

Charles S. Desmond, Chief Judge of the New York Court of Appeals: A Tribute

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CHARLES S. DESMOND

CHIEF JUDGE OF THE NEW YORK COURT
OF APPEALS

A Tribute

The election of Charles S. Desmond as Chief Judge of the New York Court of Appeals in November of 1959 marked the culmination of a career dedicated to the law. Born in Buffalo, New York, in 1896, Chief Judge Desmond practiced law there for ten years. He entered public office in 1935, serving on the State Board of Social Welfare for five years. In January 1940, he was appointed to the Supreme Court and in November of that year was elected to the Court of Appeals. Reelected to the Court in 1954, after being nominated by all political parties, Judge Desmond was elected Chief Judge in 1959.

Besides serving as Chairman of the New York State Judicial Conference and as a lecturer at twelve law schools, Judge Desmond has served on various academic advisory committees and published two books on the law. Eleven colleges and universities have bestowed honorary degrees on Judge Desmond in recognition of his achievements.

