

November, and that if any such abrogation were intended New Zealand would certainly not vote for the resolution. The Conciliation Commission could not set aside the Assembly resolution, its task being to explore the possibilities of arriving at a settlement between the parties, to endeavour to achieve peace, and to report on the results of its work to the next session of the Assembly. If the Arabs and Jews did not accept the existing situation and engage in negotiations, forgetting past animosities, the alternative would be the destruction of both peoples.

In replying to charges made by the Soviet Union and her supporters that the United Kingdom and the United States were using Palestine as a pawn in their imperialistic game in the Middle East, Mr Fraser asked these countries to cease their attacks and concentrate all their efforts on reaching the best possible solution of the Palestine problems. After referring to the work done by the United Kingdom as mandatory Power in developing Palestine, Mr Fraser asked all members of the United Nations to do their utmost to help the re-establishment of Arab refugees, and to aid, through the appropriate United Nations agencies, the economic development of the Middle East. The emergence of the State of Israel might then prove to be the beginning of a new era in the Middle East, which with large-scale capital development could support a much greater population. While the resolution as amended would not provide exactly what every member State desired, it would enable the Assembly to produce an agreed decision. If the Assembly adjourned without adopting a plan to bring the parties together, such a failure would be a disgrace to the United Nations.

The resolution as amended was finally adopted by the Assembly by 35 votes (N.Z.) in favour with 15 against and 8 abstentions.

The text of this resolution is as follows :—

“ The General Assembly

“ Having considered further the situation in Palestine,

“ 1. Expresses its deep appreciation of the progress achieved through the good offices of the late United Nations Mediator in promoting a peaceful adjustment of the future situation of Palestine, for which cause he sacrificed his life ; and

“ Extends its thanks to the Acting-Mediator and his staff for their continued efforts and devotion to duty in Palestine ;

“ 2. Establishes a Conciliation Commission consisting of three States members of the United Nations which shall have the following functions :—

“ (a) To assume, in so far as it considers necessary in existing circumstances, the functions given to the United Nations Mediator on Palestine by the resolution of the General Assembly of 14 May, 1948 ;