

second cook, and one mess boy who has been employed in the Canadian National and proved to be satisfactory to the management for at least three years, on the West Indies scale of wages.

By Mr. Howden:

Q. How many have you ever had at one time working on these ships?—

A. From our organization?

Mr. HOWDEN: How many did you ever have?

By Mr. Isnor:

Q. Have you ever had more than 11?—A. No, that is all.

Q. You have never had more than 11 working?—A. No, never had any more than 11.

By the Chairman:

Q. That would be 11 out of what total?—A. Of the men in our union.

Q. What total would that be?—A. What total?

Q. Yes, how many in all?—A. Eleven, as I said.

Mr. ISNOR: $1\frac{1}{135}$ would be one answer to you, Mr. Chairman. They had 135 at their last meeting, that would be $1\frac{1}{135}$.

The CHAIRMAN: The answer I want to get is, out of the total number they have how many are employed on these ships.

Mr. HOWDEN: I understood him to say that the membership of the union was 300. It would be 11 out of that membership.

WITNESS: That would be it.

By the Chairman:

Q. Is that correct?—A. Yes.

Q. On the Canadian National?—A. On the Canadian National.

The CHAIRMAN: That is what I wanted to know.

By Mr. Isnor:

Q. The question has been raised more than once by officials of the steamship companies that on account of the climate Canadians are not able to carry out their duties satisfactorily. What would you say to that?—A. I can easily deny that, because I have had practical experience.

Q. What do you mean by practical experience?—A. Practical experience, I have travelled back and forwards in the tropics for the last three years.

Q. Who with?—A. I know myself, personally, and I know other Canadians—the Pickford and Black Steamship Line has coloured men and we carried on that service—in fact, they inaugurated that service from the port of Halifax previous to these ships being built. They were operated by the Canadian National and manned by local help, Canadians. It is only here recently since new men have been put in authority that they have brought up the question in regard to Canadians not being able to stand the tropical climate. It has been known in the past in that little province by the sea down there that we have been able to give better service than the West Indians.

Q. You submitted a schedule of wages on the West Indies?—A. Yes.

Mr. ISNOR: May I put this on record, Mr. Chairman?

The CHAIRMAN: I think so,

Mr. ISNOR: I would like to see it go on record.

[Mr. Walter Johnson.]