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William L. Nuessle

O. H. Thormodsgard

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WILLIAM L. NUESSELE

In the spring of 1889, William L. Nuessle graduated with the degree of Bachelor of Arts from the University of North Dakota. Due to the efforts of President Merrifield and Chief Justice Guy C. H. Corliss, the School of Law was organized in the Fall of 1889. William L. Nuessle was a member of the first class of the School of Law and graduated with the degree of Bachelor of Laws in 1901. He began his law practice in Grand Forks. He was State's Attorney of McLean County for two terms, 1905-1909. He served with distinction and recognition as a District Judge in the Fourth and Sixth Judicial Districts from 1913-1922. He presided over the District Court with dignity, meted out justice fearlessly and impartially and won the honor and respect of the public in general and lawyers in particular. His experience on the District Bench for ten years won him the confidence of the people of the state of North Dakota which resulted in his elevation on January 1, 1923 to the Supreme Court of the state of North Dakota. For twenty-seven years he has served the state as a member of the Supreme Court. His years of judicial experience coupled with his understanding of the common law, and equity enriched the administration of justice in North Dakota. His opinions are known for their clarity of expression and precision of arrangement. As his professional qualities have earned the respect of the lawyers, so his personal qualities have earned him the affections of his fellow citizens. He was elected to the Order of the Coif in 1936 by the University of North Dakota School of Law. On June 11, 1948, he was awarded the Honorary Degree of Doctor of Laws by the University of North Dakota.

O. H. THORMODSGARD, *Dean*

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