visit departments of the Academy?" In spite of state and international planning, there is, in practice, much less scientific cooperation between the socialist states than between the capitalist ones.

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Prior Preparation Pays

I should like to suggest the following addendum to Bragg's recommendations ("The art of talking about science," 30 Dec., p. 1613) for improving the quality and efficiency of seminars. At the bottom of the usual seminar announcement there should be listed one or two references to recent journal articles relevant to the seminar topic. This opportunity to brush up on an old, or be introduced to a new, area of research would greatly assist students who often lose the train of thought at seminars because they are unfamiliar with terms or ideas which the speaker assumes everyone knows and understands. I am sure that this small modification of standard practice would greatly increase the efficiency of seminars and attention of participants.

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Canada's Science Council: Incomplete Representation

Most Canadian scientists will greatly appreciate Carter's article ("Canada: science advisors to propose priorities," 2 Sept., p. 1083) in which the organization and responsibilities of the Science Council and Scientific Secretariat of Canada were outlined. However, there is a considerable gap in the representation of the Council; in spite of the fact that the province of Alberta is one of the leading provinces in Canada and that it has two active universities and an internationally recognized Research Council, it has not a single representative on the Science Council. As Carter pointed out, the representation from Quebec is considerable: seven council members. Apart from demographic implications, this emphasizes the peculiar political overtones which the organization and functions of the Council may