have accepted a goal without following through. But the blame spreads, Canada is the loser, and for this reason I find it extraordinary that the speakers on the other side, the last speaker excepted, should try to apologize their way out of the position the government has taken.

The hon. member for Timiskaming (Mr. Peters) told us he was not sure whether there was an energy shortage now or not. That is not the point, Madam Speaker. We need conservation measures now and we are not getting them. In their absence, succeeding generations will vilify us. We are the guardians of our resources and we should hold them in trust for those who follow. We ought not to go down in history, as go down we will unless we change our ways, as profligate wasters of our nation's patrimony. It is a horrible thing to think that this generation will be looked upon in that way by generations to come.

As I say, we need a policy of energy conservation, and we need to consider alternate sources of energy. There is a wide choice, and many have been mentioned tonight. It may be worth while to list some of the non-renewable on the one hand and the renewables on the other. I do not think the list need be exhaustive, but there are at least ten that are worth mentioning.

● (2050)

On the non-renewable side there are, of course, hydrocarbons, liquid petroleum, gas, and coal. There is, of course, nuclear fuel, which has been mentioned on a number of occasions. On the renewable side those which are more or less indefinitely renewable—eternally is a pretty strong word—are thermal, and there is much thermal energy being wasted in Canada. There is tidal power. The hon. member for Cumberland-Colchester North (Mr. Coates) mentioned that this afternoon. So we have tidal power, and I suggest possibly there is surf power which we have not yet exploited. On the west coast of Canada there are pounding surfs that beat up on our beaches. This is power that should be capable of being harnessed. There is also the generation of electricity from hydro, wind, energy from wood and energy from bio-mass of which we have heard, and solar energy.

Solar energy is rather interesting. We seem to be so close and yet so far from being able to capture and use solar energy. I was talking to someone in the energy field the other day and he produced an absolutely staggering thought for me. I think the figure he used was two days, but even if it were two weeks, he suggested the sun poured down on the earth in that time as much energy as we poor humans can produce in a whole year. Some of this energy is being used. It is being used by our plants and we consume it later in the form of food, but the vast portion of it is wasted. It even comes through the thickest clouds and reaches us in ways that we know not how to capture. We must turn to the development of ways of doing so.

There are probably other forms of energy that we should be taking advantage of, each of which has its own advantages to offer, and each of which has its own problems to be overcome. Each of these sources must be mastered if we are to survive and preserve for the generations to come those energy sources now available to us.

Let me speak briefly about research and development, that neglected child of this government. I understand that just a little more than $1 million per year is being devoted to research and development in this field by the government.

I am having a great deal of difficulty, Madam Speaker.

The Acting Speaker (Mrs. Morin): Order, please. There are a number of private debates going on which perhaps could be held at the sides behind the curtains, so that the Speaker could hear the hon. member for Esquimalt-Saanich (Mr. Munro).

Mr. Munro (Esquimalt-Saanich): I would even enjoy the opportunity of hearing myself, but I was not even able to do that.

I had reached the point of research and development in my remarks. There is a great need for research funds to assist exploration in these areas of potential use to mankind in order to determine which ones have the most to offer Canada in our present dilemma.

Whatever my friend, the hon. member for Timiskaming may say, we are drawing down our reserves of energy by the extent to which we use them, and we will eventually run out. Those are the non-renewable resources. Coal also has much to offer. I think if we could convert some of the jaw energy that is being used tonight into some form of usable energy we might be able to illuminate the Lester Pearson Hall without having a bill to pay at the end of the month. Of course other base products are also available.

There is one particular area of research and development I should like to draw to your attention this evening. In an earlier debate I mentioned the Wally Wagon, the product of a group of students of the University of British Columbia about two or three years ago. It was in December, 1973. I mentioned it as an example of inspired engineering aimed at solving a problem that was before us. It is also an example of the failure of the government to do anything to help. Governments are elected to show leadership. This government is showing none in this area. It is hopelessly deficient, even more deficient than the funds it extends research and development.

The Wally Wagon was powered by liquified gas under pressure. This is very easily refueled. It was a small compact car which served a commuter purpose. It handled the difficulties of urban parking and it dealt with the aspects of pollution. It was only eight feet long, or about 100 inches, compared to the 200 or 250 inches of the brutes we see running around now, occupying space for parking, polluting our air, and guzzling our gas.

This vehicle, named after Walter Gage, President of the University of British Columbia, was entered in a competition in Detroit in 1972 or 1973 and it lead in all categories including efficiency, design, convenience, economy, and it almost was pollution-free. It won against 64 other entries.

This is a tribute to the youth of this country who, on their own initiative, worked out a design to meet the requirements of the present day. I have seen this car and it is a little gem. Do you know where it is today? It is sitting under wraps in an engineering building at the University of British Columbia. It could very easily have gone into production, but there were no funds to carry it forward. It had a couple of wrinkles they wanted to get out, but there were no funds for that. It was just put aside, and there it