

It will be observed that the above statement shows ¹lumber increases in Eastern Canada were materially higher than grain increases in Western Canada. While there may be the greatest justification for this, the question ought to have been settled on its merits and not arbitrarily at the expense of the lumber producers. Logical and compelling reasons for the loss of their Ontario markets by the Quebec and Maritime producers after a complete survey of the whole question ought to be afforded them. The only possible reason that can be given is the abstraction of \$17,000,000. in grain rates.

A railway rate increase much felt by the community as a whole was before the Committee, that is the rate on anthracite coal, a rate in which generally speaking every urban home and many rural ones, in the whole of Ontario and Quebec, is vitally interested. This rate has been increased as illustrated by the following table:

<u>From Prescott</u>				
<u>TO</u>	<u>Nov. 20, 1916</u>	<u>Dec. 24, 1921</u>	<u>Percentage of increase</u>	<u>Government relief</u>
Smiths Falls	69	125	81	
Perth	92	155	68	
Ottawa	83	139	70	Nothing
Renfrew	112	180	63	
Pembroke	141	210	60	

<u>From Niagara Frontier</u>				
Hamilton	55	105	90	
Toronto	66	115	73	
Galt	88	145	64	
Guelph	99	155	56	Nothing
Woodstock	99	165		
Peterboro	130	200	53	
Parry Sound	105	260	40	

Not only was no action taken by the Government in any way helping the householder, but doubtless in view of the abstraction of \$17,000,000 from available railway revenues, as a result of the Government's action, no relief whatever has been given the users of anthracite coal, whose rates still stand at increases varying from 90% downwards.