

Levi Pennington

People

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Pennington to Edward Ingles, March 25, 1948

Levi T. Pennington

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March 25, 1948.

Dr. Edward T. Ingles, Vice President,
Pacific University,
Forest Grove, Oregon.

Dear Dr. Ingles:--

Alvin Allen tells me that he is applying for the position of dean of students with you there, and asks me to write a word on his behalf, a thing that I am glad to do, even though I cannot speak with the same authority in regard to some of his work as can some who have been more recently associated with him.

Mr. Allen was a member of the Pacific College force for some years, and gave a very good account of himself in his work there. I had known him personally for some time after his marriage to one of our Pacific College Quaker girls, the daughter of Dr. Hester, long the president of our college board. I knew of his work in the Philippines, though of course I did not see it personally; I have known of his work in the public schools of the state, and have had some of his students in Pacific College (one of them won a scholarship in Haverford College among applicants from all over the United States), and have followed his later years with interest. Folks in other institutions could tell of his work with them; I can speak with authority only of his work in Pacific College and of his personal character, and would have to guess at the rest from what I learn in a less direct way.

You know from other sources of his training and experience along the line of his responsibilities there. You can count on his upright and stable Christian character and conduct. He's as straight as a stretched string, and as honest as daylight. I believe he has a clear-sighted and intelligent appreciation of young people and their activities and problems, and that he can maintain discipline with a firm hand while at the same time so holding the confidence of students that he can be their counselor and friend. I should expect him to get along well with his associates, as he always did with his associates on our faculty.

I should suppose that some members of your faculty are personally acquainted with Mr. Allen, your chaplain, Mr. Genné, your director of admissions, Mr. Skarsten, and perhaps you yourself have met him. I am not at all sure that President Giersbach knows him. If you know Mr. Allen, you know he is a big, quiet, dignified man, not a show-off, but as I know him a substantial, hard-working educator.

Sincerely yours,

Levi T. Pennington,
President Pacific College 1911-41,
Now President Emeritus.