

THOMAS S. MARTIN of Virginia

THOMAS S. MARTIN

Thomas S. Martin, a Democrat from Virginia, became chairman on March 15, 1913, and held the position until May 27, 1919. He was a committee member from 1910 to 1919.

Born in Scottsville, VA, in 1847, Martin attended the Virginia Military Institute at Lexington and the University of Virginia. While he was enrolled in the Virginia Military Institute, he served the Confederacy with a battalion of cadets. Admitted to the bar in 1869, Martin practiced law until his election to the U.S. Senate in 1893, where he remained until his death on November 12, 1919. Before becoming chairman of the Appropriations Committee, Martin served as chairman of the Committee on Corporations Organized in the District of Columbia and the Committee on Public Health and National Quarantine. He chaired the Democratic Caucus, 1911–13 and 1917–19.

For further reading: Holt, Wythe W., Jr. "The Senator from Virginia and the Democratic Floor Leadership: Thomas S. Martin and Conservatism in the Progressive Era." Virginia Magazine of History and Biography 83 (January 1975). Malone, Dumas, ed. Dictionary of American Biography. 1935. Reprint. New York, 1946. Vol. 12.