

Levi Pennington

People

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Levi Pennington Writing to Mrs. Nosler, June 25, 1946

Levi T. Pennington

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June 25, 1946.

Mrs. C. H. Nosler,
225 N. E. Sixth Ave.,
Hillsboro, Oregon.

Dear Mrs. Nosler:--

A letter just received from Loyd S. Cressman refers to me your letter of the 14th. in regard to help to the suffering peoples of Europe, especially those in Holland.

The American Friends Service Committee is carrying on relief work in many parts of Europe, and where it is not at work itself is in touch with the relief agencies at work there, so that it can get to any desired part of Europe -- or Asia or elsewhere, for that matter -- anything in the way of money for food, medicine, etc., or any gifts of food or clothing that may be sent. Gifts of money can be sent direct to the American Friends Service Committee, 20 South Twelfth Street, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, or the money could be sent to me -- I am a member of the local service committee of which my wife is chairman -- and we can send it with the contributions that are going frequently from here.

Cash is the best thing to send if one wishes to contribute to the feeding of the folks across the water, for the agencies like the American Friends Service Committee can buy the most desirable food stuffs, in wholesale lots and at wholesale prices or better, so that a dollar gets much more food to the hungry than if one were to buy the food and ship it, at much greater expense per pound than it would cost sent in quantities. But if actual food is sent, the American Friends Service Committee will see that it gets to the right place.

In the matter of clothing, the actual garments are best, as it is very difficult to secure clothing for the folks over there, even if the agencies had plenty of money. You speak of Eastmoreland, from which place you evidently wrote your letter, though giving your address in Hillsboro, and clothing collected in either place can readily be handled and got to the needy on the other side of the water -- they need clothing now, and will need it vastly worse next winter.

Oregon Yearly Meeting's Service Committee is undertaking to handle relief gifts of either cash or kind. From Hillsboro the goods, garments, etc., could be got to Newberg perhaps as easily as to Portland; we might even come and get them; and the Portland folks will probably have plenty to handle there. If you will get in touch with Ward L. Haines, 2213 S. E. 57th. Ave., Portland 15, he can, I am sure, tell you the best way to handle any gifts of clothing. I am sending him a copy of this letter. He is on the Yearly Meeting's Service Committee, and I am under the impression that the First Friends Church, to which he belongs, have a considerable enterprise in used clothing already on foot.

Some of the relief that has been raised by Friends of

Oregon Yearly Meeting has been sent through the National Association of Evangelicals, who until very recently handled only used clothing. But if, as many do, you prefer to have your contribution or any that may be made through your influence handled by the American Friends Service Committee, that will be done if it is so requested.

Newberg has had repeated clothing drives, and has sent a good many tons of clothing for relief. We have found that the best way to collect it is to have a big box in some prominent business place where everybody can see it, and then publicize the fact that it is there, and that the clothing contributed will be handled by some organization -- in this case it was by the Friends and the Brethren service committees -- and get quickly on its way to help the suffering. And here we conducted a community-wide campaign, and raised some thousands of dollars for relief. We could have raised more if it had seemed wise to make a house-to-house solicitation, but the committee chosen to handle the campaign did not deem it advisable to put on such a ^{house-to-house} campaign, as there had been so many of that kind recently.

I hope I have not been too tedious in making these suggestions. Cash contributions can be sent direct to the American Friends Service Committee, or to us here, to go along with our contributions, you of course getting proper credit. Clothing from Hillsboro could be handled through Newberg; from Eastmoreland more advantageously through the Service Committee there in Portland.

With sincere gratification that you and your brother and others are interested in this work of relief, I am

Sincerely your friend,

Levi T. Pennington.