

Governor Lauds Progress of National Guard

June—30

Tells Pacific Coast Defense League Mainland Should Emulate Militia of Territory

Hawaii views with a friendly eye efforts of the states on the Pacific Coast to enlarge their militia and prepare for any contingency, but feels that it would not be worth while to attempt any further recruiting here in view of the splendid condition of the island national guard. Such is the gist of a letter sent by Governor Pinkham yesterday to James P. Watson, secretary of the Pacific Coast Defense League, in San Francisco.

Mr. Watson, in a letter to Governor Pinkham, outlines a plan for a monster preparedness parade to be held on the Coast July 22, and to be preceded or followed, by a convention of ten governments from ten of the Pacific Coast States. In his letter Governor Pinkham says:

"Replying to your favor of June 19, I have heretofore called your attention to the position of the Territory of Hawaii, 2100 miles in the Pacific ocean distant from the Pacific Coast.

"You are agitating, in association with neighboring States, for an adequate national guard to fill present conceptions of numbers and necessities, hence your parades, etc. We have completed our enlistments and do not need to indulge in recruiting agitation.

"Some of our companies are so thoroughly drilled that they compare with the men of the regular army.

"We are in position on the island of Oahu to, at a few hours' notice, become a part of the regular garrison of the United States troops, and what we seek is orders to go into camp and training for a period of a month with the regular troops. We could encamp one-fourth of our 5500 guardsmen at one time, so that in four months we would have our forces well amalgamated. Thus we would have in training and action more than 10,000 men.

"I think I have shown you our location is distinctive and wholly different from any other place in the country. Except as an example of doing things in a practical, prompt and effective manner, without social frills, I do not see what we can do to aid your gatherings.