

result of depression. I cannot understand where these seamen have suddenly appeared from, because there has never been any demand for them. Now, when I read Mr. O'Donovan's evidence I endeavoured to find out if there were in fact skilled Canadian seamen in Vancouver, and when I made inquiries I found that the office of the union O'Donovan represents was closed up and the telephone had been taken out. I would like to know, if what Mr. O'Donovan says is a fact—

Mr. REID: They moved their offices.

WITNESS: I could not find out where they had moved them. There was no record of any office and nothing in the telephone book to indicate their whereabouts that I could discover. Why cannot Mr. O'Donovan or whoever is representing his union give us a list of the men whom he maintains are skilled and efficient seamen, showing their names, nationalities, length of service at sea, and whether they hold lifeboat certificates, because frankly I do not believe that in Vancouver there exist the skilled seamen who could give us the service which we at present give to the travelling public. I do not believe that those skilled seamen exist or ever did exist in Vancouver to the extent that they would be able to replace in any one department of our ships the present crews.

*By Mr. MacInnis:*

Q. Do you think they ever will exist under the present policy of the Canadian Pacific Railway Company?—A. That is apart from the question.

Q. Oh, no?—A. We are told that they now exist and I suggest to you that they do not exist.

*By Mr. Neill:*

Q. Not even 277 men?—A. No.

Q. 186 men is the number that would be required to man the decks of those four boats?—A. You need more than 186 men because you have to have a surplus in reserve.

Q. Do you say there are not that number obtainable in Vancouver?—A. No, sir; I do not believe so.

Q. After making enquiries?—A. I have made many enquiries, but we cannot find any evidence to support that contention.

*By Mr. Reid:*

Q. I can show you affidavits showing that a policeman was brought from the city of London to operate the service in Vancouver. They said it was a movement of the staff or personnel of the company?—A. A policeman was brought from London to Vancouver?

Q. Yes?—A. In what capacity was he to serve?

Mr. FLINTOFF: On the ships.

*By Mr. Reid:*

Q. Yes, and I can show you affidavits of seamen who offered their services and were told that because they had not British Board of Trade certificates they were not acceptable to the captains. I can produce those affidavits if you require them.

*By Mr. MacNicol:*

Q. The captain is responsible for giving 100 per cent service and he likes to engage the best men he can?—A. We have no vacancies for seamen at the present time. We use Chinese seamen. We are not hiring Canadian seamen at the moment.

[Captain Edmund Aikman.]