

*By Mr. Neill:*

Q. Whose ships would they use? The American's? They are wholly white?  
—A. They can use American ships or Blue Funnel.

Q. Do Blue Funnels use oriental crews?—A. Partially.

Q. Very little?—A. They used to have Chinese stokers. Whether they do now or not I cannot say.

Q. There is Japanese competition, of course?—A. There is an amount of tonnage. We know that from the difficulty we have to get freight haul for our ships.

Q. They would not go to the States, which is our principal competitor?—  
A. I would not say that.

*By Mr. MacNicol:*

Q. Do the Chinese not run ships themselves?—A. No. They do not run them much. They have a coastal service, but it is mostly handled by British officers.

*By Mr. Reid:*

Q. Regarding the length of service of the Chinese on the Transpacific ships, have you any data regarding that? I know that on the British Columbia coastal ships we have a record, and most of those have been born in British Columbia. I am speaking now of those engaged on the ships between Vancouver and China?  
—A. Yes. It is only ten years since Chinese crew records were instituted. Chinese crews are engaged at Hong Kong and their records are retained at that point. Since records were started, the average length of service is five years; but this average was affected by the 1925 strike, because many old employees did not rejoin until a year after the strike.

*By Mr. Neill:*

Q. A Chinese strike? I did not think there could be such a thing—that they were such paragons.—A. I never said there was not a strike.

Q. One would believe that the Chinese were not given to striking.

Mr. MACNICOL: They never strike on their ships.

Mr. NEILL: He stated that the germ was not in them; they would not think of that.

Mr. FLINTOFT: This is hardly fair to the witness. I have been present during the whole proceeding, and I have heard everything that Captain Aikman has said, and I do not remember him making the slightest reference of that sort. Now, all this is going on the record.

Mr. NEILL: They were so loyal and so efficient, these Chinese, that they would not strike. Did you not make that statement—that they would not strike?

The WITNESS: No, sir.

Mr. FLINTOFT: This is most unfair, this line of questioning. You are putting a lot of information into the mouth of this witness that he did not give at all and it goes on the record as though he had said it.

The CHAIRMAN: The witness can clear up Mr. Neill's point.

*By Mr. Neill:*

Q. Have you not repeatedly referred to the disadvantage and cost and the liability of the white men going on strike?—A. No. I do not think so. When did I?

Q. In the course of your remarks?—A. Can you dig back and get it?

Q. I cannot, of course. I leave it to you.—A. No.

Mrs. BLACK: I do not think he ever said that.

[Captain Edmund Aikman.]