

Mr. McIVOR: The employment problem there is like it is everywhere else, and there are probably many men who cannot get work.

*By Mr. Neill:*

Q. If the policy is not to employ Canadian seamen, what is the use of somebody supplying you with a list?—A. You are suggesting that we should employ them and I suggest that they do not exist in Vancouver.

Q. And you say you would not employ them anyway?—A. No. I say we do not employ them at the present time. We tried it up to 1913, tried very hard to employ white seamen in our ships, and we were eventually forced to give it up.

Q. And that has been the experience throughout the world in British ships?—A. Not necessarily, because in Great Britain you can always get British seamen.

Q. The Union Steamship for instance?—A. They are operated from Sydney.

Q. I mean the local Union Steamship Company?—A. I am talking of deep sea ships, not coastal. In our coastal ships we employ Canadians.

Mr. HOWDEN: The witness states definitely that deep sea seamen do not exist on the Pacific coast for hire. Now, there is no need for us to go any further if that is the truth. That settles it immediately.

The CHAIRMAN: Yes, that is a very important statement.

Mr. REID: His attitude is that on account of Vancouver having few ships registered there the seamen do not exist. He loses sight of the fact that men have emigrated from all countries, particularly the Old Country, and have located in Vancouver and New Westminster.

WITNESS: I have not been able to get a list which will convince me that there are skilled seamen, stewards and firemen available in Vancouver, and I do not believe there are.

*By Mr. Reid:*

Q. If we furnish a list would you consider employing them? (No response).

*By Mr. Isnor:*

Q. We could give you some seamen from Halifax?—A. And then you will have British Columbia up against you.

*By Mr. Reid:*

Q. Apart from the fact that you say the men are not available in Vancouver which I seriously dispute, I think you will agree that when you employ Orientals from Hongkong they are no more skilled than our men?—A. They are very fine seamen.

Q. Because they have sailed in junks?—A. Because we have found them in actual practice to be most excellent seamen.

Q. They got their start in junks, I suppose?—A. I do not care where they got their start, they are seamen when we get them.

Mr. MACNICOL: Seamen are born, not made.

*By Mr. Dubuc:*

Q. I understand that Orientals and whites do not mix?—A. No.

Q. Would the British seamen's organizations be favourable to Canadian seamen if they did exist?—A. I do not understand your question.

Q. A British ship registered in Great Britain must be manned by labour organizations of Great Britain?—A. No, not necessarily, so long as they are manned by British subjects. It does not matter what race these subjects belong to provided they are British subjects.