

Levi Pennington

People

11-20-1947

Pennington to Emmett Gulley, November 20, 1947

Levi T. Pennington

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Recommended Citation

Pennington, Levi T., "Pennington to Emmett Gulley, November 20, 1947" (1947). *Levi Pennington*. 230.
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not make the appointment at that time. November 20, 1947.
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Emmett W. Gulley, Exec. Secy.,
American Friends Service Committee,
South River Street,
Newberg, Oregon.

Dear Friend:--

It may be that you have talked with Loyde Osburn
since the recent meeting of the Executive Committee of the
Northwest Institute of International Relations, but if you have
not, you will be interested in the actions taken at that meet-
ing, held Tuesday afternoon.

You perhaps know that a committee had been appointed
some time ago to consider and make a recommendation on a pro-
posal that the Institute enlarge the scope of its activities.
This committee reported at the Tuesday meeting, and their recom-
mendations were adopted as follows:

1. That the scope of the Institute be enlarged to pro-
vide an all-year-round program of education in world affairs.
2. That the name of the organization be changed to The
World Affairs Council of Oregon.
3. That the organization take the lead in the develop-
ment of a coordinating committee, to secure cooperation among
the various organizations interested in international affairs.

In the discussion mention was made of a World Affairs
Council of northern California, financed by contributions from
the Columbia Foundation of California, the Carnegie Endowment,
individual contributions, membership dues (they have 1000 mem-
bers), and by organizational memberships. We were told that
their total annual budget was in the neighborhood of \$100,000.00.

The main activity of the newly named organization will
continue to be the maintenance of the Northwest Institute of
International Relations. They hope later to have smaller week-
end institutes, to send special speakers to various centers
as well as hearing them in Portland, etc.

The committee to work out this coordinating committee
consists of Peter Odegard, president of the organization, Frank
Munk, one of the co-directors, as I remember it, and another
man whom Odegard is to name.

It was decided to hold the institute the coming summer
at approximately the same time as last June, with a week inter-
vening between the Reed College Commencement and the opening
of the Institute. It had been decided that Reed was to be the
place of the Institute as heretofore. Whether it is to be an
institute seven or eight or ten days long was left for decision
until there can be opportunity to consult the rest of the execu-
tive committee and those who attended last summer's institute.

The president of the organization was given power to

appoint the program committee for the coming institute. He did not make the appointment at once. Ray Wulfe of the city school system was added to the executive committee to help toward a closer affiliation with the city schools.

They had already voted to abolish the advisory committee, a thing which I opposed at a previous meeting, but they did it at the meeting held while I was back east. And then when it came to telling them that they had been "abolished", the president, and executive secretary found themselves unable to write a satisfactory letter without causing misunderstanding (I remarked that if the advisory committee could have heard the discussion at the other meeting the principal danger would be that they might understand, not that there might be misunderstanding) and finally the motion to reconsider was passed, and then the matter was laid on the table, and so we still have an advisory committee.

Well, that's all. There was no open disagreement. But there is an evident feeling that the American Friends Service Committee may withdraw its sponsorship from the Institute. I was approached at once by Norman F. Coleman who suggested the possibility that the FSC might withdraw, and expressed the hope that it would not.

I thought you might want to know about this action of the Institute in changing its aims and its name. If you think the head office would like to know my angle on it, you could tell them what this letter has told you. (I intended to make an extra copy of this letter, but got one of the carbon sheets in wrong side up.)

Hope to see you tonight, and at the Heifers-for-Relief meeting which I suppose will be next Tuesday afternoon.

Sincerely your friend,

Levi T. Pennington.