order to reduce the present and future dependence of other provinces on oil for electric energy, the government will enter into discussions with any of them that may be interested in assistance in financing construction of the initial nuclear generating station in each province.

Some hon. Members: Hear, hear!

Mr. Trudeau: At present the Atlantic provinces are very much dependent on oil for fuel in the production of electric power. In the case of New Brunswick, most of its hydroelectric power potential has been developed. Additional electrical capacity must essentially be thermal, based either on imported oil or on nuclear energy. The government has had discussions in recent months with the government of New Brunswick concerning construction of a nuclear reactor in that province under the new policy to which I have referred. The federal government has offered to help finance 50 per cent of capital cost of a new 600 megawatt nuclear power station, both to meet growth of demand in New Brunswick and, by interconnection with Quebec and Nova Scotia, to tie more closely the regional power system in eastern Canada.

Before ending my remarks, Mr. Speaker, I should like to reassure the government and people of the United States that, while we must move toward security of supply and a capacity for self-sufficiency, we will not do so in a manner which is destructive of the beneficial ties that have developed between our two countries. Obviously, the first duty of any Canadian government must be towards its own people. But we will wish to consult with the United States, and we will plan the development of our oil resources in such a way as to continue to export for some years yet. We probably will also continue to meet part of our total requirements through imports for at least some period, even after the pipeline to Montreal is completed.

The policy I have outlined is one that I am convinced is fair, reasonable and in the best interests of Canadians in all parts of Canada. I recognize that there will be differences of view on various aspects of it. The policy is, however, coherent in its relationship of current and future prices to current and future needs for energy in Canada. It will establish, too that security of supply which can ensure that we will not at some future time incur the hazards and inconveniences we now face. I hope the policy will justify and receive the co-operation of the provinces and the approval of this House.

Hon. George Hees (Prince Edward-Hastings): Mr. Speaker—

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Laniel): Order, please. The hon. member for York North is rising on a point of order.

Mr. Danson: Mr. Speaker, I wonder whether we can determine from the Leader of the Opposition if he would care to call off the vote on Monday now?

Mr. Hees: Mr. Speaker, obviously the Liberal Party is no better at humour than it is at policy.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Laniel): Order, please.

Energy Supplies Emergency Act

[Translation]

Mr. Latulippe: Mr. Speaker, I rise on a point of order.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Laniel): Order. The hon. member for Compton on a point of order.

Mr. Latulippe: Mr. Speaker, if the Prime Minister (Mr. Trudeau) will allow me, I would like to ask him a simple question and I trust he will want to answer it.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Laniel): Order. I think the hon. member's request could well be accepted, first with the consent of the Prime Minister but also with the consent of the House because the Chair has already recognized the hon. member for Prince Edward-Hastings (Mr. Hees). If the House does not object and the Prime Minister agrees to answer the question, I will recognize the hon. member for Compton.

Mr. Trudeau: As far as I am concerned, Mr. Speaker, I will be quite pleased to answer the hon. member. I have to give a press conference but, of course, I would be very glad to answer questions from hon. members first as long as there are not too many of them.

Mr. Latulippe: Mr. Speaker, I would ask the right hon. Prime Minister, in view of the new developments considered by him such as the extension of the pipeline and the development of the tar sands in Alberta, whether he intends to use various financial institutions to render beneficial the transactions in which the government will be engaging with respect to the financing of those large projects. I would also ask the Prime Minister if he intends to ask the World Bank for interest free loans as other countries do for developments of that size?

Mr. Trudeau: Mr. Speaker, the hon. member knows that we do not always share the same views on economic theories. As far as I am concerned, I am not all that prepared to accept the suggestions made by the hon. member, but had the people of Alberta not so massively rejected the Social Credit theories at the last election, that province of course might very well make that suggestion to me but they are no longer interested.

[English]

Mr. Hees: Mr. Speaker, the miracle of expediency that we have just witnessed makes Paul's conversion on the road to Damascus look like very small scale stuff.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Laniel): Order, please.

[Translation]

• (1650)

Mr. Fortin: Mr. Speaker, I rise on a point of order.

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Laniel): Order, please. Is the hon. member for Lotbinière rising on a point of order?

Mr. Fortin: Yes, Mr. Speaker. My point of order concerns the remarks made by the right hon. Prime Minister. He has misled the House. The financial situation of Alberta was fantastic under a Social Credit government. Most