

Levi Pennington

People

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Pennington to Harry Emerson Fosdick

Levi T. Pennington

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April 7, 1946.

Dr. Harry Emerson Fosdick,
297 Fourth Avenue,
New York 10, N.Y.

Radio Office, Room 50.

Dear Dr. Fosdick:--

Your first appeal for my support of National Vespers came while I was on a trip almost around the United States, visiting 25 states including the six I had not before visited, and speaking at many church and educational gatherings. (Was in New York City one day, for an all day meeting of the American Friends Service Committee.) Your second appeal has been lying on my desk for some days, along with a pile of other letters making appeals for a number of other worthy causes.

I wish I could make a contribution to National Vespers. But for thirty years I was president of a little college so poor that my salary check was for a long time smaller than that of my secretary. (It was less than \$60.00 a month for a long time, and one or two years we did not get any check at all in December -- Merry Christmas.) And now I am retired (my brother says he wishes that I were not quite so actively retired), and my income is still not in the Rockefeller class.

But the reason why I cannot even send you five dollars is that I have been working for more than three weeks in an effort to get Newberg to give \$4,000.00 for the relief of the suffering that the war has caused in Europe. We have raised more than a quarter of this sum in the local Friends church, and I hope we shall be able to get the rest from the rest of the community, which outnumbers the Friends church ten to one. I've paid every cent of the expense of this campaign thus far, and my wife and I have been among the larger givers to the fund, so that we are right down "to the bottom of the barrel."

Maybe next year we can help enough to more than pay the postage on the letter of appeal. We certainly would hate to see these National Vespers sermons discontinued.

Sincerely yours,

Levi T. Pennington.