

The motion to adjourn was then decided in the negative, by 44 to 20.

Mr. McKaig said, by the rules, a minority had the power to compel the attendance of a majority. There were too many vacant chairs here, and it was their duty to the State to see that the public business was not so neglected. He moved the appointment of a special committee of three who shall report what steps are necessary to compel the attendance of absent members.

Mr. Carter asked if the motion was in order at this time.

The Chair said it was not now in order.

Mr. Ritchie again took the floor in opposition to the pending amendment.

Mr. Bateman called for the previous question, which being sustained, the question was taken on the amendment of Mr. Gill, when it was lost by a tie vote of 33 to 33.

The question was then taken on the amendment of Mr. Carter, when it was agreed to by a vote of 37 to 30.

Mr. John Parran moved an amendment requiring the judges to have resided ten years in the State next preceding their election, instead of five.

The amendment was not agreed to.

Mr. Carter moved as an amendment to insert the word "white" before the word "citizen."

Mr. Mackubin asked if the words "qualified voters" did not provide for this.

Mr. Carter said it did not. In view of the fact that the Congress of the United States might declare negroes to be qualified voters of the State of Maryland, and their right might be conceded under the constitutional amendment, and a negro then might say you have rendered me eligible to a seat on your bench.

Mr. Motter had no objection to the amendment, but he thought this section meant qualified voters under this constitution, and not under any act of Congress, which was an outside matter.

Mr. Merrick hoped the gentleman would withdraw his amendment, as it was impolitic and invidious. He thought