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Pennington to Thomas Baird, November 12, 1947

Levi T. Pennington

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Thomas S. Baird, 135 West Bond St., Hastings, Mich.

November 12, 1947.

Dear Brother Tom: --

I certainly had "et sumpin'" before I put that suit on the first time; must have been swelled up like a stuffed toad. Last evening I wore the same suit, went to the Home Coming banquet and ate fried chucken and everything else that was on the menu, which was plenty, then sat through the play, and never once noticed that I had any clothes on. So if you had been wondering if the tailors had failed to get in the amount of goods suggested by your measurements, put your mind at ease. The suit is a good fit, and it is as pleasing to both of us as it could possibly be. And it looks to me as if it would wear for a good many years, with some relief from time to time from these clothes I have on, and another suit or two that still hang together.

We had a good time yesterday at Home Coming, Pacific College winning the football game with Reed, having a fine banquet, with a lot of the old timers back, and then enjoying a play that was really funny, though I confess that while it was not in any way objectionable it did not teach any great moral lesson. The football game was especially satisfactory, from the spectator's standpoint. The home team made the first touchdown, but failed to convert. Two more times they would have made touchdowns but for some bobble or some exceptional move of defence on the part of Reed. In one case a forward pass was batted about till it was in the hands of the third man before it was finally downed. The half ended with Pacific down knocking at the Reed goal, but the end of the half saved them. The third quarter went scoreless, and then in the fourth quarter Reed came to life, got off two long passes, the second one into the end zone, and then they converted, making the score 7 to 6 in favor of Reed. Then the Pacific College team, apparently electrified by the fear that they were going to lose the game that should have been on ice long before, took the kickoff and marched the length of the field for their second touchdown, but again failed to convert, Reed breaking through and blocking the kick. Reed threatened again, through an intercepted forward pass, but were stopped well into Pacific territory and the game ended with Pacific in possession of the ball near the middle of the field.

Well, how thrilling that tale must be, to you who do not know either school, and would probably be much more interested in golf than football, anyhow. But that young grandson of yours could tell, I'm guessing, just what teams Southern California has to play before being assured of the Rose Bowl game, with Michigan, presumably, though you might ask him if there is any chance for an upset in the Big Nine. And you might ask him what the score is going to be when Notre Dame plays Southern Cal.

Must get to work, though I don't feel too ambitious.
With love from both of us to all of you,