

THE NEW CONSTITUTION by Ellison Kahn (being a supplement to South Africa: The Development of its Laws and Constitution by H. R. Hahlo and Ellison Kahn.) [London: Stevens and Sons Ltd., Juta and Company Ltd., South Africa. 1962. pp. 69. 23/-.]

This supplement contains a reprint of Mr. Kahn's article on the New Constitution which appeared in Volume 78 of the *South African Law Journal*. It also has the text of the Republic of South Africa Constitution Act, 1962 and comparative tables of the Republic of South Africa Constitution Act and of earlier constitutional provisions (including the South Africa Act, 1909). These tables are also taken from Mr. Kahn's article in the *South African Law Journal*.

The article is intended as a supplement to the chapter four on constitutional law in Hahlo and Kahn's *The Union of South Africa: The Development of its Laws and Constitution* (reviewed in U.M.L.R. Vol: 3, p. 154). The article is a critical account of the procedure adopted in declaring a republic. There is a most useful

discussion of the problem of constitutional autarky and the author compares the methods adopted by commonwealth countries which have become republics. It is regrettable that the author has considered the procedure adopted by the Federation of Malaya, which although it did not become a republic chose to remain in the Commonwealth as an independent kingdom recognising the Queen as the Head of the Commonwealth. Because the new Republican Constitution of South Africa is regrettable that the author has not considered the procedure adopted by the Federation. Mr. Kahn has not attempted to give us a comprehensive account of the new Constitution article by article. Instead he restricts himself to an outline of the similarities and dissimilarities between the old and new Constitutions.

L. W. ATHULATHMUDALI.