

Levi Pennington

People

---

5-2-1965

## Pennington to Everette Heacock, May 2, 1965

Levi T. Pennington

Follow this and additional works at: [https://digitalcommons.georgefox.edu/levi\\_pennington](https://digitalcommons.georgefox.edu/levi_pennington)

---

### Recommended Citation

Pennington, Levi T., "Pennington to Everette Heacock, May 2, 1965" (1965). *Levi Pennington*. 303.  
[https://digitalcommons.georgefox.edu/levi\\_pennington/303](https://digitalcommons.georgefox.edu/levi_pennington/303)

This Book is brought to you for free and open access by the People at Digital Commons @ George Fox University. It has been accepted for inclusion in Levi Pennington by an authorized administrator of Digital Commons @ George Fox University. For more information, please contact [arolfe@georgefox.edu](mailto:arolfe@georgefox.edu).

May 2, 1965.

Everett Heacock,  
217 S. E. 33rd Avenue,  
Portland, Oregon.

Dear Friend:--

A talk which I had with David Thomas today is my reason for writing this letter to you as head of the Quaker Men of Oregon Yearly Meeting. He talked of a great need in the work to which he is returning before this week is over, a need that I believe Quaker Men could supply if they would take it as a special project.

He says that there are cases down there where a member of the native Friends Church could set himself up in business if there were a place where he could borrow the money to make a start. Here's a man who could be a successful cobbler if he could only have a relatively small sum to get started. Here's a man who with a bit of capital could become a successful mechanic. And so on and on. With the little that they can earn it is impossible to get enough ahead even for the meager equipment or money for a lease that would be required.

I asked how much money would be required, *in an individual case,* suggesting a thousand dollars; but David thought it would take less than half that, not more than \$200 dollars in some cases, and maybe even less than that-- he talked as if there might not be need for more than \$500 in any one case.

With a little business of his own, which is the regular thing down there, this Bolivian Friend could make a much better living than he is doing, could be of more help to the native church and to the community, and it would be of great benefit to him and to others, including, of course, his family; and best of all, when he returns the loan, it can be passed on to somebody else, and could continue to help year after year and decade after decade. The loans could be made on the recommendation of David Thomas or whoever might be chosen for that purpose, and the loans could be made on a low rate of interest, as these men could not get a loan down there, where interest rates are sometimes as high as twelve percent a month. 144 percent per year.

It seems to me that this sort of project would appeal to a lot of folks in the yearly meeting, not alone to men who are members of a Quaker Men's organization, but to other men and women. This organization is not listed in the Yearly Meeting Minutes, and I understand is not a strictly Yearly Meeting organization, so an appeal could be made without any need for approval by any yearly meeting authority, and without violating any yearly meeting courtësy. I think it could all be done by correspondence; a letter from you after you have consulted with David Thomas if you think that necessary I think might raise some thousands of dollars for this sort of rotating fund.

My confidence in this is strengthened by my experience

when we became interested in helping some refugees to get to this country after World War II. It was an independent thing, not directly under the monthly meeting, but carried on by members of the meeting and without any disapproval -- it is now a definite committee of the monthly meeting. We thought we needed \$500 to start, and we got out a letter to a selected list of our members and raised about \$550 -- it is considerably more than that now. We have assisted up to now an even dozen, five Germans, two Czecho-Slovakians and five Dutch-Indonesians to get settled in the United States, and will be helping some more soon. Some gave as high as \$50 to this cause. We had only the members of Newberg Monthly Meeting to appeal to; this appeal <sup>could</sup> quite properly be made to the proper people all over the yearly meeting.

It is my hope that this suggested project will appeal to you, and that you may presently be taking the proper steps, if it seems right to you, to get the enterprise on its way.

With best wishes to you and all your folks,

Sincerely your friend,

Levi T. Pennington.

W. L. Pennington  
 1714 N. W. 22nd Avenue  
 Astoria, Oregon