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Article Summary: On October 15, 1944, Governor Griswold announced plans to erect a Historical Society Building on the university campus.

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Governor Griswold’s Radio Address

On October 15 Governor Dwight Griswold, in a radio broadcast, referred to the future building program within Nebraska. In this he mentioned specifically the matter of an Historical Society Building. The members of the society will be greatly interested in the Governor’s remarks. In response to an inquiry by his interviewer, Lyell Bremser of KFAB, the Governor said, “I expect there will be new buildings needed at the University as well as the Teachers Colleges. The definite plans for these institutions are now being developed by the Board of Regents and the Normal Board. I do have one idea, Lyell, about the University’s building program, but I don’t know whether the Regents would be interested— I haven’t discussed it with them.”

Bremser: Well, let’s hear about it, Governor.

Governor: It has to do with the Nebraska State Historical Society. Two years ago the legislature made a special levy to provide a building for the Historical Society. My idea is that it might be well to erect the Historical Society Building on the University campus. Seems to me we could use a little first-hand state history in our educational program.

The Society is naturally greatly pleased with the Governor’s interest and readiness to carry forward the work of providing a better home for the historical collections and museum within the state. The Historical Society Board must prepare plans in cooperation with the governor and state authorities to carry through the fulfillment of this project. The program is in its beginning stages, and members specifically authorized to handle the details will undoubtedly be provided. Members of the Society may feel well assured that the undertaking is receiving very careful and thorough consideration.

The Governor’s suggestion relative to a location for the Historical Society building may seem new to some members. It will undoubtedly receive the most thorough and careful consideration by both the Board of the Society and the Board of Regents. The frank and open way in which the Governor has brought the
matter before the public is commendable. He is clearly anxious to serve the best public interest and in this he should have the most hearty support of the Historical Society and its official Board.

Nebraska has been very fortunate in the splendid planning and construction of its public institutions. The success of the Capitol Commission resulted in a building heartily admired throughout this country and well known throughout the world. While the Historical Building cannot be on such a scale as the State Capitol, it should and may well become one of the best known buildings of the state.

The years immediately ahead will be most significant in the history of this Society. The members of the Historical Society Board recognize this and it was mentioned by the president at the several sessions of the Board during the recent annual meeting. The suggestions of the Governor now give every assurance that the work will be undertaken under most favorable auspices. Members of the Society may look to the future with great hope and promise.