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Mr. Ilsley's Statement on Palestinian Question: Following is partial text of statement delivered by the Right Honourable James L. Ilsley, Representative of Canada, in the United Nations ad hoc committee on the Palestinian question, Tuesday, October 14, 1947:

"The discussion which has taken place in this Committee has, in our view, tended to confirm the principal argument given by a majority of the Committee in support of its proposal for partition with economic union....

"Our own experience predisposes us in favour of national unity in some form. In Canada we have had to work out a problem which while not analogous has points of resemblance to that which confronts the Committee for we ourselves are a nation of two peoples with two cultural traditions. During almost two centuries, both before and after the attainment of self-government in Canada, a number of solutions have been tried, including both partition and complete union. Eventually we reached a satisfactory working arrangement in a federal state which is now 80 years old. Every year which passes confirms the wisdom of the decision we made and strengthens the interdependence and the mutual respect which made it possible. Confederation in Canada, was, however, based on agreement. The representative of Pakistan has said here that partition should not take place without consent but the question arises as to whether it is any better to try to maintain unity without consent. There is no evidence yet in anything we have seen or heard that both Arabs and Jews will accept accommodation within the framework of a single state. We maintain the hope, based on our own experience in federation, that they will some day find in federation a means of solving their problems. For the moment, however, we must accept the fact that they have emphatically rejected even the form of federation suggested in the minority report. In the circumstances we have been lead to accept, somewhat reluctantly, the majority proposals for partition as a basis for discussion.

"Since the report of the United Nations Special Committee on Palestine was written, the problem has been greatly altered by the announcement by the mandatory power of its intention to withdraw from Palestine. This is a statement of serious import and we must take it into full account in making our decisions.

"Confronted with the situation which will arise when the mandatory power withdraws, we must, I think, consider urgently three problems. First, how can we work out quickly and efficiently the details of the plan for Palestine which we are preparing to adopt? Secondly, who will take over the responsibility for the administration of Palestine which the mandatory power proposes to surrender? And thirdly how shall we go about putting our decisions into effect in the absence of agreement by both Jews and Arabs to accept them?

"In regard to the first of these questions, we share the views of other delegations that the partition scheme must be made workable if either political pacification or economic unity is to be achieved in Palestine. Therefore a sub-committee should be set up without delay, as the United States delegation has suggested, to work out the details of a scheme particularly in respect of boundaries for recommendation to the Committee and, if approved, the Assembly.

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