

Q. When a man is in arrears in the association, he is allowed to be taken back when he pays up his dues?—A. I beg your pardon.

Q. You take him back when he pays his past dues?—A. No, no. I will explain that to you. Any man, so long as he is in good financial standing, is excluded from paying dues when he is thrown out of work. Any man, after he is out of employment so long as he is in good standing at the time when he is thrown out of employment, is free of that. Once upon a time we had a stricter rule than that, but owing to hard times it was done away with.

Mr. McIVOR: I think that is very commendable.

Mr. REID: I should like to say a word here to clear up any misunderstanding. The basis of this resolution, as far as we are concerned is this: We are not asking that men be dismissed. We are objecting to the hiring of orientals in China and placing them on these ships. That resolution of mine says "a greater number of white Canadians" which still allows the shipping companies to hire orientals, coloured, or what have you. I repeat that, because many members of the committee got the idea that my resolution was based on 100 per cent white, and that nobody, if he were coloured or oriental born in this country or China, would get a job. The resolution is based on a greater proportion of whites. Suppose the proportion was set, for the sake of argument, at 50 per cent white Canadians; it would still leave 50 per cent coloured or Chinese born in this country.

The CHAIRMAN: Have you come to any definite decision as to what the percentage should be?

Mr. REID: No—a greater proportion. It is up to the committee to decide that point.

*By Mr. Neill:*

Q. To clear up a remark made by the gentleman from Halifax, on the Pacific coast have you ever found any ill-will or discrimination against coloured men; that is in regard to race?—A. No. As a matter of fact, I would object to that personally, and I am sure some of our members would too.

Q. To any discrimination?—A. We would object to that, because we are not fighting those men at all.

Q. You recognize them as Canadian citizens?—A. Absolutely.

Q. In the fullest sense of the word?—A. Yes.

*By Mr. MacInnis:*

Q. Do you know if any numbers could be furnished as to the orientals now on the Canadian Pacific boats who are British subjects?—A. I understand that 12 who were employed by the Union Steamships were naturalized Canadians.

Q. No. The point I was trying to make was this: I think the Canadian Pacific Steamship Company takes the position that the orientals employed on board their ships are British subjects because they were born in Hong Kong. Is there any way that that could be verified?—A. Well, of course Hong Kong is a British possession and a lot of them are born there. But there is quite a number of them that come from Canton.

*By Mr. Martin:*

Q. That does not make them British subjects?—A. No. They call themselves British subjects. I will give you an idea. I was speaking one time to one of the clerks aboard one of the Empress boats, and I asked him what part of China he came from. "Well," he said, "I came from Hong Kong." "Well," I said, "You are a British subject." "Well, my friend," he said, "I am a British subject because I want a job." You can take what you like from that; but that is the attitude these men take.

[Mr. Charles Patrick O'Donovan.]