

the province of Nova Scotia and the province of New Brunswick involving themselves in this undertaking and moving, as I see it, in a very active and energetic way toward the culmination of all the data required to bring together the information required to call tenders and to get construction under way, we must never lose sight of the fact that we have in existence in this country what is known as the Canada Development Corporation. As far as I am concerned, we have not used the resources available to this corporation in the way we should.

There cannot be anything more useful to the people of Canada than to undertake this great project with the dollars of Canadians, so that we can say we own lock, stock and barrel a resource which will produce the power that exists. For this reason I believe the Canada Development Corporation should be involved in the undertakings which are moving forward. We have heard from Baron Rothschild and we know that he is interested. We have heard from Americans. The hon. member for Cape Breton-The Sydneys and myself involved ourselves with a number of representatives of the biggest trading companies in Japan. They are also interested in Fundy tidal power. If all these people are interested in this project, as well as people from the United States, why can we not find the money right here in Canada to undertake the job?

I am very pleased with the progress of this project at this time. I do not think for a moment that we should do anything to impede it. As a matter of fact, I think we could move still faster. I believe we must put every emphasis on the development of this program. Before I sit down I would like to say that I think this type of capital works project is better than the 102 grants which might be made available to various industries in Atlantic Canada for producing employment, stability of employment and viability of the economy of that part of our country. This is the way it can be done. This is the way it should be done. I believe that if we keep going forward as we are now, this is the way it will be done.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Frank Maine (Wellington): Madam Speaker, the question of Fundy tidal power as raised by the hon. member for Cumberland-Colchester North (Mr. Coates) is a question which cannot be dealt with in isolation. It is part of the major energy problem facing us today. When I speak of energy, I am referring to all forms of energy whether it be derived from petroleum, from natural gas, from coal, from hydro-generated electricity, from nuclear energy, whether it be fission or fusion or solar, wind and tidal means of generating energy. This is the total framework in which study is needed in terms of both time and money so that priorities can be established. At present this is being looked at with a 12-month energy Research and Development study conducted in house under the auspices of the government. It is presently being finalized and I understand, will be tabled very shortly.

Looking ahead at this total energy picture, the big prospect of the future is fusion. Fusion is the joining together of two hydrogen atoms at temperatures of 50 million degrees centigrade, at which time the two atoms of hydrogen fuse together and form helium and give off a neutron and energy. If more energy is given out than is put into

this reaction, you have an energy-creating nuclear reaction.

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It is postulated by scientists that within 25 years we may expect to have harnessed energy from the fusion reaction. You may say the year 2000 is a long time away, but I remind you that in 1950, 25 years ago, there were some farsighted scientists who said that if we split the uranium atom we would have fission energy and could harness energy. As a result, today we have the CANDU reactor. This is recognized as one of the leading nuclear harnessing systems—

Mr. Coates: Madam Speaker, I rise on a point of order. I do not mind the hon. gentleman making a speech about nuclear power at the proper time, but I do not appreciate my private member's motion being misused so that he can say whatever he knows or thinks about nuclear power. If the hon. gentleman wants to support my motion, let us hear him say something about Fundy tidal power.

Mr. Maine: On the point of order, Madam Speaker, I think it is critical to this whole question that we get it in perspective. This is one part of the total energy picture, and I am trying to develop a spectrum to show the hon. member and others how this fits into the time-frame I am developing. Tidal power is one aspect of it.

Mr. Coates: Madam Speaker, I think if we were involved in an energy debate it would be quite proper to take that approach, but the question I have placed before the House relates to Fundy tidal power, its development and the ways it is to be developed. I take strong objection to the hon. member coming with a prepared text relating to nuclear power that is not associated with Fundy tidal power, and using private members' hour to speak about another matter.

The Acting Speaker (Mrs. Morin): I have read the motion. It deals with immediate consideration being given to the undertaking of any further investigations required to develop the necessary information. Perhaps the hon. member for Wellington (Mr. Maine) is about to come to this matter.

Mr. Maine: That is correct, Madam Speaker, and to do that I have to develop the whole picture so that we can put the Fundy tidal power project in proper perspective. I was about to recommend, logically, what should happen to this motion to show why fusion is a direction in which we should go. The fuel for fusion is hydrogen, and hydrogen is abundant as it comes from water. We have a great deal of water on this planet and it is very cheap. This is not the situation with uranium, which is presently the source of energy for the short-term future. The supply of energy derived from uranium is very limited; our proven reserves of uranium are 25 years in total. This does not augur well for our needs in the future.

The other aspects of fusion reaction which are attractive are not only the abundance of cheap fuel but the fact that there are no nuclear, radioactive waste products which are environmentally damaging. This has been a very serious problem with fission reaction with which we are coming