

Q. On these ships at the present time I think, according to the figures you gave, there are 265 white seamen?—A. And 1,783 oriental.

Q. 1,783 orientals?—A. Yes.

Q. Then you gave I think the percentage of whites for these four ships, that would total to 1,187, I think?—A. Yes.

Q. And do you think that a satisfactory proportion of whites to orientals would be 1,187 whites and about 860 orientals?—A. Well, these are just approximate figures you see, it would be less for whites—it would be 881, you would carry less. The question is now that this matter would have to be worked out. We are quite willing to compromise, or we should be quite willing to compromise—because that is the finest way out of all arguments—with the company, and offer to co-operate with them in every way possible, so long as they put a decent percentage aboard the ships, so long as they take some of these men off the boats. That is all we need. That is all we are asking for. We are confident that they could carry more white men than they do. They could not carry all white. We had to mention some number. That is a matter that can be worked out later.

By the Chairman:

Q. Would you like to clarify your statement by indicating exactly the percentage you think should apply?—A. I have stated it.

Mr. ISNOR: It is exactly 58 per cent.

By the Chairman:

Q. Do you wish to adhere to the percentage which you think should supply?—A. Absolutely.

Q. But if the matter were actually under discussion between your organization and the company you would be willing to discuss the whole subject fully and with an open mind, and you think you could come to a satisfactory conclusion with the company. Is that your view?—A. Absolutely, yes.

By Mr. Isnor:

Q. That is apart from the master and the officers?—A. Yes, we are not dealing with that at all.

By Mr. MacInnis:

Q. You referred to the British Act passed some time ago, I think it is called the Runciman Act. When was that passed?—A. Yes. Last year.

Q. Have you a copy of it?—A. It was mentioned in the letter which was read.

The CHAIRMAN: It was mentioned in the submission of the Congress of Canadian Organizations, read by the clerk at the beginning of the meeting.

By Mr. Gladstone:

Q. Do I understand, Mr. Chairman, that a white employee receives four or five times as much wages as an oriental in the same department of work?—A. Well, the wages for a quartermaster aboard a ship of that size, an Empress boat, would be about \$65 or \$70 a month.

Q. With board?—A. With board, yes; and for an oiler it might be \$75 a month; and for an engine-room storekeeper, and jobs about like that, it would be \$75 or \$70 perhaps.

By Mr. Howden:

Q. You mean, that is for the whites?—A. For the whites. The amount of these wages fluctuates, it goes up and down, right from the chef down to the lowest man in the galley of the ship.

[Mr. Charles Patrick O'Donovan.]