

and the object of this vote is to encourage the manufacture of this medicinal product. It is to try and start that industry. Guano is merely the refuse after the production of the oil.

Mr. MULOCK. It is satisfactory to hear the explanation of the First Minister, which has made more impression on my mind than that of the Minister in charge of that Department. I would like to ask whether any persons have offered to undertake that industry?

Mr. McLELAN. A deputation, with the Minister of Marine and Fisheries, waited upon us in respect of this matter, the deputation being composed of members of this House representing fishing districts. They stated there was a large waste of offal in districts in Quebec, Nova Scotia and Cape Breton, and that the crude did not sell for more than 40 or 50 cents a gallon, while the imported article for medicinal purposes sold for \$2 a gallon. They stated further there was a waste in the want of conversion of the crude oil into medicinal oil of hundreds of thousands of dollars. There were no instances in which guano had been manufactured in their districts. No individual outside made representation that he wanted to go into it, but they said there was a waste and there ought to be some steps taken to remedy it.

Mr. WILSON. This proposition is very unreasonable, when we consider that in the country there is as good oil manufactured as can be got abroad. Does the hon. gentleman expect by this vote, that he is going to foster the industry so far as to make it self-sustaining? If there is a market for oil, the demand would cause the supply to be produced, and the waste would not take place. To say that cod liver oil manufactured in Canada is not good for medicinal purposes is an absurdity. I find it superior to much of the stuff we get from abroad. Canadian manufactured cod liver oil is as beneficial, from a medicinal point of view, as any we can get. There must be something behind this vote we cannot divine.

Mr. BLAKE. The hon. gentleman acknowledged that the vote should not be taken if it was for the encouragement of guano only; but he said the guano was taken from the product which is the result of converting the crude oil into refined. We know that the liver of the cod is the most valuable part of the fish; it is that which is always saved, and from which the oil is taken, so that in taking out the raw oil you will get the guano at any rate. There is therefore no necessity to refine it to get the guano; besides the work of manufacturing medicinal oil has been going on for at least twenty years in Quebec, as my hon. friend (Mr. Langelier) has said. The hon. gentleman said there was a great waste of the fish offal because we did not make the guano.

Mr. McLELAN. I do not know of any part in which we do.

Mr. BLAKE. It is made in Charlottetown.

Mr. McLELAN. Except Charlottetown.

Mr. KIRK. It is made in the Gut of Canso.

Mr. BLAKE. It is made in various parts; and it is proposed that in those parts in which it is not yet made, the public money should be used in order to induce the people to enter into this business. One of the uses to which the fish is put is the conversion of the offal into guano. That is done in some parts and not in others, and in those in which it is not done it is proposed public money should be given to people who will undertake to do it.

Mr. MILLS. The hon. gentleman knows that the market for refined cod liver oil is limited in this country, that oil being used mainly for pulmonary diseases. Does the hon. gentleman propose to encourage consumption? Is he

Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD.

endeavoring to create a market for the oil in this way? I do not understand why he should wish to encourage the production of an article which we are already supplied with. If a larger proportion of unrefined oil is used than refined oil, that is simply because there is a larger market for it than for the refined. If he thinks there should be a larger number of victims to pulmonary disease, I can understand why the Government should take the course. They must first create the market before they can derive much advantage from the supply. The common sense course for the Government is to strike this item out, which has been put into the estimates without sufficient consideration, and ought not to be retained.

Sir JOHN A. MACDONALD. That is not the way to deal with a matter of this kind. The hon. gentleman jokes about the encouragement of pulmonary consumption. What we want is to encourage the consumption of refined cod liver oil. We have no market for it now. The Norwegians supply England to a great extent, and there is no reason why we should not. We believe, that by-and-bye it will be an important article of export to England. There is no reason why we cannot supply England for medicinal purposes as well as Norway.

Mr. MILLS. And pay part of the price to induce them to buy?

Mr. PAINT. Newfoundland has manufactured cod liver oil for fifty years, and supplies England with a great deal of it. Every 100 quintals of fish produces about 100 gallons of oil.

Mr. GILLMOR. Nonsense.

Mr. PAINT. By encouraging this industry, it will raise the price from 50 cents to \$2 and \$3 per gallon, and, if it should not increase it to that value, still it will be worth \$1 and \$1.50 a gallon, in proportion to the condition to which it is refined. This vote, small as it is, will enable the Government to place these refineries at four different points in the four different Provinces, Quebec, Prince Edward Island, Nova Scotia and New Brunswick. That is what was recommended by the delegation.

Mr. LANGELIER. The manufacture of cod liver oil has been in existence in Quebec for many years. The nuns of the Hôtel Dieu have been supplying the physicians of Quebec with the best kind of cod liver oil for medicinal purposes. I have heard it stated by physicians that there is no better oil than that made in that establishment, and I am sure those ladies never asked for any encouragement from the Government to go into that industry.

Mr. VAIL. We have plenty of refined cod oil made in Halifax. With regard to guano, if this is to be extended to those factories that have been in operation for some time, I shall not object, because I have one in my own county. I do not think it is worth while to encourage the commencement of any more to interfere with those that are already at work.

Indians, Ontario, Quebec, and the Maritime Provinces..... \$10,537 50

Mr. PATERSON (Brant). It will be remembered that a motion was made, when the First Minister was not here owing to illness, by my hon. friend from West Huron (Mr. Cameron), and certain facts were brought out at that time which seemed to point to a great deal of carelessness and mismanagement on the part of officials in the North-West. On that occasion, I brought before the House certain information which was contained in a return brought down by the Department, in which it was shown clearly that flour that was unfit for human food had in some cases been supplied, and the medical attendant has testified that that had led to the sickness and death of some of the Indians. The