatches but ending

**P94/113 contd**

up being in the wrong part of the country with nothing to do and feeling frustrated. Describes her feelings when told by de Valera that there was work for her in the 3 Southern. Remarks that at about the same time news of Harry Boland's death reached them 'and Dev was miserable and Kathleen O'Connell cried in the car all the way to Clonmel while I held her in my arms and watched the grey look on Dev's face. He loved Harry. Most people did. You couldn't help it. It was awful and I felt lost and lonely and miserable' (January 1923).

- letter referring to Liam Deasy in a postscript. Remarks how sorry she feels for him. 'I wish he had been killed fighting. Of course it couldn't have been personal fear but Oh why couldn't he stick it out? Such a ghastly thing to happen us and him. It is such a victory for them in morale. But we will pull along somehow it's Liam himself I'm so awful sad about' (4 February 1923).
- letter referring again to Liam Deasy and describing his explanation for his actions as 'pitiful' (10 February 1923).
- letter written from Cork City Jail. Describes her journey to Cork and her arrest. Remarks that she was forcibly searched and despite her best efforts papers relating to the Prisoners Dependents Fund were found on her. Describes her treatment in jail and remarks that they have been decent to her. Remarks that it was a man from Dublin who recognised her at the station and tipped off the authorities (27 February 1923).
- letter written from Cork City Jail. Describes in more detail her attempts to destroy the papers she was carrying but that she was unsuccessful. Refers to the conditions in the jail and her personal circumstances. Remarks that she is considering going on hunger strike but is waiting for instructions on the matter (3 March 1923).
- letter written from Cork County Jail. Remarks that she has been on and off hunger strike since her last letter because of her transfer to the County Jail and her imprisonment alongside criminals. Remarks that she was transferred back to the City Jail but that a Miss Flynn was left in the County Jail and she refused to eat until they transferred her. Asks Jim not to be cross with her for going on hunger strike 'But it's the only effective thing when there's some principle at stake ...' (8 March 1923)

**P94/114**

10 March 1935–29 January 1948

54pp

Application form, copies of statements, letters, memorandum, newspaper cutting, and certificates concerning Jim Moloney's successful application for a Military Service Pension.

Includes:

- full copy of Jim Moloney's application form giving details of his service, 1916–23. Also copies of statements and letters supporting his application from Senator Quirke, Seán Fitzpatrick, Seán Moylan TD, Ernie O'Malley, and his brother Con Moloney (10 March 1935–23 July 1937).

### **3.2. Imprisonment and Internment, 1923–25**

Series of files of letters from Kathleen Barry Moloney to Jim Moloney written during his imprisonment in Limerick County Jail and his subsequent transfers to Newbridge and Harepark Internment Camps during the civil war period. Many of the letters passed through the censor which limited their length and topics that could be mentioned. On occasion Kathleen Barry Moloney was unable to get letters past the censor and sent them secretly into the camps. She describes these as 'sub rosa' letters. Similarly Jim Moloney was able to use the same channel to get letters out to her. The letters refer to their relationship (at this stage the couple were engaged to be married), the ongoing political situation, the civil war, hunger strikes, news about their families and mutual friends.

**P94/115** 10 March–27 May 1923

67pp

Includes:

- letter asking Jim why letters and parcels are being turned away. Refers to the difficulty in visiting him. Remarks that she has seen his mother who is in good form and that she longs for the war to be over. 'I always feel a horrible grudge against Mick [Collins] for starting it until I remember—and then I have to forgive him again' (26 March 1923).
- letter remarking that she has heard a rumour that Jim was one of the men who escaped. Refers to the war: 'the military situation is much better than it was 3 months ago—that's from the horse's mouth. No surrender is still the attitude. The feeling is we'll beat them in a few months' (5 April 1923).
- letter confirming that her sister Elgin is in jail, most likely in Mountjoy and that her other sister Monty was arrested but released (6 April 1923).
- letter referring to the cease fire and her frustration that she cannot write the things she wants to write as she knows the letter will be censored. A note written by the censor informs Jim that future letters in excess of 400 words will not be passed (30 April 1923).
- letter informing Jim that her sister Elgin along with all the other women prisoners have been transferred to the North Dublin Union. Remarks, 'It must be horrid for Elgin to be there because Kev was tortured there' (6 May 1923).
- letter referring to Seán Hayes, the governor of Newbridge. Remarks that she has heard that he is a decent man. 'I can only say that if one letter a week is his idea of decency I hope he remains decent ... that wretched Limerick man Hayes. You said he was a decent sort too but he's not. He told your mother and Jo that he had an awful job reading my letters between the writing and the length—and that I "must be a second Mary MacSwiney". I

**P94/115 contd**

ask you! That man, no matter what you say about him, is mine enemy and I hope the war will soon be over and that I'll have a chance to make him eat his words' (10 May 1923).

- letter referring to her sister Elgin's release and how happy she is. Remarks that Jim's mother and Jo have been to see his brother Con in Limerick (14 May 1923).
- letter remarking that her sister Elgin has not been released after all and that it is three weeks since she received a letter from her (23 May 1923).
- letter sent to Jim secretly, past the censor. Expresses her wish that the war was over. Refers to past incidents and recalls conversations with the 'Chief' [Liam Lynch]. Continues: 'I'll be a long time forgetting the horror of the time of the Chief's death and afterwards ... I have nightmares about it still and wake up crying ... The last time I saw the Chief was Holy Thursday and he asked me to go to the 3rd Southern. I found Matt was dead and when I got where I was to meet the Chief he was dead'. Refers also to a recent conversation she had with Gavan Duffy. Remarks: 'He was deploring the war and I had a most extraordinary sensation. It was the only time since the war actually started that I'd been talking to one of the signatories of the Treaty (except Barton in the Hammam) and I thought of his frightful responsibility of which he himself seemed at least to be unconscious' (27 May 1923).

**P94/116**

6 June–23 September 1923

76pp

Includes:

- letter referring to her work for the Prisoners Dependents Fund and describes it as 'heart breaking'. Remarks that they have practically no money (6 June 1923).
- letter remarking that she has heard that Dan Breen is in Mountjoy and that she is trying to find out if Con (Jim's brother) has also been moved to Mountjoy. Refers to her sister Elgin and remarks that she has heard from a recently released prisoner, Máire Deegan, that Elgin is doing well (6 June 1923).
- letter referring to a friend Stephen M. [O'N?] who she met for a short time. Remarks that he is to be sent to Mountjoy or Newbridge. Refers to another acquaintance, Finnerty from Washington and the debt of gratitude she owes both men since her visit to America. Remarks 'Stephen said he'd been in D wing in Mountjoy and had been in Kev's cell and the place where he was executed' (8 June 1923).
- letter referring to her work for the Prisoners Dependents Fund and how much of her time and energy it has taken up. Remarks that she contacted both Aiken and de Valera and asked to be released from her duties but to no avail (8 June 1923).
- letter sent secretly referring to the Republican position and remarks that the South 'got a horrible cleaning-up' but that the West remains strong. Refers to rumours that the elections will be held in September while the prisoners are still in jail. Remarks

**P94/116 contd**

that Cosgrave does not receive a positive reception in most parts of the country apart from Limerick and that as a result he may opt to stand for Limerick in the election. Remarks: 'There's a great turn of feeling in our favour. There's no doubt of our being a republic in a very short time ... Our position is very good but we may possibly not put up candidates. You see if they keep in the prisoners—we can't'. Remarks that if the Executive decide to carry on she will support them, 'if they don't it's not for me or any other woman having a fairly soft time to try and push them into war again ... Unless the Free State goes in the election there'll be war sometime—no doubt of that—there's no slackness of principle, in fact everybody seems tougher ... we're just taking a little rest'. (27 June 1923).

- letter asking Jim if there are any Hammam men in Newbridge with him and if so to tell them that she placed a wreath on Cathal Brugha's grave on their behalf (16 July 1923).
- notes written by the censor to Jim Moloney informing him that two letters from Kathleen Barry Moloney have been confiscated due to 'objectionable misstatements' and 'abusive language' (26 July & 20 August 1923).
- letter describing an election rally in Kilkenny and remarks that the republicans had great support but that things became quite heated between the two sides. Expresses the opinion that her brother Mick stands a good chance in the constituency and that the republicans appear to have much greater support throughout Carlow than Cosgrave (27 August 1923).
- letter remarking that her brother did not get elected but that she was very heartened by the support in Carlow (3 September 1923).
- letter remarking that she heard from her sister Shel that the Barry family home in Tombeagh was raided by Free State forces and that her brother's motor bike was taken (14 September 1923).

**P94/117**

1 October–30 November 1923

75pp

Includes:

- letter remarking that she has heard Elgin is to be released from the North Dublin Union but that she won't believe it until she sees her (1 October 1923).
- letter referring to Moss Twomey's escape from Mountjoy disguised as one of the warders (6 October 1923).
- letter referring to the hunger strikes and the conditions that prompted them. Remarks that she has heard Austin Stack is very weak and that Ernie O'Malley would not last long if he joins the hunger strike (17 October 1923).
- letter remarking that she heard Newbridge is now on hunger strike. Refers to the vigil outside Mountjoy in support of the hunger strikers (19 October 1923).
- letter remarking that she attended the vigil outside Mountjoy with her sister Monty and that buckets of cold water were thrown over the crowds (21 October 1923).

- P94/117 contd**
- letter telling Jim about his brother Con who is also on hunger strike in Mountjoy. Remarks that he is very weak. Refers to Seán Gaynor whose wife arranged for a doctor to visit him and that a doctor has also visited Ernie O'Malley (6 November 1923).
  - letter telling Jim about her sister Elgin who was due to be released from the North Dublin Union. Remarks that she and five others refused to take a drink before being released and as a result remain imprisoned until she agrees to come off hunger strike. Expresses how angry she is and apologises for the tone of her letter. 'If they think they can break her in the Union where Kev wouldn't inform they'll find out their mistake' (8 November 1923).
  - letter remarking that she was unsuccessful in getting Dr Magennis in to see Jim's brother Con, and that she has applied again for him to see her sister Elgin. Expresses her worry over Elgin (17 November 1923).
  - letter expressing how anxious she is for her sister Elgin and remarks that she has the same sense of foreboding she had for her brother Kevin, 'the feeling that she's trapped and has to face a terrible thing and that she is so young to have to face it. He'll (Kevin) help her through ... and he'll help you through too. I never realised till now how wonderful he was—to face certain death for over a week and never show anything but a brave face to it' (20 November 1923).
  - letter expressing how relieved she is that the hunger strike is over and that Jim and Elgin have survived (25 November 1923).
  - letter telling Jim that Elgin has been released and although weak is in good spirits (30 November 1923).

**P94/118** 2–31 December 1923

51pp

Includes:

- letter telling Jim that his brother Con has been released (26 December 1923).

**P94/119** 4 January–31 March 1924

86pp

Includes:

- letter referring to Jim's transfer to Harepark (4 January 1924).
- note from the censor asking Kathleen Barry Moloney to make her handwriting more legible as it takes longer to go through her letters than those of any other correspondent (13 March 1924).

**P94/120** 5 April–9 July 1924

101pp

Includes:

- letter telling Jim about her recall to Dublin from the west due to a crisis in the Irish Republican Prisoners Dependents Fund. Remarks that it is bankrupt and will have to be wound up unless she can find a way out. Remarks that the IRPDF has been existing from week to week relying on funds from America but that this source has now stopped (8 April 1924).
- letter telling Jim that she longs for him to be released and that she is convinced he will be out by July. Refers to events over the last few years and remarks: ‘When the history of this time comes to be written Paddy Rutledge and Frank Aiken should rank beside the best in all the 700 years—because they’ve held on to the Republic and the people who are in jail owe them a debt for that ... they held on under the most terrible difficulties not the least of which was the different opinions held by lots of us rank and file’ (7 May 1924).
- letter telling Jim about her job canvassing for the election in Limerick and how much work it is to get around to all the streets and houses. Remarks that she is to lunch with Mary MacSwiney (27 May 1924).
- letter referring to the old police station in College Street painted bright green by the Dublin Cumann na mBan with the words ‘Aonach Tailteann Head Office’ (16 June 1924).
- letter remarking that she attended a memorial celebration for Cathal Brugha and that there was a very good turn out (7 July 1924).

**P94/121** 8 July–3 September 1924

47pp

Letters from Kathleen Barry Moloney to Jim Moloney following his release from Harepark and prior to her trip to Australia as part of a delegation to raise funds for the Reconstruction Committee of the IRPDF. The letters deal mostly with the couple’s dilemma of whether they should marry before Kathleen Barry Moloney’s departure for Australia, their attempts at making arrangements for the wedding with no definite date of departure and reactions by their friends and family to the news of their marriage.

**P94/122** 1 November 1923–6 April 1925

79pp

Letters from various correspondents to Jim Moloney during his internment in Newbridge and Harepark, including letters from released prisoners and during the period of Kathleen Barry Moloney's visit to Australia.

**P94/123** 14 November 1923–25 April 1924

16pp

Notes, correspondence concerning Jim Moloney's internment in Harepark, The Curragh, County Kildare and the hunger strike undertaken by republican internees at the time.

Includes:

- letter from the Office of the Adjutant General, General Headquarters, Parkgate Street, Dublin, to Kathleen Barry Moloney refusing her request for a doctor to visit Jim Moloney in prison (16 November 1923).
- letter from the Office of Director of Medical Services, general Headquarters, Parkgate Street, Dublin to Kathleen Barry Moloney, 8 Fleet Street, Dublin informing her that the authorities have refused the right to admit any medical consultant to examine Jim Moloney but that if she provides a list of consultants he will arrange a visit (19 November 1923).
- letter written by [OC Kilmainham Prison] to Jim Moloney [OC Harepark] informing him that the Kilmainham prisoners are more or less unanimous in wanting to call off the hunger strike. Remarks: 'The leaders believe that by M. Kilroy taking the responsibility on himself for ending the strike and by stating we are doing so on Cardinal Logue's offer that something valuable may be achieved and that most of the prisoners will be released before Xmas. Mountjoy agrees with this position and is coming off' (23 November 1923).
- telegram from Jim Moloney to Kathleen Barry Moloney informing her that the hunger strike has been called off (23 November 1923).

### **3.3. Correspondence Received**

#### **3.3.1. General, 1920–39**

**P94/124** 9 May 1920; 24 June 1926–8 January 1934

59pp

Letter from various correspondents to Jim Moloney concerning various vacant positions he applied for in chemist shops, pharmacies, ESB. Also details relating to his income tax affairs, letters of recommendation, letters of application for various positions of employment.

Includes:

- draft of a letter from Jim Moloney to his father regarding the latter's forthcoming marriage and the changed circumstances that will arise concerning the management and ownership of the family medical hall. Asks his father to reconsider certain arrangements and proposes a legal partnership to satisfy all parties concerned [1927?].
- draft of a letter from Jim Moloney to Frank Aiken, Minister for Defence seeking his assistance in securing a position in his department (14 February 1933).
- reply explaining that he would have liked to offer Jim a position on the pensions board but that there is already a representative from Tipperary serving on the board (20 February 1933).

**P94/125** 14 February 1923–9 April 1925

51pp

Letters from members of the Barry family to Jim Moloney mostly dating to the time of Kathleen Barry Moloney's trip to Australia on behalf of the Reconstruction Committee of the IRPDF.

**P94/126** 22 December 1926–28 December 1933; 22 November 1939

75pp

Letters from friends and family to Jim Moloney relating to family and domestic matters and efforts by Jim to secure full time employment.

**3.3.2. From his wife Kathleen Barry Moloney during her tour of Australia, 1924–25**

**P94/127** 10 September 1924–11 April 1925

439pp

Letters from Kathleen Barry Moloney to her husband Jim Moloney sent during her trip to Australia.

The initial letters describe her journey by sea, her fellow passengers, how she is spending her time on board and how much she misses her new husband. Many of the letters were written over a number of days before being posted. The letters are mostly descriptive, recounting aspects of her journey, the places she has seen, including a train journey across Canada and ports in the Pacific Ocean where the ship docked for short periods (e.g. Honolulu, Java) *en route* to Sydney, but also discusses news and gossip from her family relating to friends and acquaintances, the political situation and how grateful she is to receive news of this nature from Jim and her other correspondents. Once in Australia the letters describe her work as Chairperson of the delegation, the money raised and the people she has met, in particular the help and support received by the Irish community in Australia. Also letters describing her meeting with the Catholic hierarchy in Australia, only some of whom supported the mission.

Includes:

- letter referring to almost £1000 raised for the Prisoners Dependents. Remarks that they intend to publish a subscription list (8 November 1924).
- letter referring to her delight in finally succeeding in getting the Archbishop of Queensland, Dr James Duhig, to act as patron of the fund. Remarks: 'Dr Duhig is a big move in the long and bitter battle between Cosgrave and me on the matter of the IRPDF. His Grace had a letter from him ... and ... that when he replies he's going to tell Cosgrave some of the things he's heard about the F.S. Govt and the way they treated the Dependents' (30 December 1924).
- letter referring to the winding up of the self determination league in Australia and the handing over of their funds to the Reconstruction Committee (9 January 1925).
- letter remarking that she has arrived in Rockhampton but is unlikely to receive any support from Bishop Shiel. Remarks that she met him and while he has agreed not to hinder her mission he will not allow himself to be identified with the fund 'and he carries all the influential people and the Hibs with him. He's a terribly obstinate man on any subject and he's a wild Free Stater'. Refers to the secretary of the Lady Hibernians who she feels will support her and the mission but wishes her fellow delegate, Linda Kearns, was with her; 'it's not so much responsibility for a failure if there are two'. As her letter continues she expresses the opinion that support in Rockhampton may not be as bad as she initially thought. Refers to a meeting where over 30 people turned up and

**P94/127 contd**

that a good local committee has been organised. Refers to her remaining responsibilities in the north of the country before returning to Melbourne. Remarks 'Once we pass £5000 I'll be more or less justified but I want £10,000 and ... £50,000 wouldn't pay for the agony that's gone into it. Anyway we're blazing the Republican trail' (20 & 25 January 1925).

- letter referring to her changed attitude to her mission and remarks that she feels less responsible, that the ground work has been laid by either herself or Linda Kearns and that the responsibility must now rest with the local committees. Remarks that she is of the opinion that \$6000 or £7000 will be raised and that she is relieved that her work is almost complete (5 February 1925).
- letter remarking that the Intelligence Department are investigating her and Linda Kearns following representations made by the NSW Government to the Commonwealth Government regarding their 'alien' status and the fact that they should never have been permitted to land (26 February 1925).
- letter written *en route* home. Explains to Jim that she has not written to him for the past two weeks as she has been ill with 'flu and jaundice (16 March 1925).
- telegram addressed to Jim Moloney informing him of the arrival of Kathleen Barry Moloney on board the 'Acquitanian'. (11 April 1925).

### 3.3.3. From his wife Kathleen Barry Moloney, 1925–34

**P94/128**

June–December 1925

31pp

Notes and letters from Kathleen Barry Moloney to her husband Jim Moloney mostly relating to domestic matters.

**P94/129**

1927

315pp

Letters from Kathleen Barry Moloney to Jim Moloney.

A note accompanying the letters in Kathleen Barry Moloney's handwriting states 'These all belong to Jim. He asked me to put them away for him .... They are mostly from me but there are some interesting ones among the others. I have burnt hundreds. KBM'. The letters were apparently written around the period of Jim Moloney's father remarrying and their changed circumstances resulting in Kathleen Barry Moloney moving from Tipperary back to the Barry family home in Tombeagh with their three children.

Includes:

- drafts of letters from Kathleen Barry Moloney to two friends asking their opinion of a chemist shop in Letterkenny and the

- P94/129 contd** relative merits of the business and living in the town. Explains that her husband is looking to set up his own business (4 July 1927).
- draft of a letter to one of Jim Moloney's aunts explaining the circumstances of her move from Tipperary to Tombeagh and the imminent departure of Jim following the failure of the Moloney family home to sell and Jim's father's forthcoming marriage (14 July 1927). [The letters sent to Jim after this date are addressed to him in Cashel where he obtained temporary work in the medical hall following his departure from Tipperary].
  - letter from [?], Golf Links Hotel, Lahinch, County Clare to Jim Moloney giving an opinion on what town would be most suitable for Jim to try and set up a chemist business. Remarks that Carlow would be the better place (23 August 1927).
  - letter from Hugh O'Donnell, Solicitor, 29 Dublin Street, Carlow to Jim Moloney concerning the lease of a house in Carlow (23 September 1927).

**P94/130** 5 September 1928–17 May 1934

69pp

Letters from Kathleen Barry Moloney to Jim Moloney.

The letters mostly relate to domestic issues. Those dating to 1934 relate to the period that Jim was working in a sugar beet company in Carlow.

### **3.4. Photographs, 1958**

**P94/131** [1958?]

4 items

Black and white photographs of Jim Moloney including one taken at the unveiling of the Kevin Barry memorial at Rathvilly in 1958.

**4. BARRY-MOLONEY CHILDREN, 1926-68**

- P94/132** [1926-29?]  
10 items  
Black and white photographs of the Moloney children as babies or toddlers. Mostly of the twins Mary and Helen.
- P94/133** [1930s/40s?]  
19 items  
Black and white photographs of the Moloney children as they were growing up including first holy communions.
- P94/134** [1940s-50s?]  
13 items  
Black and white photographs of the Moloney children as adults including photographs of their daughter Mary's wedding to Paidin O'Halpin.
- P94/135** 8 May 1927-29 October 1930  
4 items  
Birth and baptismal certificates for Patrick, Katherine and Judith Moloney, three of Kathleen Barry Moloney and Jim Moloney's children.
- P94/136** 21 July 1933-13 October 1954  
85pp  
School reports, various certificates, curriculum vitae belonging to the five Moloney children.

**P94/137** 26 July 1968

4pp

Note from Kathleen Barry Moloney to her son Patrick. Concerning her archives and giving him charge of them. Asks that each member of the family be allowed to take a small token belonging to or relating to Kevin Barry. Remarks that there is very little to go around because he died so young; that there is more material in her steel trunk but that she cannot open it and that her correspondence from when they lived in Carrickmines is not among her other papers. Encloses a short inventory of material relating to Kevin Barry and aspects of her own life.

**5. DISSOCIATED MATERIAL AND PHOTOGRAPHS, BARRY AND MOLONEY FAMILIES, 1800s; 1905-57**

**P94/138** Not dated

5 items

Letters, memorial cards.

Relating to the deaths of members of the Barry and Moloney families including Tom Barry (Kathleen Barry Moloney's father), his sister Judith, and Ellen and Con Moloney (Jim Moloney's mother and brother).

**P94/139** Not dated

2 items

Black and white photographs of Kathleen Barry Moloney and her husband Jim Moloney.

**P94/140** Not dated

1 item (10cmx6cm)

Black and white photograph of a group of four unidentified men posing with golf clubs outside an unidentified clubhouse.

*Kathleen Barry Moloney Papers*

- P94/141** 1854–55; 1870–83; 1937; 1964  
18pp  
Grave papers and details of plots in Prospect Cemetery (later Glasnevin) for the Barry family.
- P94/142** 3 August 1875  
3pp  
Letter from Thomas Pope, 48 Westland Row, Dublin to Miss Bridget Barry, Tombay, Hacketstown, County Carlow informing her that a community of nuns is to depart for Australia in a few weeks and are willing to receive postulants who wish to accompany them. Offers to suggest her name to the Reverend Mother 'if you obtain the sanction of your parents, if your health be good and if you let me know what fortune you can bring with you'.
- P94/143** 1 January 1896, 19 October 1896  
3pp  
Birth certificates for Jim Moloney and Kathleen Barry Moloney and a genealogy of the Dowlings (Kathleen Barry Moloney's maternal relatives), County Carlow and the Bourkes, County Kildare.
- P94/144** 24 May 1905–30 December 1947  
6 items  
Diary, cards, mementos belonging to Kathleen Barry Moloney  
Includes a ticket to a Céilidhe dance. On the back Kathleen Barry Moloney has written 'My last Céilidhe before America, before the civil war' (16 March 1922).  
Two religious cards signed by Eamon de Valera with a message concerning Ireland's destiny (July 1923).  
Ration book issued by the Department of Supplies (1942).  
Pocket diary for the year 1947.
- P94/145** 2 February 1921  
1 item  
Black and white photograph of the Barry house in Tombeagh, Hacketstown, County Carlow.

**P94/146** [5 July 1931?]

2 items

Black and white photographs of Kathleen Barry Moloney.

**P94/147** [1940s/50s]

40 items

Mostly black and white photographs of the extended Barry/Moloney families including siblings, spouses and their children. Some are identified.

**P94/148** 6–8 September 1949

29pp

Card, telegrams, letters.

Congratulating Kathleen and Jim Moloney on their silver (25th) wedding anniversary.

Includes a theatre programme and tickets to a show in the Gaiety. A note in Kathleen Barry Moloney's handwriting remarks that their children took them to dinner and to the theatre to celebrate.

**P94/149** August 1957

16 items

Colour photographs taken on a [holiday] on the west coast of America. The woman and man in the photographs are not identified.

## **6. DEATH OF KATHLEEN BARRY MOLONEY, 1969**

**P94/150** 10 January–18 March 1969

9pp

Death notices and obituaries from the *Irish Times*, *Sunday Independent*, the *Irish Press* and *Sunday Press*, attendance sheets from the removal and funeral mass of Kathleen Barry Moloney who died in the Meath Hospital, Dublin on 10th January at the age of 72.