

*By Mr. MacNicol:*

Q. 100 below per ship?—A. 100 below per ship. He says he can man them with white all told. That is a full crew, and he gives numbers which are misleading to this committee, because nobody could run the ships with the numbers he gives. I can assure you quite definitely on that point.

Then we come to page 64 with reference to the inability of Chinese to handle life-boats. The record states:—

Q. They understand enough to take orders?—A. Absolutely yes, they understand it all right. But I will tell you what they do not understand. They do not understand the operation of a life-boat. These Chinamen, when you are giving orders to put a life-boat over the side, do not understand. You have to point to the various things that they have to pick up. It would be an awful thing if one of those ships foundered at any time.

That is a very serious statement, and I wish to refute that as definitely as I can. That is a very unfair and untrue statement. The Chinese have shown remarkable adaptability in the handling of life-boats. They have never at any time shown panic, and they have on several occasions manned life-boats and made rescues at sea.

*By Mr. MacNicol:*

Q. What is your opinion as to what would happen in the event of a ship foundering with Chinese in control of the lifeboats? What would happen in comparison if you had white men in control?—A. They would handle lifeboats just as well as any other nationality, I am confident of that. We train these crews during the voyages, voyage after voyage. They are trained until that sort of work becomes subconscious, and we can show as fine discipline on abandoned ship drill as any ship or any company that runs ships.

*By Mr. Neill:*

Q. Can you train a white man into a yellow hide?—A. I have never tried training a white man into a yellow hide.

*By Mr. MacInnis:*

Q. Do you not think it would be a good idea, then, to train Chinese as officers, as well, and get a real good crew of your own?

*By Mrs. Black:*

Q. Is it not so that just a few years ago there was a horrible wreck on the Atlantic ocean?—A. Yes.

Q. The ship was manned by white men?—A. I know the case very well.

Q. The white men, who are always so brave, chopped the hands off of some women rather than have them get into the lifeboats. That is a matter of history. I do not see why one race is any braver than another. I have no brief for the Chinese, but why say that simply because a man is an Oriental?

Mr. MACNICOL: Nothing I said inferred that I had any idea of the superior bravery of the Chinese. I only wanted the Captain to express his opinion as to the reliability of the Chinese in a case of that kind.

The CHAIRMAN: Before we go on, could we have that incident mentioned by Mrs. Black on the Atlantic substantiated? What boat was it?

Mr. REID: Give us the name of the ship and the date.

WITNESS: Possibly you are referring to the *Morro Castle*.

Mrs. BLACK: I was referring to the *Bourgoyne*.

[Captain Edmund Aikman.]