

Levi Pennington

People

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## Levi Pennington To Reed College, August 16, 1965

Levi T. Pennington  
*George Fox University*

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August 16, 1965.

Reed College,  
Portland, Oregon.

Attention; President.

Dear Mr. President:--

As Chairman of of the Refugee Committee of Newberg Monthly Meeting of Friends (Quakers), I need to ask somebody to tell me whom to ask for some information.

This committee is starting its fifth project for re-settlement of refugees. The first was five Germans from Bessarabia, who were driven out with the loss of their farm and all their material possessions except what they could carry in a suitcase apiece. They lived for brief periods in Austria, Poland, East Germany and West Germany, in this last location the five of them living in one room for seven years. Our second project was a pair from Czechoslovakia. Our third, a family of four from Indonesia, Dutch-Indonesians who had made their way to Holland. Then a single Dutch-Indonesian youngman. And now we are sponsoring a pair of Jugo-Slavians.

The language difficulty has not been severe in any of these cases, since all but the German family had a considerable command of English, and we had good German friends here who could help us when we needed help, which was not often. Most of these folks were well educaten, and were soon fitting into the communities where they settled as if born there, and we were as proud of them as if we had made them ourselves.

But this new project presents some difficulties. The couple we are sponsoring are in their 30's, they probably have a baby before this, as the addition to the family was due in January; they have had little education in school, the man only four years of schooling and the woman only two; and their language is Serbo/croat, we are informed, a language that I never happen to have heard of before; and it seems to me that we shall need some help in our communication with them, at least immediately on their arrival.

Can you suggest to me some place where I can learn where to find somebody who speaks that language? If some one from the faculty can give me that information, I shall be grateful indeed.

Sincerely yours,

Levi T. Pennington.