

constitution. My colleague gives it as his experience that not one-quarter of the copies of the constitution prepared for distribution were ever distributed, for it was really no favor to the county papers to supply them to their subscribers. The Union papers have taken a great interest in this constitution, and in the Union cause generally; and they think that it is not more than right that the publication should be given to them. And besides, there are hundreds and hundreds of families in the country that never see any paper but the one published in the county where they live. And I think it is advisable that this constitution should be brought fully before as large a number of the people in this way as can be done.

Mr. SROCKBRIDGE. The purpose of the order adopted by the convention the other day, as I understood it, was to furnish gratuitously to the publishers of those papers throughout the State, as many copies of this constitution headed "Extra," as they might require to send one to each subscriber, and send it as an extra of their own paper. The difference between the two plans is this; as the order now stands adopted, the type are set in one place for the whole State; while, according to the plan now proposed they must be set twice in every county in the State. Gentlemen will of course see at once the very great difference as regards the matter of expense to the State.

I am not sufficiently acquainted with these things to know what would be the expense of publishing this constitution as an advertisement in the county newspapers; but it seems to me it would be enormous. I suppose there are gentlemen here in the convention who can form some reasonable conjecture as to the number of squares this would occupy. My own impression is that it would cost the State for that operation a great many thousand dollars. And unless it be necessary I shall be opposed to incurring that expense. Before voting on this proposition I would like to know whether it is the design to have this constitution published in the newspapers in addition to what has already been ordered; or whether this order is intended to be a substitute for the other.

Mr. DAVIS. I desire to move to amend this order by inserting after the words "three times," the words "at least two weeks before the election." Otherwise this constitution might be published three times within three days of the election.

Mr. NEGLEY. My colleague (Mr. Sneary,) who is a practical printer, and thoroughly conversant with the business, states that it would not cost over fifteen hundred dollars.

Mr. SROCKBRIDGE. In forty-four papers?

Mr. SNEARY. I meant to say this: I am not now connected with any newspaper, but I was in 1851. At that time the convention authorized the publication of the constitution

in bill form. A large number of copies were sent to our county, but not one of them was ever distributed. I do not think that one person in five in the county ever saw the constitution before he was called upon to vote upon it. And under the post office law, editors are not permitted to enclose any matter in their papers other than that which belongs to the papers themselves; and if they do they violate the law of Congress. They are permitted to send only their papers free of postage, through the counties, but not permitted to enclose any circular or anything of that sort in them.

I presume it might cost from fifteen hundred to two thousand dollars, perhaps more, to print this constitution in the newspapers. Some limit should be placed upon it of course. But the newspaper press is the medium through which the people of the counties look for information in regard to such matters as these. I have no interest in the newspaper press now. I know very well that what is everybody's business is nobody's business. The copies of the constitution sent to my county some thirteen years ago, were not generally distributed among the people. The result was that comparatively few people saw the constitution. To print the constitution in the papers might lead to an expense something over and above the printing of the 60,000 copies as proposed. I do not know what they would cost; I am not able to say as to that. But I know this, that by inserting it in the newspapers it would have a much more general circulation, and be much more gratifying to the people, for they look to the papers as the channel through which such information is to be communicated. And the press of the State expect it. I would suggest that this order be substituted for the other.

The PRESIDENT. Does the gentleman from Allegany (Mr. Wickard) offer this as an additional order to the one already adopted by the convention?

Mr. WICKARD. I offer it as an additional order.

The question was then taken upon the amendment of Mr. Davis, of Charles, to insert after the words "three times," the words "at least two weeks before the election," and it was rejected.

The question then recurred upon adopting the order submitted by Mr. WICKARD.

Upon this question Mr. WICKARD called for the yeas and nays, and they were ordered.

The question was then taken, by yeas and nays, and resulted—yeas 28, nays 40—as follows:

Yeas—Messrs. Abbott, Annan, Audoun, Baker, Belt, Brooks, Chambers, Clarke, Davis, of Washington, Dellinger, Dent, Duvall, Greens, Hebb, Jones, of Somerset, Kennard, Lansdale, Miller, Morgan, Negley, Nyman,