

Pending the call of the yeas and nays, the following explanations were made by members when their names were called:

Mr. DENNIS. I simply desire to say that I voted for the order to publish the names of absentees, because I am perhaps as obnoxious to that order as any member of the convention. I have not been here a single night, and do not expect to be. And it would just save trouble if the clerk would publish my name in advance among the absentees. As to this order, I see no power in this convention to stop the *per diem* of any member; and I therefore vote "no."

Mr. JONES, of Somerset. I believe it is not now competent to move to amend this order so as to allow those who attend during the day only, and not at night, half wages. It is hardly fair, when a member works here during the day, and is absent at night, that he should be cut off from the pay for the work he has done, and I shall have to vote against the order for that reason. I do not believe the act calling us together made any provision for our working at night. I vote "no."

Mr. NEGLEY. If this convention cannot vote itself one dollar, how can it deprive itself of one? If the order were to the effect of requesting those members who absent themselves without leave not to take their *per diem*, I would vote for it. But in its present shape it is mandatory, and I think we have no such power. I therefore vote "no."

Mr. SANDS. I do not understand this order as taking away from any member who attends here from ten o'clock to three, his *per diem*, because he happens to be away at night. I have only to say about this matter, that I receive my *per diem* here for the services I render to my people. And when I am away, either about my business or my pleasure, I do not want them to pay me for my absence instead of my presence. I therefore vote "aye."

Mr. TODD submitted the following:

*Ordered*, That in publishing the names of absentees from evening sessions, the clerk be instructed to omit the names of members absent by leave of the convention, or on account of sickness.

Mr. ECKBR. That was understood in my order.

The PRESIDENT. The president will see that that exception is made.

Mr. TODD. I will withdraw the order.

Mr. WICKARD submitted the following:

*Ordered*, That Messrs. Berry, of Baltimore county, Berry, of Prince George's county, Thruston, Hoffman, Barron and Purnell, be appointed a committee to report on delinquent and indisposed members, the number of times each member of the convention has absented himself, and how much extra pay is due to such absentees.

Mr. PURNELL. I move that this subject be referred to a master in chancery to take depositions upon the subject.

Mr. JONES, of Somerset, moved to add Dr. Swope to the committee.

Mr. STIRLING. It seems to me that this order is out of order. It has a collection of names of some gentlemen who have on one or two occasions been absent for a week or two at a time.

Mr. JONES, of Somerset. I must have misunderstood the object of this order. I understood it was to inquire into the indisposition of members. And as my friend from Carroll (Mr. Swope) is a good physician, I thought he should be a member of the committee.

Mr. STIRLING. This is an order that the committee report how much extra pay is due to absentees. I cannot vote for any such order as that.

The PRESIDENT. Will the gentleman from Allegany explain what he means by "extra pay?"

Mr. WICKARD. I really want to see this account settled between these gentlemen who come here and offer these orders, and make all these complaints. My friend on my right, (Mr. Mullikin) who has just returned from an absence of several days, is responsible for the last order voted upon. It is invariably the case that those members who absent themselves the most, when they return make the most fuss about absentees.

Mr. THRUSTON. The gentleman ought not to complain, for he has not done anything to consume the time of the convention. I move to lay the order on the table.

Mr. STIRLING. I insist upon my point of order. How can we resolve to appoint a committee to inquire how much extra pay is due to absentees? Yet that is what this order says.

The PRESIDENT. The gentleman from Baltimore city (Mr. Stirling) has raised the point of order that this is not in order. The chair does not understand what is meant by "extra pay."

Mr. WICKARD. It is intended to induce an inquiry upon the subject.

The PRESIDENT. If the gentleman from Allegany (Mr. Wickard) will give some information to the convention of what is meant by the term "extra pay," we may be better able to understand it.

Mr. DAVIS, of Charles. I would suggest that the gentleman from Allegany (Mr. Wickard) strike out the word "extra."

Mr. WICKARD. I accept the amendment.

The PRESIDENT. The gentleman cannot amend his order after the point of order is raised. The gentleman not being able to give the convention any explanation of what the order means, the chair rules it out of order.

Mr. AUDOUN submitted the following:

*Ordered*, That it be entered on the journal that those members who have continually oc-