

Levi Pennington

People

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## Pennington to Emmett W. Gulley on 25 Jan. 1946

Levi T. Pennington

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529 North Washington Avenue,  
Whittier, California,  
January 25, 1946.

Pres. Emmett W. Gulley,  
Pacific College,  
Newberg, Oregon.

Dear Friend:--

You can very well guess that nothing for a long time has caused me such depression as some of the news contained in your letter of the 15th, which came yesterday. It is very sad that Prof. Skene and his wife should have had another bereavement; we shall miss Mrs. Woodward greatly, and are sorry that we were absent from Newberg during her last illness and death; and one might go on with things that grieve and depress; but the thing that hurts worst is the apparent intention to wreck the work to which I have given so much of my life, and for which you and others have made such sacrifices.

It is easy for one to see how some of the troubles of the present could have been avoided. I wish a hundred times over that the plan I suggested for reorganization when they were going through the changes of 1919-21 had been adopted -- and I very much doubt whether those changes were ever taken into consideration when report was made some years ago as to the relation of the college to the yearly meeting. Of course the question now is not how did we get where we are, but where do we go from here? We've gone quite far enough in the direction of the Spanish Inquisition, in my judgment.

Glad that your work in Mexico worked out so well, and that you are now back in Oregon without serious trouble. We ourselves were not where we'd have chosen to be on Christmas Day, though Algie and Eva Newlin could not have been kinder to us, and it was as lovely as anything could have been outside of the family gathering that seems so appropriate at Christmas time.

We had some interesting experiences on the trip across the continent from Daytona Beach to San Diego. A collision with a razor-back hog in Florida, a real cloudburst in Alabama, one of the most beautiful drives I ever saw along the shore of the Gulf of Mexico in Mississippi, a visit to the Old French Quarter of New Orleans with the Taggarts in Louisiana, a 90 mile detour in Texas to avoid a snow blockade, a sandstorm in Arizona and California -- these were some of the incidents.

I was sorry not to make the trip through Phoenix, as we once were well started to do. I wanted to see <sup>A. C. Miller</sup> ~~him~~, but we were told that we might run into a snow blockade if we tried ~~to~~ the road that way. I was convinced afterwards, too late to do me any good, that the road would have been open and we could have made it. But we had missed the Texas cyclone which killed 32 people by only a day; we had driven through two cloudbursts, we had driven all one day on snow and had seen plenty of cars off the road, and we had read of the marooning of scores of people in



in the storm that led the state highway authorities to turn  
aside all traffic and send it 90 miles out of its  
way

the storm that led the state highway commission to send all  
traffic 90 miles out of its way, and it all had taken our  
nerve a bit, probably. And when we were told that we'd be  
likely to run into difficulty if we tried to reach Phoenix,  
we decided to stay lower and farther south.

I talked with the Conovers and the Sanders yesterday by  
'phone, and hope to see them today, as we are driving to Pasa-  
dena again, where Rebecca's nephew and his family live. I am  
asked to be the speaker at the quarterly meeting there tomorrow,  
and have been asked to be in the Nicksite meeting Sunday, but  
have not accepted that invitation, since I shall probably need  
to bring my cousin, Grace White, back to Whittier. And anyway,  
I suspect that we should be here Sunday, as we plan to leave  
for Oregon Monday, unless something should occur to change our  
plans. We shall be stopping in the Bay district for a day or  
two with girlhood friends of Rebecca's back in Michigan, may  
spend a night in Eugene, and may stop for an hour or so with  
Mrs. Miles in Salem. We might be home before Sunday the 3rd  
of February, but that is neither a threat nor a promise.

With best wishes from us both to all the Gulleys and to  
the friends of ours on the faculty -- I hope there are still  
some who fall in that classification -- I am

Sincerely your friend,

Levi T. Pennington.