

Mr. BLOCH. Yes, sir. I have a very great fear that a Federal judge trying a case might appoint people who are not qualified, according to our standard, to be Federal—to be voting registrars.

The CHAIRMAN. Now, when the Federal judges, the district judges, have before them applications for the appointment of special masters, or receivers in bankruptcy, do they not usually appoint lawyers from the district over which the judge presides?

Mr. BLOCH. Yes, sir, they do.

The CHAIRMAN. What makes you think that in the case of voting referees, that the judges would follow a different practice?

Mr. BLOCH. Because we seem to have a different sort of feeling and different rules of law in connection with these civil rights cases, and these Negro voting cases, and these school cases, from what pertains in the ordinary forms of jurisprudence. I have seen things happen in these civil rights cases, and in these school cases, that never would happen in a bankruptcy case, or in a corporation case. If it did, it would be promptly corrected by the appellate courts. But there seems to be a brandnew set of law, and a different set of law, being applied in these cases from what are applied in other cases, and I say that seriously, respectfully, and rather sorrowfully.

The CHAIRMAN. Suppose in a report that would accompany a bill that we would report out of this committee, there was an admonition to the district judges that they were to confine themselves to those gentlemen who are lawyers, hailing from the district over which the judge presides?

Mr. BLOCH. I don't think that follows. Suppose a judge from North Dakota were sent down there to try one of these cases. How do you know or I know who he is going to appoint as a referee, or master? He might appoint somebody from his own State and bring him down there. That is a detail. That can be very easily cured by an amendment providing that the referee must be a resident of the district.

The CHAIRMAN. Well, if we would put such a cautionary statement in a report, even a judge from North Dakota or Montana coming down to your area would certainly be compelled to abide by that cautionary statement we put in our report.

Mr. BLOCH. Well, I don't know whether he would or not.

The CHAIRMAN. Well, if he wouldn't, I think we would have the right to hail him up before us, and ask him why.

Mr. BLOCH. Yes, sir, I think you would. I think you would have that right. But I can't guarantee that he would, and you can't.

Mr. McCULLOCH. Mr. Chairman, it would be a simple clerical matter to write such a provision into the law if the committee in its wisdom determined that it was necessary. As a matter of fact, such a provision is already in existence for study by the committee. Later I shall have more to say on this provision.

Mr. CHELF. Mr. Chairman, right on this subject, may I ask a question?

The CHAIRMAN. All right.

Mr. CHELF. Judge——

Mr. BLOCH. I appreciate you gentlemen calling me judge, but I am not.

Go ahead, sir.