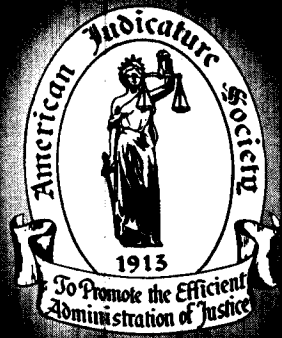


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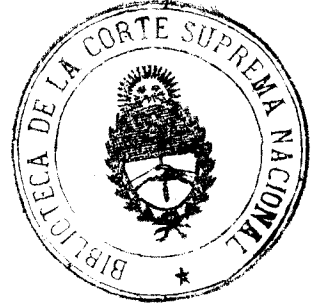


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*Chicago Elects Its Judges*

A REMARKABLE case study in the selection of judges was provided in the city of Chicago a few days before the opening of the National Conference on Judicial Selection and Court Administration.

On Tuesday, November 3, voters of Chicago and Cook County went to the polls to elect 30 Circuit and Superior Court judges. A few local bond issues were submitted, but except for them it was a judicial election, scheduled by itself in order that the selection of judges might be kept as free as possible from the pressures of party politics.

On that same day an election was held in the nation of Israel, and 85 per cent of the eligible voters voted, but in Cook County something like one out of three went to the polls to help select their judges for the next six years. In such a situation, naturally the controlled vote makes a better showing than the independent vote, so that the choice of judges actually was more securely in the control of the political machine than it would have been in a hotly contested national election.

But it is little more than a play on words to speak of those voters as "choosing" their judges that day. Twenty-four of the 30 were sitting judges running for re-election on a coalition ticket whereunder each party agreed