

Levi Pennington

People

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Pennington to The Refugee Division of The American Friends Service Committee, November 19, 1967

Levi T. Pennington

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November 19, 1967.

Refugee Division (if any),
American Friends Service Committee,
160 North Fifteenth Street,
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. 19102.

Dear Friends:--

Newberg Monthly Meeting's Refugee Committee met today to face the question of "Where do we go from here?" or something of the sort. We have over \$600 in cash, given for the definite purpose of helping refugees to get to this country and become settled, adjusted, useful citizens of this country, and we have helped thirteen such people directly, and indirectly our influence has gone farther than that. These folks whom we have helped have paid back every cent of the money they were suppose to pay for what we had "invested" in them. Now for many months we have tried to find some other refugees to help, and we have done this through the American Friends Service Committee, Church World Service, the U. S. Department of Labor, more than one organization for the help of Cuban refugees -- that's all I think of right now -- and some of our enquiries are not answered at all, some of them get replies that are merely "passing the buck", if you understand my French; but none of them help us to find any refugees that we can help, and the committee today faced the proposition of what to do with this money, whether to end the life of the committee, what we might do to aid some other needy persons who are not refugees, and so on. But I was asked to make another effort, possibly the last one, to see if there is any chance for us to use this money and our efforts for the purpose for which the committee was organized and the money raised.

Is the American Friends Service Committee now doing anything in the way of Refugee service? If so please say so in words that I can understand, and suggest how we can get back into this form of service. If you have closed that work entirely -- which could be easily understood in view of the difficulties that the law has placed in the way of such work, and the fact that the AFSC can't do everything, let me know and I'll quit bothering you about it.

Sincerely, and I confess not too hopefully,

Levi T. Pennington,
Chairman Newberg Monthly Meeting Refugee Committee.