

can stand them. We can stand anything. All we want is an opportunity on ships subsidized by our government; all we want is to give our seamen an opportunity of employment in our own country. That is all. If you have any questions I should be pleased to answer them. The number of unemployed we have at the present time is 511.

*By Mr. Reid:*

Q. Those are members of the association?—A. Not all of them, but the names are on the books of the association. You must understand that after a man is six months behind in his contribution he is no longer a member, but is carried on just the same. He is allowed to use the club room. The number of single men on relief in April, 1935, was 176 seamen. These figures are taken from the relief department as well as our own. A lot of these men, I understand, have recently gone to the United States of America. You must be a Canadian citizen to obtain employment on the coastwise shipping operated by the United States. You must be a Canadian citizen—American, I mean.

Mr. BARRY: You mean he must be an American citizen.

WITNESS: Yes. I am not speaking from anything I have read; I am speaking from experience; but you can sail foreign on an American ship. Some of our members—some of our best men—have actually gone over there and have got work on ships going to China and these other places.

*By Mr. Reid:*

Q. Have they any difficulty in getting a job over there?—A. None whatever.

*By Mr. Howden:*

Q. If they want men? You mean to say that if they want men they have no difficulty in getting a job?—A. No, if they want men. I would like to add this, that they prefer the British plain seaman; they actually prefer him to anybody else; and these men cannot obtain employment on the coast, but they can get it on deep water.

Q. That goes very largely for Canadians in the United States anyway.

*By Mr. Reid:*

Q. You as a seaman resent the statement that orientals are better in the hot and tropical climates?—A. Absolutely. The white man can stand the tropical weather. That is foolishness.

Mr. HOWDEN: I do not think there is anything in that.

*By Mr. Blackmore:*

Q. May I ask the witness a question. I was wondering how many more of our men you think could be absorbed by the ships that we are subsidizing if the regulation that you think should be applied were applied—that is, 65 per cent—how many more of our men would you think would be absorbed on the four ships, roughly speaking?—A. Nearly one thousand men.

Q. I was wondering if that would take up all our unemployed seamen out there?—A. It would take absolutely all of them in that particular province. Now, I want you to understand further, Mr. Chairman, that this is not just for British Columbia seamen; we are not saying you must be a member of the Canadian Amalgamated Association of Seamen before you go aboard these ships. That is not the point. The point is to have Canadian seamen.

*By the Chairman:*

Q. Have you an accurate estimate of the number of Canadian seamen throughout Canada?—A. Not throughout Canada.

[Mr. Charles Patrick O'Donovan.]