

forum that the convention to be negotiated, starting in January in Washington and leading up to the meeting on global warming in Brazil in 1992, should be negotiated at the same time as the protocols are negotiated so that the heads of state in 1992 could sign a comprehensive package.

We are moving very aggressively on global warming, and that is the reason why at the Geneva meeting Canada was singled out among a small group of countries as being among those that had moved aggressively on the issue.

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• (1450)

CANADA SCHOLARSHIPS PROGRAM

Mrs. Louise Feltham (Wild Rose): Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Minister for Science. It pertains to the Canada Scholarships Program in science and technology.

Presently the Canada Scholarships Program in science and technology is not available to students attending colleges and technological institutes.

Could the minister apprise the House whether the government, as part of its commitment to improving Canadian competitiveness, plans to recognize the excellent research being conducted by the young men and women in our colleges and institutes, by implementing an awards program for technicians and technologists?

Hon. William C. Winegard (Minister for Science): Mr. Speaker, I thank my colleague for her question and for her continued interest in this subject.

There is no question that every member of this House would agree that technicians and technologists are an important part of making Canada a competitive nation. I have received hundreds of recommendations on this same issue. Maybe they have all been inspired by my hon. colleague.

I remind the House that this government, not very long ago, agreed to support a private sector led study on the role of technicians and technologists in Canada. I think what we will do—and it is on the science agenda and it will stay very high on the science agenda—is that

as soon as funding becomes available, we would be pleased to consider it.

[Translation]

Oral Questions

IMMIGRATION

Mr. Gilles Duceppe (Laurier—Sainte-Marie): Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the Prime Minister. We all know that Ottawa and Quebec are supposed to sign a new agreement on immigration. This morning, the Quebec Minister of Cultural Communities and Immigration pointed out that signing this agreement was essential if Quebec was to pursue its plans with respect to immigration and that the agreement was not incompatible with current attempts at constitutional clarification in Quebec. My question is this: Does the Prime Minister intend to sign this agreement as soon as possible and if not, why not?

Hon. Barbara McDougall (Minister of Employment and Immigration): Mr. Speaker, last week, before the Standing Committee on Labour, Employment and Immigration, we talked about the Meech Lake Accord and a constitutional agreement, and subsequently about an administrative agreement. Of course, we are still working on this question but at this point it is impossible to set a date.

Mr. Gilles Duceppe (Laurier—Sainte-Marie): Mr. Speaker, if I understand correctly, the minister has just demonstrated that federalism can be an asset to Quebec. History will remember the important role played by the Prime Minister of Canada since his famous speech in Sept-Îles on Quebec's progress towards sovereignty, and I want to thank him for that.

An hon. member: That's more than you ever did!

Mr. Duceppe: However, would she perhaps tell us, in no uncertain terms, whether or not she will sign this agreement? Since there is no immediate connection with the discussions on our constitutional future, it is feasible in the present context.

Hon. Barbara McDougall (Minister of Employment and Immigration): Mr. Speaker, the answer doesn't change just because the hon. member is a bit upset.

Some hon. members: Hear, hear.

Mrs. McDougall (Minister of Employment and Immigration): The answer is still the same. The Prime