

Mr. REID: Are they affiliated with the seamen?

Mr. ISNOR: All these unions are affiliated with the Trades and Labour Congress of Canada. As to this question, Mr. Chairman, which we have before us, you will remember I stressed the importance of taking out the word "white" because I had the coloured seamen's union in mind at that time, at our first meeting. I think they have a real contention in so far as the Atlantic service is concerned in asking that Canadian citizens be employed on the Canadian National West Indies steamship boats. We feel we have seamen unemployed at the present time in Nova Scotia who should be employed on these boats because they could just as efficiently carry out the duties that are now being carried out by the West Indian crews. I do not think I need say anything more except that Mr. Johnson is afflicted in somewhat the same manner as one of the honourable members of the House and it will be necessary for you to speak a little louder than you would to the average witness when questioning Mr. Johnson.

The CHAIRMAN: Just before I call upon Mr. Johnson I would like to read a letter I have here from the Nova Scotia Seamen's Union, affiliated with the International Seamen's Union of America, addressed to myself:—

NOVA SCOTIA SEAMEN'S UNION

affiliated with International Seamen's Union of America

HALIFAX, N.S., May 6, 1936.

C. R. McINTOSH, Esq., M.P.,
Chairman,

Committee on Industrial and International Relations,
House of Commons,
Ottawa, Ont.

Dear SIR:

The bearer, Mr. Walter Johnson, President of this Union which is affiliated with the Trades and Labour Congress of Canada; has been delegated to appear before the Committee on Industrial and International Relations.

We therefore respectively solicit your kind attention and hope that the views contained within the brief memorandum submitted on behalf of Canadian Seamen on the Atlantic Coast (the majority of whom are on relief and a financial burden to the Dominion treasury) will be given favourable consideration by your committee.

Respectfully yours,

(Sgd.) WALTER JOHNSON, President,
SAMUEL C. CONNELL, Secretary,
J. WILLIAM CARTER, Bus. Agent.

The CHAIRMAN: We shall now call on Mr. Johnson.

WALTER ADOLPHUS JOHNSON called and sworn.

By the Chairman:

Q. What is your position?—A. At the present time I am unemployed, but I am a chef.

Q. Formerly your position was what?—A. Chef.

Q. Where?—A. On several ships of the Canadian National and also other passenger ships.

Mr. NEILL: Is he not the president of some union?