

Levi Pennington

People

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6-13-1947

## Pennington to The Board Managers of Pacific College, June 13, 1947

Levi T. Pennington

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### Recommended Citation

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June 13, 1947.

To the Board of Managers of Pacific College.

Dear Friends:--

Again, impelled by a sense of duty, I am doing the thing that with a single exception I have so carefully avoided since my retirement as president. I tried once to help to avoid the loss of a quarter to a half million dollars for the college. In this I did not succeed. I am now suggesting what seems to me the most constructive thing that the college board could do at the present time, a suggestion that is not my own and the origin of which I do not know, but a suggestion that has come from so many sources, both of those immediately connected with the college and others, that I feel I must pass it on to you for your earnest and prayerful consideration. I am doing it with the hope that you will be more interested in promoting the unity of the yearly meeting and thus promoting the kingdom of God than in any other possible objective.

This suggestion, which I am making on behalf of many who feel that it would be the best thing that could be done under present circumstances, is that Gervas A. Carey be elected to the presidency of Pacific College, and be given the support of the college board and the yearly meeting, as I am sure he would have the support of other interests, to bring the institution out of its present situation, which seems to me very serious, not to say desperate.

You have given Gervas Carey a unanimous invitation to become head of the department of religious education, so you cannot have any objection to him from theological nor scholarship grounds. It may be urged that he has not had extensive administrative experience, but he has had more than any predecessor had had when he assumed the presidency. Many of us believe that all those who are interested in the welfare of the college could unite on him as they could not on any other man. Everybody knows that there are folks who could be named to this position by a majority of the board and whose selection would only aggravate and not heal the breach in the ranks of those who ought to be unitedly back of the college, to make of it all that it ought to be as a genuinely Christian and Quaker institution of higher education.

With the earnest hope that you will give this suggestion your earnest and prayerful consideration, I am

Sincerely your friend,

Levi T. Pennington.