

THE PRIME MINISTER

23 March, 1983

Than Numie

Thank you so much for your letters about the future of the Land Settlement Association Scheme. As I told you in my replies, I have had extensive enquiries made about the general position, and have been particularly concerned about your own.

First of all I am pleased that Peter Walker's decision to end the LSA Scheme will mean that you will have your long awaited opportunity to buy your holding. As you know, since Mr. Baynes is a grower with a full tenancy, he is being offered his holding at tenanted value which is, of course, very substantially below the vacant possession value. This offer is the same as the arrangements we have made for council house tenants to buy their own homes and I think that it is a fair one.

I do know how difficult it is for some of you who have been tenants for a long time to take out a mortgage to meet the cost of buying your holding and I understand from Peter Walker that, if you have not already done so, you will be receiving visits from agents who will explain the possibilities open to you and the financial institutions which may be able to provide mortgages. This is a chance to acquire an asset for the family which I am sure will appeal to you. Will you let me know if you come up against any insuperable difficulties.

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Mrs. K. Baynes.