

WITNESS: May I suggest this: Canada is an exporter of raw materials and an exporting country as a rule cannot be a shipping country because the consignee calls the tune. That is to say, he states in what bottoms the cargoes will be carried. It is the country that buys the goods that is going to carry the goods. We cannot cure an employment by putting Canadians on our ships to the possible detriment of our service. We need foreign markets.

*By Mr. Reid:*

Q. I disagree with the argument that it will affect foreign markets. It will affect Canadian trade, but there is a distinction between Canadian trade and foreign markets. Australia uses 100 per cent white crews and has a greater trade now than earlier. It does not interfere with trade as trade.—A. How much of a merchant marine has Australia?

Q. I do not know.—A. There you are.

*By Mr. Neill:*

Q. How much bigger subsidy would you need to employ 50 per cent whites? —A. That was pointed out in Mr. Flintoft's statement this morning.

Q. Supposing you had the deck and engine crews composed of whites?—A. It would cost \$85,178 for white deck crews alone for the four ships.

Q. Would you be willing to employ whites to that extent if you received \$85,000?—A. Not unless you can assure me that my ships will be as efficient as they are at present.

Mr. MACNICOL: The witness said the passengers themselves demanded Oriental service.

WITNESS: As our ships run just now there are no more efficient, smart or clean ships leaving port anywhere. They leave port with man-of-war precision, and the crews are 100 per cent efficient.

*By Mr. Neill:*

Q. Can they speak English?—A. Yes, the Chinese can handle enough English to take care of the passengers.

Q. Would the boatswain have to speak Chinese?—A. Yes, just as you talk Scotch to a brother Scot.

Mr. MACNICOL: When you are talking Scotch, five years ago in the House of Commons very few could understand the member for New Westminster.

Mr. REID: Can they now.

Mrs. BLACK: Not always.

Mr. NEILL: Have they improved, or has he deteriorated?

Mr. MACNICOL: Oh no, he has improved.

WITNESS: But there is this about it, that I would want the assurance that these deck crews would not walk out on me in the event of a strike and I do not believe they could help themselves. Now, I can keep my ships sailing, strike or no strike. What happened last year when the strike was on? What would have happened if I had a European or a white crew?

The CHAIRMAN: Gentlemen, I understand that Mr. Flintoft and the Captain wish to leave at half past five. They do not want to limit the information as far as the committee is concerned. Are you nearly through with your remarks, Captain?

WITNESS: There are just two other things that I would like to develop.

Mr. MACKENZIE: If these gentlemen have to catch I doubt if they will have time to continue.