

Levi Pennington

People

6-19-1946

Levi Pennington Writing to Bertha May, June 19, 1946

Levi T. Pennington

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Dear Bertha May:--

Until your card arrived, I did not know that they were taking notice of grandfathers on Father's Day. It was lovely of you to send this card, and I do appreciate it very much.

This is the last day of Oregon Yearly Meeting, and I am soon to be on my way to the Meeting on Ministry and Oversight, where I suppose we shall receive a report from the Committee on Ministry in the Robert H. Dann "heresy" case. I do not know just what has been done, but my guess is -- well, I shall probably not get this letter finished until after that meeting, so why guess?

For the most part the gathering has been very peaceful, on the surface, at least. Some of us do not approve of some of the things that are now a part of the yearly meeting's attitude and program, but there has been nothing over which there has been a fight until there was objection to receiving even mention of the epistles from Canada, New York, New England, Philadelphia and the Pacific Coast Association of Friends. A committee was appointed to determine, or at least to recommend, what yearly meetings we are hereafter to correspond with. When the clerk asked just what yearly meetings he should send our epistle to, I was very naughty (or very truthful, which is at times the height of naughtiness), for I said that if we sent our epistle only to the yearly meetings that we thought were as good as we think we are, its circulation would be very limited -- I was not sure that we'd send it to anybody.

There has been a great deal of outpost work during the past year, and there has been an increase in membership of 66, which even the general superintendent admits, while he is expressing his appreciation of the work that has been done (I almost used the word boasting), is not a great increase considering the excellence of the reports from all over the yearly meeting.

Somewhat to my surprise I was named on the yearly meeting service committee; still more to my surprise there was a move to make me head of the service committee -- board they call it. I was made vice chairman. And I suspect I was continued on the Pacific College corporation, though of that I am not certain. That was the only place my name appeared in last year's minutes except in the directory.

And now it is over, and Robert Dann is deposed from his position as a minister, on the ground that he has lost his gift in the ministry and is not in harmony with the beliefs of Oregon Yearly Meeting.

And now I must jump into the job of writing up this session for the Graphic, which has to have the material in a bit ~~no~~ more than an hour from now.

With love from us both to all of you,