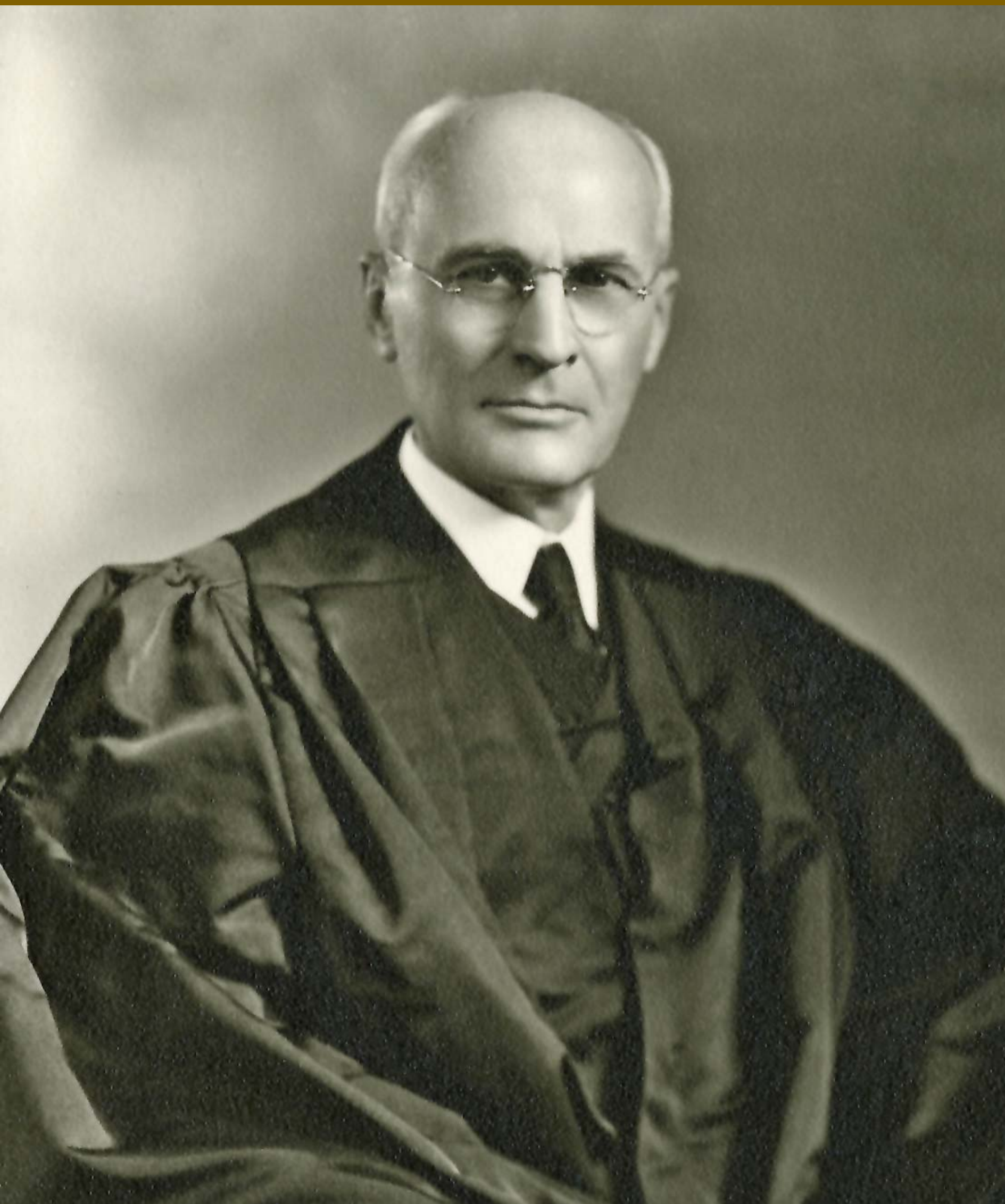


SETH THOMAS

U.S. COURT OF APPEALS FOR THE EIGHTH CIRCUIT

1935 - 1962



Data

- Born May 18, 1873, in McConnelsville, OH
- Died February 2, 1962, in Sioux City, IA

Federal Judicial Service

- Judge, U.S. Court of Appeals for the Eighth Circuit
Received a recess appointment from Franklin D. Roosevelt on December 2, 1935, to a seat vacated by Charles Breckenridge Faris; nominated to the same position by Franklin D. Roosevelt on January 6, 1936. Confirmed by the Senate on January 22, 1936, and received commission on January 28, 1936. Assumed senior status on May 1, 1954. Service terminated on February 2, 1962, due to death.

Education

- University of Iowa, Ph.B., 1904
- University of Iowa, A.M., 1906
- University of Iowa College of Law, LL.B., 1910

Professional Career

- Private practice, Fort Dodge, Iowa, 1910-1914
- Assistant U.S. attorney, Northern District of Iowa, 1914-1920
- Private practice, Fort Dodge, Iowa
- Solicitor, U.S. Department of Agriculture, 1933-1935

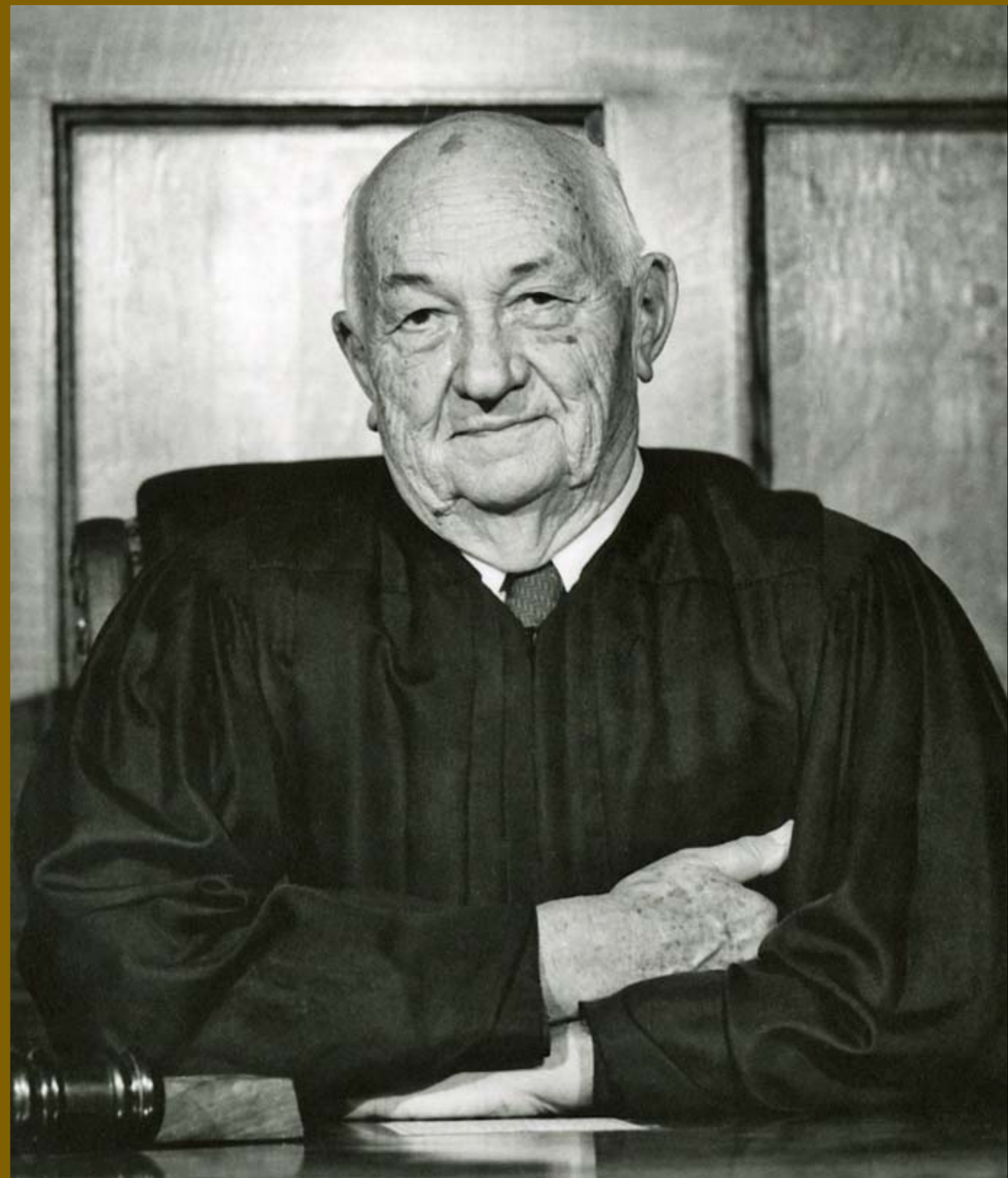
Legacy

Seth Thomas of Fort Dodge, Iowa, worked as a teacher and principal in West Virginia and Iowa before earning his Ph.B. from the University of Iowa in 1904 at the age of 31. After receiving his master's degree in 1906 and his law degree in 1910, he practiced law in Fort Dodge and served as Assistant U.S. Attorney for the Northern District of Iowa. During his appointment as Solicitor for the U.S. Department of Agriculture, he occupied a key spot in working out farm policy for the New Deal. His appointment by President Roosevelt to the U.S. Court of Appeals in 1935 returned the seat vacated by Charles Faris of Missouri to Iowa.

MARTIN D. VAN OOSTERHOUT

U.S. COURT OF APPEALS FOR THE EIGHTH CIRCUIT

1954 - 1979



Data

- Born October 10, 1900, in Orange City, IA
- Died January 28, 1979

Federal Judicial Service

- Judge, U.S. Court of Appeals for the Eighth Circuit
Nominated by Dwight D. Eisenhower on August 16, 1954, to a seat vacated by Seth Thomas. Confirmed by the Senate on August 20, 1954, and received commission on August 26, 1954. Served as chief judge, 1968-1970. Assumed senior status on July 6, 1971. Service terminated on January 28, 1979, due to death.

Other Federal Judicial Service

- Judge, Temporary Emergency Court of Appeals, 1972-1977

Education

- University of Iowa, B.A., 1922
- University of Iowa College of Law, J.D., 1924

Professional Career

- Private practice, Orange City, Iowa, 1924-1943
- State representative, Iowa, 1939-1943
- Judge, Iowa District Court, Twenty-First Judicial District, 1943-1954
- Member, Judicial Conference of the United States, 1968-1970

Legacy

Martin D. Van Oosterhout of Orange City, Iowa, served in Iowa's General Assembly and as judge in Iowa's Twenty-first Judicial District before his appointment by President Eisenhower in 1954 to Iowa's seat on the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Eighth Circuit. A large man with a booming voice, he was both the intellectual and social center of the court. Beloved by his fellow judges, he was also known affectionately as "the Big Judge" or "Van." He served as chief judge of the court from 1968 to 1970, the first Iowan to serve in that office, with chambers in Sioux City.* By appointment of Chief Justice Burger, he also served on the nine-member national Temporary Emergency Court of Appeals.

*Dillon and McCrary were the only judges on the court, serving successively.