

*By Mr. Reid:*

Q. You have had experience in the hiring of men from Hong Kong. Do you know what the procedure is?—A. We have an office in Hong Kong, and a crew agent; that is, in the oriental manager's department in Hong Kong. They are engaged there and signed to a six months' contract.

Q. The reason I asked is that the question has always been raised, especially in the House, that the men from Hong Kong, the Chinamen, are British subjects. When you are hiring men do you ask them where they were born, or make any attempt to find out?—A. They keep a record of all these men and they give them a discharge book which gives a continuous record of the ships they serve on, where they belong, their age and all the particulars in connection with them.

Q. If a man says he is born in Hong Kong, is that statement accepted or do they make an investigation to find out if it is correct?—A. It would be rather a difficult matter to investigate it; you cannot go and track down every man.

Q. That is why I asked. It could not be done; that is what I thought.

*By Mr. MacInnis:*

Q. Are the officers in the employment department in Hong Kong employees of the Canadian Pacific Railway company?—A. I beg your pardon.

Q. Are the officials of the staff of the employment offices in Hong Kong employees of the Canadian Pacific Railway Company?—A. Yes, definitely so.

*By Mr. Reid:*

Q. I have a clipping here in regard to the Esquimalt dock which says the Esquimalt dock is one of the largest in the world and could easily accommodate all of the Empress boats.

Mr. FLINTOFT: What is the article from?

Mr. HOWDEN: It must have come from Esquimalt.

Mr. REID: The opinion is that of John Cameron, general superintendent for Yarrows Limited. The question I was going to ask was, is it possible to take care of the ships in their overhauling at Esquimalt? I am speaking of the Empress boats, because I rather gathered you said that they had not adequate machinery.

WITNESS: No they have not machinery to take care of our big liners and on three occasions, once the *Empress of Australia* and once the *Empress of Russia*, and once with the *Empress of Asia*, we had to send to the navy yards at Bremerton to have them overhauled. It was an act of courtesy on the part of the U.S. navy to have the work handled there.

Mr. REID: That is important evidence.

WITNESS: It is very important, because Esquimalt has a wonderful dry-dock.

*By Mr. Neill:*

Q. Do they supply you?—A. They do a great deal of work; they do nearly all the work on our coastal ships, but they are much smaller than the trans-Pacific ships. I do not want to criticize Yarrows; they are good friends of mine.

Q. They have all the equipment in Hong Kong?—A. Yes; there are two docks there, Howloon, and Taiko.

[Captain Edmund Aikman.]