

*Inquiries of the Ministry*

minister and the Auditor General, or between any members of the minister's staff and the Auditor General that were not disclosed to the committee on that occasion?

**Mr. Drury:** Quite obviously, Mr. Speaker, there have been a number of conversations—

**Mr. Woolliams:** Oh, yes.

**Mr. Drury:**—with members of the administration. I do not think the Auditor General endeavoured, if indeed he could succeed, to produce before the committee yesterday a complete record of all the conversations that he has had with all members of the administration.

**Mr. Woolliams:** Would the minister be prepared to make a full statement on motions soon as to what the conversations were and what took place between his department and the Auditor General?

**Mr. Drury:** Mr. Speaker—

**Mr. Baldwin:** You mean a full confession.

**Mr. Drury:**—I understand the committee will be—perhaps it would be wrong to use the word “inviting”—summoning me to a session next week—

**Mr. Woolliams:** That is a good idea.

**Mr. Speaker:** The hon. member for Edmonton West. Order, please. I apologize to the hon. member for Edmonton West, but I believe the hon. member for Ontario seeks the floor on a question of privilege.

**Mr. Cafik:** Mr. Speaker, I do not want to add any further heat to this debate—

**Mr. Hees:** Then sit down.

**Mr. Cafik:**—but the hon. member for South Shore, who is a member of the Public Accounts Committee as I am, has indicated to the House that he was in attendance at those meetings, which he was. I make no bones about that, but he indicated that the government, through the report of that committee, was trying to muzzle the Auditor General. As a member of that committee I resent such a remark, because the report to which we are alluding and upon which the bill has been based was passed unanimously by the Public Accounts Committee of which he is a member and, if I remember correctly, he was in attendance at the time it was passed.

**Some hon. Members:** Hear, hear!

**Some hon. Members:** Oh, oh!

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, please. The hon. member for Edmonton West.

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[Translation]

**IMMIGRATION**

QUEBEC—FEDERAL—PROVINCIAL AGREEMENT RESPECTING ADMISSION OF IMMIGRANTS

**Hon. Marcel Lambert (Edmonton West):** Mr. Speaker, my question is directed to the right hon. Prime Minister

[Mr. Woolliams.]

in the absence of the Minister of Manpower and Immigration.

Has consultation taken place or is consultation taking place between the federal and provincial governments on the subject of admitting immigrants into Canada?

**Right Hon. P. E. Trudeau (Prime Minister):** Mr. Speaker, discussions have previously been held on the subject. I obviously cannot say what matters were studied. It all depends on the subject and the date to which the member is referring.

**Mr. Lambert (Edmonton West):** Mr. Speaker, I have a supplementary question for the right hon. Prime Minister.

[English]

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, please. Again, I apologize to the hon. member for Edmonton West. We may get to his supplementary eventually, but I understand we have a question of privilege from the hon. member for Athabasca.

**Mr. Yewchuk:** On a question of privilege, I just want to put the record straight, Mr. Speaker.

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, please. If that is the purpose of the hon. member in seeking the floor, that is not a question of privilege. I suggest that the hon. member for Ontario did not have a question of privilege, and again I suggest to the hon. member for Athabasca that if we are to pursue this debate as to who attended and who did not attend the committee meeting, and whether there were communications or not, it will not advance the work of the House very much. However, I will hear the hon. member for Athabasca.

**Mr. Yewchuk:** Mr. Speaker, my question of privilege pertains to the statement which was made that this report was unanimously approved by the members of the committee. I state that this was not so. The chairman of the committee was not present. The report was not signed by him.

**Some hon. Members:** Oh, oh!

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, please. The hon. member for Athabasca has the floor. Perhaps he should be allowed to indicate what the privilege is.

**Mr. Yewchuk:** The question of privilege is the fact that the chairman of the Public Accounts Committee was away on an official trip to Japan.

**Some hon. Members:** Oh, oh!

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, please. Again, I suggest to the hon. member that this is not a question of privilege. Obviously, there is debate between hon. members as to who was there and who was not there. The citations are numerous to indicate that this cannot be construed as a question of privilege.

**Mr. Hees:** Mr. Speaker, I rise on the question of privilege—