

Levi Pennington

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Levi Pennington Writing to the Federal Council of the Churches of Christ in America, October 22, 1946

Levi T. Pennington

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October 22, 1946.

Federal Council of the Churches of Christ in America,
New York, N.Y.

Dear Friends:--

Why does not the Federal Council put on a nation-wide campaign to raise funds for the relief of the suffering peoples across the seas?

You know better than I do, probably, the many agencies that are at work, most of them not too efficiently. You know how inadequate have been the results of every effort thus far made, with much of Europe, to say nothing of Asia, facing a winter even more grim than the terrible one faced a year ago. I am convinced, by my own experience and observation as well as the testimony of others better informed than myself, that most of the funds contributed for relief must come from the churches; and I know of no other organization so well fitted as the Federal Council to organize and put across a campaign among the churches on a nation-wide scale.

Twice within the past six months I have headed community-wide efforts in Newberg for the raising of funds for relief, almost entirely through the churches. We have raised thousands of dollars, in addition to the sums given before these two campaigns. In my own church, with a resident membership of perhaps 250 (men, women and children) and perhaps not a \$3,000.00 income in the whole membership, and almost certainly not a \$5,000.00 one, we raised \$2,500.00 in the two efforts, last spring and this fall. Other churches have done well, too, though none of them have responded quite as well as the Friends.

I am convinced that if the Federal Council would undertake a nation-wide campaign, working through local ministerial associations, councils of churches, etc., millions of dollars could be raised, thousands of lives could be saved, and the Federal Council would be doing one of the finest things it has ever done to justify its existence in the minds of friend and foe alike.

Why don't you do it?

Sincerely your friend,

Levi L. Pennington.