

*By Mr. Howden:*

Q. If they had kept the old boats running, how many men would you have had working. You said you never had more than thirteen or eleven?—A. There have been 125. We had in the vicinity of from 50 to 60 employed, but never more than that—approximately 60 were local help that were employed by the Canadian National.

Q. And they have been gradually put out as the company discarded the old boats?—A. When they discarded the old boats, there was no employment for those men. Then they built these new boats, and for cheaper help and labour they went to the West Indies.

*By Mr. Neill:*

Q. You said in your brief that some time ago they were replaced by whites? —A. Yes.

Q. And then the second and third classes were replaced by alien coloured? —A. Yes.

Q. I did not catch the answer you gave to this gentleman as to why they did that. What explanation did the company give?—A. Well, in regard to replacing—they formed an organization in Halifax in regard to getting sufficient West Indians taken off these boats. They were granted that in regard to placing Canadian on them, but when it came to the coloured boys for employment the president of the association said that the company said they could not mix the crew, and that left the coloured local help without employment. There is some dissatisfaction in regard to these men—the association and the company employing these men—and the results were that the organization fell apart, dissolved, and the company reverted back to the old system of bringing the West Indians back to man the second and third class.

*By Mr. Isnor:*

Q. Might I ask one question in connection with a statement made a little while ago with regard to the old boats? That was the company that carried the royal mail?—A. The Canadian National which had the *Importer, Volunteer, Trapper, Otter, Beaver, Settler, Voyager, Trooper*—all were manned by coloured; that is, in the firing and cooking and stores departments. Those are the C.G.M.; but they laid them up and sold them.

*By Mr. Neill:*

Q. What colour are the second and third-class passengers mostly?—A. We did not carry a passenger service then; they were only cargo boats. The Royal Mail was carrying the passenger service.

Q. I am speaking of now?—A. Now, at the present time they are carrying passengers.

Q. Are the second and third-class passengers white people or coloured?—A. Well, white and coloured. From the West Indies you get a majority of colour.

*By Mr. Isnor:*

Q. In connection with the Lady boats sailing out of Halifax and Montreal, would they carry any coloured passengers?—A. Well, I would not say in the first class—there might be a scattered one; and in the second and third class, for cheaper reasons, they carry a couple.

Q. Of the whole passenger list what would the percentage of whites be?—A. I would say 100 per cent travelling first class would be white.

Q. Practically 100 per cent?—A. Yes.

Q. And on the second and third classes?—A. On the second and third classes? They have no desire to go down there.