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*Draft*

POLITICAL RAILWAY RATES.

Nov. 16, 1922

*have been by their opposition they are*  
Charges were made, and it is unanswerable - that the support

Government for the sake of Progressive/in the House deliberately prevented a proper consideration of the whole freight rate schedule by the Board of Railway Commissioners, and rendered impossible a fair and equitable treatment of the railway rates question, *utterly disregarding the claims of British Columbia, as well as those of every producer other than the grain farmer.* Ontario, Manitoba and the Maritime provinces. The question of railway transportation costs and the Crow's Nest Agreement was referred by Parliament to a special committee by the motion passed May 4, 1922. Many sittings of the Committee were held and representations made by witnesses from all over the country, on behalf of ~~representatives~~ of the different provinces. The Committee was to consider as to whether or not the Crow's Nest Pass agreement should be further suspended. On or about the 22nd June the Committee met and adopted the report recommending the suspension, the Committee report reading:

"Your Committee, therefore, recommends that a suspension of the Crow's Nest Pass agreement for one year from July 6, 1922, with power to the Governor-in-Council to suspend for a further period of one year, if in its judgment the then existing conditions justify the same, and your Committee recommend that suitable legislation be enacted to make effective this recommendation.

The recommendation of the Committee for the further suspension of the Crow's Nest agreement is made in view of the great necessity of a general reduction in freight rates on basic commodities as a whole and in what is considered to be the general public interest and not in consequence of the proposals for rate reductions made by the railways."

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