

Levi Pennington

People

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## Pennington to Ray Newton, June 20, 1947

Levi T. Pennington

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June 20, 1947.

Ray Newton, Peace Section,  
American Friends Service Committee,  
20 South Twelfth Street,  
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

Dear Friend:--

At the recent session of Oregon Yearly Meeting, there was more talk about peace, some of it decidedly belligerent, than at any recent session that I recall. There was a heresy hunt started, with the intention of tossing out of the ministry on their shell-like ears two of the older ministers of the yearly meeting who were accused of not being true to the Quaker ideals (at a recent session of the ministerial association at least one of them was openly accused of being a traitor) and we had a very warlike-peaceful time.

One of the younger preachers, who was a candidate for practically every office that had to be filled, complained that we had practically no Quaker peace literature except the recent pamphlet by Edward Mott, "The Basis of Our Peace", which he said was not sufficient. Agreeing with the latter part of his statement, I was under the impression that there had been some other Quaker literature on the subject of peace.

I wonder if you have a list of Quaker peace writings that I could send to this young fellow. He spoke at the first session of the meeting on ministry and oversight, and I thought for a time he might be a sincere seeker after light. Later I changed my mind, and decided that he was sure he had all the light there is, but was determined to expel from the ministry the old-timers who were in darkness. But anyhow, it seems to me his statement ought to be challenged, and I'd like to send him a real list of Quaker peace literature.

Some things happened during yearly meeting that were to have been expected. One thing that was too promising for one to dare to hope was the election of Gervas A. Carey to the presidency of Pacific College. Perhaps nobody on earth can pull the institution out of the mess it is in, but he can come nearer to commanding the support of all elements than anybody else I know of on earth or in Oregon.

Sincerely your friend,

Levi T. Pennington.