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Article Title: Comment by Nebraska's Governor

Full Citation: Dwight Griswold, "Comment by Nebraska's Governor," *Nebraska History* 25 (1944): 42-43

URL of article: <http://www.nebraskahistory.org/publish/publicat/history/full-text/NH1944NebrGovernor.pdf>

Date: 9/12/2017

Article Summary: Griswold summarizes the state's military contributions to the war effort and the contributions being made on the home front.

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Comment by Nebraska's Governor

February 10, 1944

Mr. J. E. Lawrence, President
Nebraska State Historical Society

Dear Mr. Lawrence:

Although as far removed from actual theatres of war as any section of the United States, Nebraska's record in this war proves conclusively that there has been little complacency on the part of the citizens of this state. Reminded many times that this

is an "all-out" war, residents of this fine state have cheerfully given to a "total" effort in the prosecution of the war.

From the standpoint of manpower, 102,000 Nebraska men have entered the Service. Casualty lists to date show that approximately 700 of them have made the supreme sacrifice. Nebraskans are proud that the leaders of the American forces in the recent successful attack on the Marshall Islands were both from this state.

On the "Home Front" there has been a whole-hearted effort that has led to success in every venture. Primarily, this has been due to two factors. One is that the citizens of Nebraska are a free-thinking people, capable of exercising their own powers and carrying their ideas to completion. The other is that there has been a marked coordination of effort on the part of various agencies in the state. The idea has been to get the job done, regardless of where the credit might go for doing it. State officials have seen fit to go to private groups and ask them to put across some program, and these groups have worked together to make the program a successful one.

Civilian defense brought a high percentage of Nebraskans into that organization and gave them valuable training. Quotas on War Bond campaigns have been met consistently. Such outstanding work has been done on scrap metal collections that the Nebraska plan was adopted nationally. The United War Fund Drive was a great success.

Realizing that Nebraska's principal contribution to the war was along lines of production, the people of this state have made tremendous efforts to that end. From the farms have come foodstuffs to feed our armed forces. New factories have been added to the industrial picture, and Nebraska organized labor can make the proud boast that not one minute has been lost by strikes or walkouts since the war started.

Nebraska is in this war to win. Nebraska will meet every challenge of the future as it has met those of the past.

Sincerely yours,

Dwight Griswold.