

some arrangements with the exhibitors at the Provincial Exhibition to have certain goods reserved which would be forwarded to Philadelphia. The amount placed in the estimates was only problematical. No reliable estimate had been formed of the necessary expenditure; it might be much less or it might exceed the sum put down in the estimates. That sum was merely asked as a necessary preliminary to undertaking any exhibition of Canadian goods, and the Government considered that it was in the public interest that Canadian manufactured goods should be placed on exhibition at Philadelphia, and that as great a variety of objects as possible should be sent to show what our people could do in the way of manufactures. Some distinguished gentlemen had been asked to give their services as Commissioners, and they had been in the city occasionally and had held several meetings in order to organize a plan whereby this desirable object might be effectually accomplished.

Mr. DECOSMOS asked whether it was intended that specimens of the natural resources of the different Provinces should be forwarded to the exhibition.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE said that although no plan was yet prepared, that would inevitably form part of it.

Hon. Mr. TUPPER understood the Hon. Premier to have said that it was not intended to appoint paid commissioners. No doubt the services of gentlemen as commissioners could be obtained gratuitously, who would devote a certain amount of time to the subject; but he did not believe that Canada would make that display which it was able to make, unless some gentleman should be charged with the responsibility of acting as commissioner and be adequately remunerated for his services.

Hon. Mr. MACKENZIE said there must of course be a secretary and some other paid officers, who should act under the commissioners, but he did not think it was desirable that they should obtain the services of distinguished gentlemen in the country and pay them salaries for acting as commissioners. Their officers would of course be paid. He did not approve at the time of the action of the late Government in sending nine leading mechanics to the Vienna Exhibition, and paying them as commissioners. He then thought it would prove a failure,

*Hon. Mr. Mackenzie.*

and certainly no benefit had been derived from their appointment; but by adopting another plan, and by simply appointing some official who would have charge of the department on behalf of the country, and by having the general plan carried out under the direction of commissioners, appointed in the way he had indicated, we would accomplish the object desired, at comparatively small expense. The arrangements were, however, in an unfinished condition, and he was therefore not able to say what the Government might find it necessary to do, but the Government did intend to make a creditable exhibition of Canadian goods at Philadelphia. — The item passed.

Vote 46 under the head of Immigration and Quarantine passed.

On item 47 under this head, being \$100,000 for Menonite loan, \$70,000 for transporting Menonites and \$190,000 toward assisting immigration and meeting immigration expenses.

Sir JOHN MACDONALD asked for explanations in regard to the Menonite loan.

Hon. Mr. CARTWRIGHT said that the use of the money would be allowed during two or three years without interest, and after that it would be repaid by installments running over ten years. The Menonites resident in Waterloo county were for the most part a wealthy class, and bore the highest reputation for strict honesty and integrity in meeting their pecuniary engagements. The Government had, therefore, determined to take a bond from a number of Menonites living in Waterloo county and North York, for the repayment of the loan of \$100,000, and he believed the sum would be repaid to the last farthing. Menonites of far less means in the North-West had repaid most creditably money advanced to them. Payment of debt was a doctrine in the Menonite faith, and a very excellent doctrine it appeared to be.

Mr. MASSON said he had seen the Menonites in the North-West and knew them to be an orderly and quiet people, who brought a certain amount of wealth to the country. But he desired to ask the Government if they had considered whether it would not have been for the benefit of this county to have extended the advantages which were given to the Menonites, to bodies of French Canadians