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Admiral Jellicoe's Report

THE report of Admiral Lord Jellicoe on Canada's part in naval service was submitted to the House of Commons on Wednesday by Hon. Mr. Ballantyne. It will be to many a reassuring report, and to none is it likely to be very objectionable. If there are people who feared that the British Government were endeavoring to exercise, through Lord Jellicoe, unfair pressure on Canada to engage in costly naval schemes, they will be pleased to find that there is no apparent ground for such an impression. Admiral Jellicoe makes it clear that the Canadian Government participated in the invitation to him to visit the self-governing Dominions and advise in naval matters. In response to the invitation he enters freely into a discussion of the naval situation, but at no point in his lengthy report is there any indication of a desire to press any policy on the people of the Dominion. He is content to give us the benefit of his great naval experience and to offer suggestions arising out of it, always remembering, however, that he is giving his opinions in response to a request from the Canadian Government, and that how far, if at all, his views are to be endorsed is entirely a question for the Canadian Parliament and people. He is, as might be expected—as indeed nearly all British people are—a firm believer in the value of sea power; he views with pride the record of what the British navy has achieved; he regards an efficient navy as necessary to the maintenance of the power of the British Empire. But he makes no attempt to specify how far Canada should go in participating in the work. On what was once a much disputed question in Canada—the merits of a centralized Imperial navy versus a Canadian navy, sometimes irreverently called “a tin-pot navy,”—Lord Jellicoe says not a word. He seems to take it for granted that if Canada is to participate in naval service she will have a navy of her own, and he proceeds to advise as to how such a navy can best be managed in co-operation with the Imperial navy, and what will be the probable cost of fleets of different dimensions. He tells us what we can have at a cost of \$5,000,000, and what we can have at a much larger cost, and virtually tells us that we may pay our money and take our choice. His recommendations

respecting the manner of organizing and maintaining an efficient Royal Canadian Navy contain much that will be useful to the Canadian authorities, even if we are not to extend our present naval operations, while if circumstances permit the undertaking, now or in the early future, of a larger scheme, the report will become still more valuable as a guide.

Canadians will share with Lord Jellicoe the pride with which he views the work of the British Navy and will sympathize with his desire that whatever Canada may do in the way of naval service shall be done in co-operation with the Imperial navy and along lines which British experience lays down. It may be that at this moment, with so many urgent calls on the treasury, there will be a disposition to go slow in this branch of public expenditure. But sooner or later Canada will have to do more than she is now doing in the maintenance of a Royal Canadian Navy, and Lord Jellicoe's report will certainly help our Government and Parliament to find the right way of doing it.

Oleomargarine

WE publish today a letter from Mr. J. A. Ruddick, Canadian Dairy Commissioner, in reply to an article in our paper, commenting on some remarks by him respecting oleomargarine at a meeting in Winnipeg. The report of his speech unmistakably conveyed an impression that the Commissioner had expressed views respecting the use of oleomargarine directly at variance with the policy of the department of which he is an official. Mr. Ruddick sets himself right on that point by explaining that, while in answer to questions he gave his own views, he was careful to “explain the department's position.” He acknowledges that he does not think the manufacture or sale of oleomargarine will interfere with dairy production in the well established districts like parts of Ontario and Quebec, but he says, “in the maritime provinces and in the prairie provinces, where there are such enormous possibilities for the development of the dairy industry, there are many farmers who are very undecided, who are hesitating and in doubt as to the advisability of taking up dairying, and who will decide against it because they have heard that the use of oleo-