

See letter to A. H. Clark Co. 3/3/34

1 March, 1934

Mr. W. I. Speice, Chairman  
Committee on Arrangements  
Columbus, Nebraska

My dear Sir:

I learn with much interest and pleasure of the banquet to be held in honor of Captain L. H. North, on his birthday, March 6. I thank you for your invitation to attend this meeting, and heartily regret that I cannot be present.

I have known Captain North for over sixty years, and for a good part of that time have been closely associated with him. I believe that I can speak with justice of the work that he has done. He has performed for his state and for his country important services, but these, because of his unfailing modesty, which leads him to credit others with what he himself did, are known to but a small portion of the public.

During the Indian wars he served his country faithfully and well, and faced danger and death in the work of protecting settlers of the West from attacks by hostile Indians. His services covered many years and were continuous; no one can know their value to the early settlements, which then were struggling for existence, but now are permanent communities. These services should not be forgotten by those who owe to them their present homes and comfort. Your meeting shows that they are not forgotten.

As I have said elsewhere, "Captain North is today the greatest, as he is almost the last, of the old-time scouts of America. His knowledge of the Indian and of the Indian's ways of thought is profound. As a hunter of wild game he was most expert and successful and the most certain and best rifle shot that I have seen."

I am deeply gratified to know that his work is to receive formal recognition and general acknowledgment. I wish with all my heart that I might be present at that time and extend to him my personal greetings.

Yours cordially,

Columbus, Nebraska.  
February 23, 1934.

Mr. George B. Grinnell,  
238 East 15th Street,  
New York City.

Dear Mr. Grinnell:

On his 88th birthday anniversary, friends of Captain Luther H. North, Nebraska pioneer, veteran plainsman and one of the truly great scouts of the Indian wars of the '60s, will honor him at a birthday banquet in recognition of his exceptional record of service to his state and nation.

The dinner will be served at the Federated church in Columbus promptly at 7 o'clock on the evening of March 6, 1934. Men and women will attend.

As a general invitation is extended to all who wish to participate in this tribute to Captain North, individual invitations are being sent only to a few of those residing outside of his home community who, the committee believes, might desire to attend but might not otherwise learn of the event. You are one of these. We would enjoy having you, and anyone whom you might wish to accompany you, with us on that occasion.

Reservations should be made not later than March 4 by writing to Sol Levine, Columbus, Neb., chairman of the reservations committee. The price of the tickets is 75 cents each.

If you cannot be with us and if you would care to send a few words of greeting to Captain North, or a brief message in his honor to the committee to be read at the dinner, we assure you it would be welcome.

Yours very truly,  
Committee on Arrangements.

*W. I. Speice*  
W. I. Speice, Chairman.