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ARAB FEDERATION

AL-DOWLEH AL-ARABIA AL-MUTTAHEDA

On 14 Feb. 1958 King Faisal of Iraq and King Hussein of Jordan proclaimed in Amman the union of their kingdoms.

The agreement provides for the unification of foreign policy, diplomatic representation, the army, customs, law, education and currency. The federal authority will have executive and legislative bodies. An equal number of members from each existing Parliament will be chosen for the federal legislature. The executive body will be appointed according to the federal constitution.

King Faisal is the head of state, King Hussein the deputy head of state. Baghdad and Amman are the alternate capitals.

Flag: black, red, white, green.

The federation was ratified by the Jordanian parliament on 18 Feb.

ARGENTINA

REPÚBLICA ARGENTINA

CONSTITUTION AND GOVERNMENT

In 1516 Don Juan Díaz de Solís discovered the Río de La Plata. In 1534 Don Pedro de Mendoza was sent by the King of Spain to take charge of the 'Gobernación y Capitanía de las tierras del Río de La Plata,' and in Feb. 1536 he founded the city of the 'Puerto de Santa Maria del Buen Aire.' In 1810 the population rose against Imperial Spanish rule, and in 1816 Argentina proclaimed its independence. Civil wars and anarchy followed until, in 1853, a stable government was established with a constitution.

The present Constitution of the Argentine Republic, proclaimed 1 May 1956, is the one in force up to 16 March 1949, when the Perón Government substituted its own. This old constitution dates essentially from 1853, with amendments in 1860, 1866 and 1898. As amended by the Electoral Act of 1951, the President and Vice-President (and members of the Senate) are elected directly by popular vote (no longer by an electoral college); their term of office is 6 years and the President may be re-elected. The Vice-President presides over the Senate, but has otherwise no political power. The President is C.-in-C. of the Army, Navy and Air Force and appoints to all civil, military, naval and judicial offices, in certain cases with the approval of the Senate, and has the right of presentation to bishopries; he is responsible with the Cabinet for the acts of the executive; both President and Vice-President must be Roman Catholics and Argentine by birth.