

the Democratic, the Socialist, the Socialist Labour ticket, or whatever name it may be, whether it has any chance for election or not. Those names on that ticket are arranged in alphabetical order, with nothing to indicate their politics, or on what ticket they are to run; and the Bar Association then votes upon those names. This has contributed very largely to the success of many candidates. I can name many instances in which excellent Judges who have served the people perfectly and well would have been condemned, knifed at the polls, defeated by the party organization, but they have gone through and been elected because of the action of the Chicago Bar Association. This is due to the fact that their action, their verdict, is published far and wide in the press. Every one knows it, and even the men of limited education will say, "Well, the lawyers ought to know better than the rest of us; we will follow their lead." Then their action is taken up by the press of the city, which wields a tremendous influence upon the independent voter, and it is generally the case that the Judges elected are divided fairly equally between the great parties. The Socialist candidates seldom poll more than perhaps twenty votes at the Bar primary.

I was much interested in the address yesterday by your President, and it was interesting to me to see that some of the problems which you are meeting here are those with which we have been contending for years. There seems to be a tendency among us towards what might be called specialists. We have gone in some directions further than you have, in others not so far. Of course, you probably know we have specialists in the Courts. This is done in a rather peculiar way. What your President said yesterday about the establishment of Criminal Judges has called my attention to this fact. We have the Circuit and Superior Courts, regular Trial Courts, and in addition to those we have the Municipal Court created by special Act in 1896, with jurisdiction within the limits of the City of Chicago, with twenty-seven Judges. We have these Judges assigned from time to time to other special Courts. We have no Judges specially elected to the Criminal Court, but Judges are assigned from the Circuit and Superior Courts to the criminal branch, a period of one or two years. That might seem