THE HASHIMITE KINGDOM OF THE JORDAN.

Constitution and Government.—The Kingdom is governed by His Majesty King Talal ibn Hussein, eldest son of King Abdullah, who was assassinated in Jerusalem on 20 July, 1951. King Talal took the oath on 6 Sept., 1951. He was born in Mecca in 1909; is married to Queen Zein, daughter of Sherif Tamil ibn Naser; and has 3 sons and 1 daughter. Heir apparent is Amir Hussein, born 1936, being educated at Harrow.

By a treaty, signed in London on 22 March, 1946, Great Britain recognized Transjordan as a sovereign independent state (Cmd. 6779). A new Anglo-Transjordan treaty was signed in Amman on 15 March, 1948. The treaty will remain in force for 20 years, but at the request of either party a revised treaty may be negotiated after 15 years (Cmd. 7404).

On 25 May, 1946, the Amir Abdullah assumed the title of King, and when the treaty was ratified on 17 June, 1946, the name of the territory was changed to that of "The Hashimite Kingdom of the Jordan." This name, instead of "Transjordan," however, came into general use only in 1949. The legislature consists of a lower house of 40 members elected by manhood suffrage (20 from Jordan and 20 from Palestine), and a senate of 20 members nominated by the King. Elections took place on 29 Aug., 1951.

The constitution passed on 7 Nov., 1951, provides that the Cabinet is responsible to Parliament.

The cabinet in Dec., 1951, was composed as follows:—

Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs.—Tewfiq Pasha Abul Huda.

Minister of the Interior.—Said Pasha Mufti.
Minister of Education.—Ruhi Pasha Abdul Hadi.
Minister of Justice and Reconstruction.—Anastas Bey Hanania.
Minister of Defence and Agriculture.—Suleiman Bey Touqan.
Minister of Commerce and National Economy.—Suleiman Pasha Sukkar.
Minister of Health.—Jamil Pasha Tutunji.
Minister of Finance.—Abdul Halim Bey Nimr.
Minister of Communications.—Hashem Bey el Jayusi.

National flag: same as Iraq, but with one star only.

Area and Population.—The part of Palestine held under the terms of the armistice with Israel 3 April, 1949, was in Dec., 1949, placed under the Minister of the Interior: all customs duties were abolished. Arab Palestine was formally incorporated in Jordan on 24 April, 1950; for the frontier lines see p. 1166 and map in The Statesman's Year-Book, 1951. Amman, the capital had, in 1950, an estimated population of 170,000. The official language of the country is Arabic.

Area, 34,750 sq. miles; population about 1,250,000. Of these, 400,000 live in the former territory of Palestine, 390,000 in the former Transjordan, and 467,000 are refugees from Israel. The country is divided into the Desert Area and 8 districts, viz., Ajlun, Amman, Belqa, Karak, Ma'an, Nablus, Jerusalem and Hebron.

Education and Defence.—Government schools (1950), 328; number of pupils, 56,425; number of teachers, 1,462. Budget provision for educa-
tion in 1950–51 is JD.208,360. The Arab Legion, which comprises military units, police and prisons, and a specially recruited Desert Patrol, was stated in 1949 to have about 14,000 all ranks. Detachments of the Royal Air Force are located at Amman. An annex to the treaty of 15 March, 1948, provides for the maintenance of R.A.F. units at Amman and Mafraq airfields, and for the setting up of an Anglo-Jordan Joint Defence Board to co-ordinate defence matters.

**Production and Communications.**—The part of country east of the Hedjaz Railway line is largely desert, but west of this line is potentially of high agricultural value. The density of the population is 10·1 per square mile in the whole country and 44·3 per square mile in the fertile western part. The resources are agricultural and pastoral products; hillsides are being terraced, fruit-trees planted, irrigation planned. The most notable of several antiquity sites are Amman, Jerash, Kerak and Petra. Phosphate deposits are under development. Potash is found in the Dead Sea, and possibly there is oil in the southern area. Asphalted roads connect Amman with Jerusalem, Mafraq, Nablus, Irbid, Hebron and Madaba. The Haifa–Baghdad road runs through Jisr Majami, Irbid and Mafraq. Unmetalled roads have been constructed, making motor traffic possible from Amman to all the chief towns in the country. The unmetalled road from Amman to Ma'an and Aqaba has branches to Kerak, Tafileh and Wadi Musa (Petra). The towns of Jerash, Ajloun and Kufrinji are joined by good roads to Amman. The normal asphalted route from Amman to Deraa (in Syria) and thence to Damascus is through Zerka and Mafraq. The oasis of Azrak may be reached by motor car from Mafraq, Zerka or Amman. A regular mail service has been established by motor car between Palestine and Iraq across Jordan. Total length of all-weather roads, 422 miles (1950). The Hedjaz Railway from Deraa to Kalaat Muda'ara runs, with the exception of the first few miles, through Jordan territory. South of Ma'an, however, the railway is in disrepair. The Cairo–Baghdad air route traverses the country from west to east. Two Jordan airlines maintain services of small aircraft from Amman and Jerusalem to Beirut and Cairo. The local revenue in 1950–51 was JD.5,449,616.

**Commerce.**—Exports and re-exports totalled JD.1·5 million in 1950 (JD.3·45 million in 1949). Imports into the United Kingdom amounted to £10,917 in 1949; £2,950 in 1950; £24,331 in 1951; exports from the United Kingdom to £2,114,504 in 1949; £3,139,924 in 1950; £4,030,325 in 1951; re-exports from the United Kingdom to £15,691 in 1949; £13,135 in 1950; £71,139 in 1951.

On 1 July, 1950, Jordan began to issue its own currency, the Jordan dinar, divided into 1,000 fils. The Jordan dinar equals £1 sterling. Jordan is a member of the sterling area. The following bank-notes and coins are in circulation:—50, 10, 5 dinars, 1 dinar, 500 fils (notes), 100, 50, 20 fils (cupro-nickel), 10 and 5 fils, 1 fils (bronze.)

**Diplomatic Representatives.**

1. **Of Jordan in Great Britain** (6 Upper Phillimore Gardens, W.8).

*Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary.*—Fauzi Pasha al Mulqi (accredited 15 Nov., 1951).

*Counsellor.*—Hani Bey Hashim.

*Attaché.*—Ikil Sati.