

Levi Pennington

People

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Pennington to Joseph Reece, July 5, 1947

Levi T. Pennington

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July 5, 1947.

Joseph G. Reece,
2904 N. E. 50th.,
Portland 13, Oregon.

Dear Friend:--

People keep asking me, and I am as eager to know as they are, whether Gervas A. Carey is really president of Pacific College, or merely an acting president, a sort of stop-gap, with the college board seeking to replace him as soon as may be. You know, I am confident, what the truth is, and if you are willing to tell me, I wish you would.

Is Gervas Carey really president of the college, or only president in name, as was Emmett Gulley for a considerable time, with so much authority given by the college board to another man? Is Gervas Carey to have the kind of free hand that a president of a college must have if he is to do his work, or is the board to continue on the force faculty members who are antagonistic to him and seeking his removal? Are you now in the field for another president, or is Gervas Carey chosen with no eye on the end of his term, and no search on for his successor?

The occasion for these questions and others that are in the minds of some of us who wish that we could give the college our unqualified support is found not only in what has happened in the past but in statements originating in the membership of the board itself that the newly elected president is in the office just for a year, at the end of which time his successor will be ready to take the position. If such statements as that are true, then of course nothing is settled, and when Gervas Carey is driven from the presidency, all the old antagonisms will flare up, hotter than ever.

I hope you can set my mind at rest on this point, so that I can satisfy others who want to know what the real situation is.

With the hope that the college may have the blessing of God upon its work in spite of all the mistakes which you and I and others may have made, I am

Sincerely your friend,

Levi T. Pennington.