

ustrial disturbances, the political bosses may make it difficult for them to be renominated, and the newspaper bosses may defeat them for re-election if they are nominated.

The truth is judges are no different from the rest of us. They are slaves. Not one of them is free. A strong judge knows he can't stay on the bench and be free. That's why some of them resign.

Judges know that on a showdown newspapers that are slaves of advertisers or Big Business will oppose the election of judges that don't conduct themselves on the bench as those interests think they ought to.

Under our system of political nominations and elections, the moment a judge takes his seat on the bench he must prepare for renomination and re-election. Unless he is an unusually strong character—and not many of them are unusually strong characters—he will be careful not to offend the powers that make and unmake judges. He wants to save his job.

That will be so as long as we have government by newspaper controlled politicians.

If I had my way about it I would have judges elected for an indefinite term, subject to recall by the people. That would mean that a judge would stay on the bench during good behavior—and the people would be the judges as to whether his behavior was good or bad.

I would then favor recalling a judge who didn't have brains enough to interpret the law with an intelligent understanding of what public opinion wants the law to be.

But even before we can have it that way and get what the people want, we must get rid of newspaper government. It's too easy now for Special Privilege to secretly control newspapers, color the news and fool the public.

It's all rot to elect a judge because he happens to be a Democrat or Republican—because neither of those words means anything nowadays.

While I would feel more hopeful of getting justice for workers from a Socialist judge than from a Republican, a Democrat or a Progressive judge, still I would prefer a judge who owed no allegiance to any party, class or special interest—just a judge, or a just judge—one who couldn't tell the difference between friend or foe or party tags and labels.

But it wouldn't help any to try to ascertain the difference between Judges Stewart and Windes. I assume that both are human beings; that both wear pants and socks, eat, sleep and love and are loved. One may wear a different colored necktie from the other; one may be older and have bigger feet than the other—but that cuts no figure. It all depends upon how their minds work, what their ideals are and how much courage they have.

I presume judges are like so many workmen who salve to the boss because they want to hang onto their jobs. And with politics as they are now, the better the judge the more danger he is in of losing his job.

If we ever achieve genuine democracy in this alleged republic, then the juster a judge is the harder it will be for the hosts of privilege to get his goat or his job.

It may help some for the people to forget their politics and defeat on election day every judge whose ideas of law and justice they don't like.

MOTHER TANGOOSE

Solomon Grundy
Hesitated Monday,
One stepped Tuesday,
Tangoed Wednesday,
Lame-ducked Thursday,
Maxxed Friday,
Half-and-halfed Saturday,

And as there was nothing left to learn except La Furlana, which isn't popular yet.

Rested Sunday—
This is the end
Of Solomon Grundy.

New York Tribune.