

farms, and we find that many of them are either in bankruptcy or rapidly heading toward that state. In 1928 the average farm income was \$1,600, but in 1933 it had dropped to \$640. The farmer may not be the forgotten man but I think he is the submerged man. He is submerged in a sea of debt, charges, taxes and tariffs. He is helpless against the high prices which he must pay for the things he needs and the low prices which he receives for the things he produces. He has been discouraged by crop failures and lack of feed and seed, and has no credit. He has been producing products which he has been forced to sell at a price below the cost of production. It costs 65 to 68 cents to produce a bushel of wheat but he has been forced to sell his wheat for 40 to 50 cents a bushel, or even as low as 26 cents per bushel.

Another great industry is cattle raising, and I should like to put on record the costs of production in southern Alberta and southern Saskatchewan. Twenty-five ranches were investigated, each having from 300 to 3,500 head of cattle. The investigation covered a total of 10,000 head of cattle. It was found that it cost \$28.13 per head or 7.25 cents per pound to produce calves of an average weight of 388 pounds. Yearlings averaging 710 pounds cost \$49.58 per head or 6.98 cents per pound to produce. The cost in the case of two year old steers averaging 1,000 pounds was \$64.16 or 6.42 cents per pound; while for three year olds averaging 1,275 pounds the cost was \$78.44 or 6.15 cents per pound. These figures were based on a 70 per cent calf crop and 50 acres of range land for each animal. I think the calf percentage is high while the other is low. A study of one ranch which was considered as typical of many ranches in the two provinces showed the following costs:

	Per cwt.
Cows	\$6 36
Two year old steers	8 50
Three year old steers	8 00

Mr. MULLINS: Where did the hon. member get those figures?

Mr. GERSHAW: They were compiled at the Manyberries range station.

Mr. MULLINS: That is my old ranch and my costs were never that high.

Mr. GERSHAW: They were compiled by Mr. Hargrave.

At six o'clock the house took recess.

After Recess

The house resumed at eight o'clock.

Mr. GERSHAW: When the house rose at six o'clock I had given some reasons why I thought the Canadian people wanted a general election at the earliest possible moment. I had pointed out that the farm problem and the unemployment problem had not yet been solved and I gave some figures that had been worked out showing costs of production on certain farm commodities. I would like to indicate that at the time those costs were operating, the selling prices of those same products were down very low, the price of meats being down to from one and one-half to three and one-half cents per pound. We have been told that a reciprocity agreement with the United States may be consummated in the near future, and I hope when that time comes the live stock industry of western Canada will not be forgotten, because the United States is the natural and usually the most profitable market for our live stock. Even at the present time, when there is a duty of three cents a pound against our cattle going into that country and one and one-half cents for expenses, our products are being sold there. Last year practically all of the 50,000 head of cattle that we exported went into the United States. In the week ending March 7, four carloads of Canadian live cattle sold for eleven cents a pound, while the following were the prices at different points in Canada:

	Per 100 lbs.
Edmonton	\$5 75
Prince Albert	4 75
Moose Jaw	6 00
Saskatoon	5 00

Hogs are also bringing a good price in the United States. During the same week they were selling at Buffalo at from \$9.90 to \$10, while at Toronto the price was \$7.25 to \$7.75 per hundred pounds.

We have gone and are going through a very serious stage, and it is to the credit of the governments of Canada that while some people have been broken down by worry and some have been undernourished, practically no one in this country has been starved. At the same time I will say without hesitation that there has been a lack of uniformity and an unfairness in the administration of relief in the dominion. The leader of this party (Mr. Mackenzie King) suggested some three or four years ago that an unemployment commission should be set up to look after unemployment for the whole country in the interests of uniformity, and I believe had that suggestion been carried out, money would have