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Pennington to Russell Gainer, April 5, 1948

Levi T. Pennington

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LEVI T. PENNINGTON
1000 SHERIDAN STREET
NEWBERG, OREGON

April 5. 1948.

Mr. Russell Gainer, Newberg, Oregon.

Dear Friend: --

As you know, I have been much interested in the location of the Hillsboro-Woodburn Highway through Newberg, not from the personal standpoint, for it will not affect me personally, either from the standpoint of money or convenience, but because I am concerned for the best interests of the city, and because it seems to me it would be far better for this through highway to come down Meridian Street rather than down College Street, past the churches and along the street where hundreds of students travel five days in the week.

Our recent visit to the State Highway Commission made it clear that they do not intend to locate the highway on Meridian street with the council asking for it on College. I have been told that members of the council have refused to discuss the matter with interested citizens, but I am not inclined to believe that.

On my return from that meeting with the State Highway Commission I wrote a communication which I intended to send to the Graphic, but I was too late to get it into the first number after that meeting, and I have since felt that I ought not to have it published unless or until I have given some member of the council a chance to check on the letter and see if it is in any way inaccurate or unfair.

Of course the members of the council have a right to their own judgment as to what is right and for the best interests of the city, and should act accordingly. But the route down College Street has some disadvantages which nobody can deny; and I have not yet been shown what the advantages are to offset these plain disadvantages. Are there such advantages? If so, why is it not the right thing to let them be known?

You are under no obligation to answer the questions that are in my mind in the matter unless you choose. But if there are any inaccuracies or any unfairness in the communication I have written for the Graphic I hope they may be pointed out to me when you return the communication, which I hope will be very soon.

Sincerely your friend,

Levi T. Pennington.