

[Which was read and referred to the Committee on Finance.]

Also:

*To the President of the Senate of Maryland.*

DEAR SIR:

Following a request by the Brig-Gen. Charles D. Gaither, I, as commander of the Western Maryland Battalion of the First Maryland Infantry, Maryland National Guard, have submitted to General Foster, Chairman of the National Guard Legislative Committee, a report and argument in support of the position taken by the National Guard Association of the United States at its recent convention in San Francisco, advocating a large increase in a Federalized National Guard with direct Federal pay.

The report is as follows:

"A reasonable increase in the Regular Army is imperative. If it would be possible to enlist a sufficient number of men, the entire increase recommended by the general staff of the Army should be allowed. While this calls for a total force of 281,000 men, when you deduct 20,000 Philippine scouts, 30,000 men in the Medical, Quartermaster and Ordnance Departments, 7,500 coast artillery and 74,500 mobile troops in our over-sea possessions, together with 27,000 coast artillery in the United States, we have left only 121,000 mobile combatant troops, divided as follows: 36 infantry, 30 cavalry and 15 artillery regiments. This increase appears reasonable under our present condition of affairs.

*"Garrison's Plan Impractical.*

"The question of citizen soldiery, however, is best answered through the National Guard. The Continental Army project recommended by the Secretary of War is not based upon the experience of the only men who have had real experience with the present-day citizen soldiery. It is admitted that there would be little difficulty to secure officers for this Continental Army, but what about the problem of the private soldier? He represents 90 per cent. of any army and must be secured from the same class of men who enlist in the National Guard.

"In the past week I have inspected three National Guard companies and I did not find a single man who could afford to remain in a training camp for a period of 60 days, as suggested for a Continental Army. Furthermore, their obli-