

Q. You do not need them at all on the Atlantic where they are all European people?

Mr. MACINNIS: That is not the point I think they were making. The *Empress of Canada* he had listed there as having a total crew of 433. That is on the statement that was given this morning.

*By Mr. MacInnis:*

Q. What would be the number of the crew of the *Australia* compared with one on the Pacific side? Have you got any figures?—A. No, I have not. But we could get those out for you.

*By Mr. Howden:*

Q. Could you make an approximate guess?—A. Oh, that would be difficult to say, because it might be a little confusing. I would rather that we give you the exact figures.

Q. Those would be the two boats that should be compared?—A. Yes. I would say the *Duchess* ships compare with the *Empress of Asia*, and the *Empress of Russia* and the *Empress of Australia* which is about the same tonnage as the *Empress of Canada*. Any first class passenger service compared as to tonnage would give you a fair comparison.

*By Mr. Neill:*

Q. Not necessarily, because you carry more first class passengers on the Atlantic than on the Pacific, would you not?—A. Not necessarily. You see, on page 64 where they talk about the distribution of crews, they use ships from 10,000 to 14,000 tons, and say the average is 186. You see, that is not a fair comparison because a ship of 10,000 to 14,000 tons is probably not a first class passenger ship. You see, it is probably a cargo ship with a certain amount of passenger accommodation and so does not need the same crew that we get. There is not the same horse-power and it does not require the same engine-room staff.

*By Mr. Reid:*

Q. Those figures submitted were given to Mr. O'Donovan by myself, and were quoted from the Board of Trade figures?—A. I quite appreciate that.

Q. They were the Board of Trade figures?—A. Passenger ships of 10,000 to 14,000 tons. I think it should give first class passenger ships of 16,000 to 26,000 tons.

Q. The Board of Trade only gave up to that. —A. There are very few ships to-day, first class passenger ships, of that tonnage.

Q. I will tell you that it does show the percentage of lascar crews as against white?—A. Yes.

Q. And they are very small; the percentage is very small?—A. Yes. Probably on that class of ship.

Q. Well, I was speaking of the ones going to the far east?—A. How many P. & O. ships are there lower than 14,000?

Q. I could not tell you.—A. They carry Lascar crews.

*By Mr. MacNicol:*

Q. Lascars are excellent seamen, are they not?—A. Yes.

Q. Lascars make excellent seamen?—A. Yes.

Q. Where do the Lascars come from?—A. They are mostly from around Malay and the Federated States.

[Captain Edmund Aikman.]