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# THE Hindu Organ.

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## The Cigar Industry In Jaffna

### Need For Early Steps To Save It

### Co-operators Consider Conditions

THE cigar industry in Jaffna was the subject of a lecture delivered by Mr. C. Arulambalam, Advocate, at the District Co-operative Conference, on Friday July 19, at the Regal Theatre. Mubandiram V. Ponnampalam presided. There was present a large number of Co-operators from all over the Jaffna District.

Mr. Arulambalam said that the climate of Jaffna, water and soil were suitable for tobacco cultivation. There were two kinds of tobacco cultivated in Jaffna—the chewing and the smoking. Ten years ago there was a flourishing cigar industry in Jaffna meeting the local demand, in addition to a good export trade with South Ceylon. It had now dropped by two-thirds. With a view to finding the actual position of the industry, the speaker visited many leading cigar factories to see things for himself. At a leading factory visited by him, from information gathered on the spot, it appeared that about ten years back, 70,000 cigars were turned out a day, about 100 cigar-rollers being employed continually, the pay being Re 1.00 per 1000. In the same factory today about 35 hands were employed, often intermittently working 10 to 15 days a month, the pay being Rs. 1-50 per 1000 cigars; the average number turned out by one cigar-roller being 500 per day. In other factories too the same story was repeated. Cigar-rollers, therefore, remained without work for 10 to 15 days in the month. That reflected conditions elsewhere.

#### Causes Of Decline

Mr. Arulambalam then dealt with the causes of the decline of the industry. He said that one of the leading merchants whom he interviewed told him that the decline was due to inferior tobacco being used to make cigars. There was an unregulated manufacture by small manufacturers both in Jaffna and Colombo who used the inferior tobacco with a view to putting on the market a cheap stuff. Many people had now become factory-owners who were satisfied with producing cheap stuff that would give them their daily wages. With this end in view they imported inferior tobacco from Maho and other places, used sweepings from tobacco stores, and produced a cigar, that found little favour with consumers. Because of this bad cigar, the really good variety that had a demand in the home-market, had come to be labelled as bad ones, with the result that the Jaffna cigar had lost many of its patrons. The competition of cigars made in other districts was also one of the causes of the decline of Jaffna's cigar industry.

#### Cheap Cigarette And Beedie

The competition of cheap cigarettes and beedies was another of the causes of the decline of the industry. The import figures showed the extent to which beedie had ousted the cigar. Imports of beedie into Ceylon which stood at 24,509 lbs. in 1933 rose to 50,473 lbs. in 1934—an

increase of 79 per cent. In addition to this, large quantities of beedies were smuggled into the Island, especially into Jaffna, which successfully ousted the Jaffna cigar. There was also the cheap cigarette which has also invaded the market. The imports of cigarettes which were 88,000 lbs. in 1933 declined to 55,000 lbs. in 1934, a drop of 37 per cent. This decrease showed, as the Principal Collector of Customs pointed out, that the locally manufactured cigarette was clearly gaining ground at the expense of the imported variety. The locally made "Elephant" brand cigarette whose popularity could be seen from what a leading store in Jaffna imported. About 40 to 50 cases of Elephant Brand cigarettes, each case containing about 25,000 cigarettes, were being imported every month by this store. This was in the very centre of the cigar industry. The reason was that even cigar-factory hands had taken to beedie and cheap cigarette instead of the cigar they themselves produced. The cigar owing to its inferior quality was losing its ground, and cigarette and beedie becoming a fashionable smoke. This was the position everywhere in Ceylon. Unless steps were taken, to restrict the importation of beedie and cigarette, cigar would have to go to the wall.

#### Change of Taste

One other fact should be noted. There was already a change of taste and standard of life of people—even in cigar factories. The cigar, therefore, would have to be improved to satisfy the changed market.

#### Remedial Measures

Mr. Arulambalam went on to suggest remedial measures to rehabilitate the industry. The cigar manufacture should be standardised, he said, and the minimum quality of tobacco to be used for cigars should be fixed. The duty on cigars should be lowered to enable cigars to be exported to countries like the F. M. S. In this connection, he was glad to find a resolution was passed by that Conference requesting the Government to lower export duty on tobacco. Another method of saving the industry was to produce beedie instead of cigar. This suggestion found favour with some cigar traders whom the speaker consulted on the point. Beedie tobacco could be grown in Jaffna, and beedie could thus be produced locally.

#### Traders not United

Continuing Mr. Arulambalam observed that it was idle to expect factory owners to take steps to improve the position of the industry. They all know of the failure of the efforts of the Assistant Registrar of Co-operative Societies, to bring the "Mudalalis" together to devise some methods whereby the industry could be saved. But owing to want of union and progressive outlook on the part of manufacturers, in addition to their selfishness and inertia, Mr. Ranganathan's endeavours to bring about some improvement by co-operative action failed. So no action could be expected from the manufacturers themselves.

When he discussed methods of improving the industry with a manu-

## Allegations Against Judges

### BRIBE-TAKING

#### Attorney-General to Initiate Enquiry

It is understood that the Attorney-General has expressed his willingness to initiate an inquiry into some allegations made against certain unnamed members of the judiciary by a witness who gave evidence before the Judicial Commission.

It is learned that the decision to investigate the allegations was made by Sir Edward Jackson shortly before he went on leave.

#### What was Said

The witness concerned, in giving evidence before the Commission, while not mentioning names, stated that "there was a story of a Judge who took bribes."

"There were others," he said, who were in debt. There were others whose character was not above reproach."

In another part of the evidence, the witness attributed a large part of the delays in the Courts to the inefficiency and incompetence of the officers who presided over the Courts.

Among other allegations made against the judiciary by the same witness were:—

- (1) That some Judges shirked work. "Some Judges did not want to work," he said. "They wanted to close shop by 12 o'clock, go home and have breakfast and an afternoon siesta."
- (2) That other Judges could not maintain the dignity of the Court.
- (3) That others were overawed by the Police.
- (4) That yet others were dominated by State Councillors.

#### Particulars Called For

It is understood that the Attorney-General has asked for particulars especially concerning the Judge who was alleged to have taken bribes and the others who were stated to be in debt.

If the instances are mentioned to him, he is prepared to have them investigated.

facturer, the latter suggested that factories should be licensed, and that there should be inspectors to supervise these factories and prevent the using of inferior tobacco. By adopting that suggestion, they could prohibit the turning out of bad cigars and place on the market a standardised product.

#### Government Intervention

The Government of India, the speaker continued, had issued invitations to leading provinces and States to participate in the Seventh Industries Conference, which would be held in New Delhi on October 28 and 29. That conference would be asked to consider the question of unregulated factories and particularly those small workshops which do not employ any form of machinery. That was the method which they in Ceylon also should adopt in regard to industries, particularly the cigar industry. Government should come forward to help the industry maintain a standard of production. In other countries, it was being done so. In Australia, for

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## SUKA AND JANAKA

### A DIALOGUE

By K. S. Krishnan

[This dialogue of Suka and Janaka (from Devi Bhakti Prasadam) gives us an insight into the real meaning of man's life, its pitfalls and shortcomings, its attractions and dangers. This dialogue brings out the importance of the various steps which are as steps for the uplift of the human soul and stress which are played by the mind in each Ashram. Cheerfulness of mind is the spice of life, whether it be that of a Sanyasin or a Grahasta. The next point is the practice of self-control or Brahmacharya. That is the sheet anchor of all the Ashramas. One has also to admire the wonderful patience of Janaka, his tact, his calmness in his reply to the various points vigorously raised by Suka.]

AMONG the Yogins of Ancient India, Suka and Janaka stand out pre-eminent. These two Mahatmas are Jivanmuktas, one being the incarnation of Innocence and the other a Vidika. These two great ones have realized the Universal soul in the imminency of their own souls.

Suka, the son of Vyasa, was educated in the Gurukula of Bribhaspati, the preceptor of the Gods. When Suka came of age, finding him well versed in the Shastras, Vyasa arranged for his marriage. But Suka, a born and confirmed Yogin, would not entangle himself in the clutches of Samsara. Vyasa commended to him the great ethical value of Grahastashrama and advised him to conform to the teachings of the Vedas. Suka, centred in the sphere of spiritual bliss, would not stoop to indulge in the mirage of worldly pleasures fed by unending desires. Moreover, one cannot dissociate oneself from the manifold bonds of married life when one is in the very thick of it. Finding Suka to be uncompromising, his father cited to him the example of Janaka who in the midst of a pompous royal life, was leading in his heart a simple ascetic life. Vyasa said to him that he might as well pay a visit to Janaka and personally clear his doubts. Suka also wanted to test the truth of his father's report.

Accordingly, Suka came to Mithila and, passing through the streets, saw the various business centres of the city and he found that it had as much of the worldly touch about it as any other busy capital. Suka approached the Palace Gate. A guard stationed there stopped him outside. He stayed under a shady tree and sat in deep meditation. One of the King's ministers, who came that way, took Suka in and showed him a bower. The minister went away, and in a short time many maid servants of the palace came to Suka to wait upon him. This young Yogin, being thoroughly disciplined in the school of self-control, went on with his daily routine unmolested by outside attractions.

#### The Dialogue

Months passed in this way, and Janaka would not grant him an audience. Suka waited patiently and went on with his life unswervingly. At last, Janaka came to the lower end, the formalities of welcome being gone through, the following dialogue ensued:—

JANAKA—Oh, Sir, you are a treasure of Tapas. By the splendour of your soul you illuminate this place. I am very glad to find that you are a man of perfect self-control and I do not think you expect any favour from me.

SUKA—Sir, King! I am Suka, the son of Vyasa. My father com-

pels me to take to Grahastashrama. He says that it is the best of the four Ashramas. But I am of opinion that it is the source of bondage. Finding me obstinate, he has sent me here to be convinced by you. May I request you to clear my doubts.

JANAKA—One who seeks liberation from the vortex of births and deaths should pass through the Four Ashramas in order and should strictly conform to the discipline of those Ashramas. The highest thing needed of such an aspirant is to be contented with what he gets. One should undergo all the Samskaras which make him fit for Liberation.

SUKA—What you now say is for the common run of people. What do you say of those people who, even at their birth, are fired by the spirit of Renunciation? I hope you will agree with me that they can take to the Sanyasa Ashrama direct.

JANAKA—Young Sir, that is a risky leap. When the blood is warm within and when the senses are active, one cannot control, much less conquer, one's physical cravings. The temptations are too powerful to be overcome even by tried souls. Even with ascetics it is a hard case, for wisdom, if it at all comes, comes too late. The fact is no one can conquer nature. So it is the wisest and the safest course to pass through the various stages of this life's pilgrimage. A man who sleeps on the edge of a raised level should fall if he were to lose his balance; but he who sleeps on the floor need not fear of a fall. So also taking to Sanyasa without the necessary preparation is risky. Ants patiently go up, stage by stage, the fruit tree and reach ultimately the fruit of their laborious pursuit. Birds, on the other hand, fly up direct to the fruit and very often fail to achieve their object owing to some mishap or other. So it is always safe to proceed stage by stage in experimenting with life. The human mind is embowered in desires. Desires are many and varied. In each Ashram one should practise self-discipline and gradually loosen the chords of worldly desires; the mind at every stage of its purification and emancipation should be trained to crave for spiritual and everlasting ends. Renunciation should be rooted in the depth of the soul by practice; and if one is endowed with that spirit, one should cultivate it to grow with one's stage in life and make it the part and parcel of his existence. The first step in the Yoga of Renunciation is the training of the mind to be unmoved by the pairs of opposites. Also, one should do one's Duty for Duty's sake unmindful of the fruits thereof. This mental discipline cannot come all of a sudden. Take my case in point. To a superficial observer, I may seem to be in the midst of pomp and glory of a kingly life enjoying all the worldly pleasures. But believe me,—I tell you upon my word—I am completely unattached. To my kingdom I give my time, my heart and my love; but

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## MANAGER'S NOTICE

The "Hindu Organ" Office will be closed on Sunday & Monday for the Maviddapuram Car festival and the Adi Amavasai Theertham, and there will be no issue of the paper on the 29th inst.

MANAGER  
"Hindu Organ"

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## Hindu Organ.

THURSDAY, JULY 25, 1935.

## A LANGUISHING INDUSTRY

MR. C. ARULAMBALAM HAS succeeded in focussing public attention to the need for immediate measures to save the cigar industry in Jaffna from the imminent danger of total extinction. At the last meeting of the Central Board of Agriculture he mooted the question of State assistance to the industry, and his proposal for a State cigar factory has had a favourable reception. The local Agricultural District Committee has endorsed the need for timely action. The Co-operators' Conference which met last Saturday carried a resolution commending the suggestion for steps to regularise the manufacture of cigars, expand the home market and explore new markets for the industry. The Jaffna Association has set up a committee to investigate the problems of the industry and formulate concrete proposals to pull it out of the depression into which it has slipped.

The Mudalalis themselves have begun to realise that speedy and concerted action alone could recover for them their lost ground. But, unaccustomed as they are to unite for common action, it is necessary that some outside agency should give them the lead to pool their resources to protect their common interests. The failure of the attempt of the Assistant Registrar of Co-operative Societies to bring together the leading factory owners to strengthen the industry need not deter the Jaffna Association from attempting a practical solution of the problems of the industry and inspire the Mudalalis to take action on co-operative lines.

The public are no less interested in the rehabilitation of the industry than the Mudalalis themselves, in view of the fact that close upon a lakh of people depend directly or indirectly for their living on the cigar industry. Tobacco is the only industry

which brings money into the district to pay for the heavy imports of paddy, rice, cloth, kerosene oil, sugar and other necessities and luxuries. The present decline in the cigar industry is reflected in the more or less continued unemployment of a large number of factory hands who roam the streets having nothing useful to do.

There can be no doubt that prompt action is necessary to absorb in useful occupations this vast army of unemployed factory hands or put them back in the factories with some assurance of continued employment. The re-organisation of the industry in a manner to outwit the competition of cigarettes and beedie is urgently called for. In this, the willing co-operation of the Mudalalis is indispensable. Without their support, the efforts of the Jaffna Association to help the industry cannot but fail.

The industry must employ better methods in the processes of manufacture and study the tastes of the consumer and cater to his needs. Propaganda to popularise the Jaffna cigar and effective steps to keep out of the trade the shoddy product should ensure a good home market for the genuine brand of cigars which has not yet lost its popularity in south Ceylon. The industry cannot hope to regain its position unless the manufacturers exercise vigilance and are prepared to abandon their attitude of indifference and do their best to retain the patronage of the consumer.

State aid will be indispensable in certain directions. But the State will not step in unless there is a strong and insistent demand for its interference. Let us bear in mind the fact that in a democratic form of Government only those interests which are united and articulate get a hearing while the others must bide their time or suffer in silence.

We would suggest as a first step the formation of an Association of Cigar Manufacturers to take stock of the situation and in collaboration with other agencies devise a scheme to regularise production, protect the home-market and invite Government assistance to give the industry a much needed filip.

The sixth annual general meeting of the above Bank was held on July 20 when a dividend of 5% was announced.

The Bank continues to enjoy the confidence of the public and the institutions served by it. The report records expansion and progress in every direction. The Secretary is perfectly justified in claiming that "this Bank is still maintaining its place as the premier Co-operative Central Bank in the Island." The popularity of the bank is an indication of the progress of the Co-operative movement in the District. It is heartening to learn that during the year there was a distinct improvement both as regards the decrease in the number of loan extensions and the aggregate amount covered by them. We congratulate the Directors on the successful work done by the Bank during the past year.

## Maviddapuram Kandaswamy Temple

The Ther Festival at the Maviddapuram Kandaswamy Temple comes off on Sunday, the 28th inst., and Theertham festival on the 29th.

## Jaffna Co-operative Central Bank

### SIXTH ANNUAL MEETING

The sixth annual general meeting of the Jaffna Co-operative Central Bank Ltd. was held on Saturday, the 20th instant, at 10 a.m. in the Regal Theatre. There was present a large number of Share-holders of the Bank. Mubandram V. Ponnambalam, the President, presided. Mr. E. H. Lucette, Deputy Registrar of Co-operative Societies, was also present. After the minutes of the last annual general meeting were confirmed, the President moved the adoption of the Secretary's report and the Treasurer's statement of accounts, which were previously circulated.

He said:—  
Gentlemen,  
I presume that the Annual Report and audited Statement of Accounts and Balance Sheet which had been circulated among you have been carefully read by you. You would have familiarised yourself with all the facts referred to in them.

The Bank has now completed 6 years of its existence and is on the threshold of its seventh year.

It will not be out of place to refer to some of the salient points connected with the progress of the bank since its establishment in 1929.

Before doing so you will permit me to thank you all, and particularly my colleagues on the Board of Directors, for the unstinted co-operation extended to me as President of this Bank. I have been President of this Bank for the last 4 years. The fact that you elected me as President successively for these years shows that I have your confidence.

### Membership

The number of share-holders of the Bank has risen from 128 on April 30, 1931 to 226 at the end of the year under review. During this period there has been an increase of 20 as regards individual share holders and of 78 as regards Society share-holders. The increase in the number of Society share holders is particularly to be noted. It indicates that the Co-operative Movement in the District is on the up grade. This tendency is sure to be reflected in the co-operative spirit making itself evident in all lines of national activity.

### Deposits

At the end of last year the amount of fixed deposits by individuals was Rs. 139,010.60 and by Institutions Rs. 119,069.68. At the end of the year under review the fixed deposits by individuals amounted to Rs. 136,471.49 and by Institutions to Rs. 124,736.27. It will be seen when the year under review is compared with the former year, there has been a fall of Rs. 2,539.11 and as regards Institutions there has been an increase of Rs. 5,666.59. As the funds necessary for the day to day needs of the Bank are adequate, no new deposits are now received, re-deposit only being allowed.

### Current Accounts

In the 2nd year ending 30.4.31 only one working Society had Current Accounts, the amount in deposit being Rs. 587.89. At the end of the year under review the number of working Societies having current deposits was 21 and the amount in deposit was Rs. 12,267.18. The increase during the last 4 years both in the number of Current depositors and the amount in deposit is appreciable and it shows that the Co-operative Societies appreciate the facilities given by the Bank in this direction.

### Loans to Societies

Nothing indicates more clearly the progress of the Bank than the advance that has been made under this head. The number of loans to Societies granted during the 2nd year ending 30.4.31 was 152 and the amount loaned out was Rs. 163,838.50. During the 6th year ending 30.4.35 the number of loans granted was 443, the amount advanced on these loans being Rs. 232,632.23. When the 6th year is compared with the 2nd year it will be seen that the increase in the number of loans was 291 and in the amount loaned out the increase was Rs. 69,793.73.

### The Working Capital

During the 4th year the Working Capital of the Bank which was Rs.

288,421.26 with a turn over of Rs. 515,816.41 has increased during the period of review (the 6th year) to Rs. 360,978.58 with a turn over of Rs. 791,700.44. This large increase is evidence of the increase in the volume of the business transacted by the Bank.

### Profits

There is a net profit of Rs. 4,800.65 for disbursement.

### General

Reference has been made in the Report which is in your hands to the title conferred on the Manager of the Bank. As President of the Bank for the last four years I have had frequent occasion to come into close contact with him. It will be only just to say that the Bank has been fortunate in having Mubandram N. Mutiah as its Manager. It will not be possible to get the honorary services of gentleman of such experience in the ordinary course. He has been a real acquisition to the Bank. On behalf of yourself I convey to him our appreciation of the honour conferred on him and hope that it is a precursor of higher honours to come.

Reference was also made in the Report to the services done by the past Registrar, Mr. W. K. H. Campbell. Mr. Campbell when he was here amongst us made no secret of the fact that he took real pride in our Bank as having materially helped to usher it into existence. He has been, if I may say so, taking personal interest in its progress. The Bank cannot forget the invaluable services done to the Bank by him. On your behalf I express the hope that his years of retirement will be happy. Mr. Campbell is not the type of man to lead an idle life and it is with pleasure that we learn that his experience in the field of Co-operation has been utilised elsewhere. The Bank is also indebted to Mr. J. A. Maybin, who has been the right-hand man of Mr. Campbell and who like him has retired from public Service of this Island with a promotion in a higher capacity in another Colony.

Our thanks are also due to the Asst. Registrar, Mr. C. R. R. R. R. R. who has been unstinting in his help to the Bank, with the affairs of which he has been intimately in touch by regular attendance at meetings of the Board of Directors and Working Committee.

We heartily welcome Mr. E. H. Lucette who has come back to us with renewed vigour and full of modern methods of Co-operative work in other countries which he visited while he was abroad.

I shall be wanting in my duty as President of the Bank if I fail to convey my appreciation and that of my colleagues of the genuine services rendered by Mr. C. Arulampalam the Hon. Secretary of the Bank from its very inception. I always feel he is an asset to the Bank.

Gentlemen,  
I have the pleasure in moving the adoption of the Annual Report and audited Statement of Accounts.

Mr. S. Karthigesaya Iyer seconded and the reports were adopted.

The next item was the declaration of dividend for last year.

A motion to accept the recommendation of 5% by the Board of Directors was proposed.

Two amendments, one recommending 4% and the other 6% were moved.

After a prolonged discussion, the house by a large majority decided in favour of five per cent.

The Budget estimate for next year as recommended by the Board was passed.

### Election of Directors

The following were elected to the Board of Directors.

Messrs S. Mathukumaru, T. Ramalingam, and S. Thuraiyappah Mudaliyar A. Naganathar and Mudaliyar S. M. Visuvalingam.

Mr. A. E. Clough was elected President. He thanked the house for electing him, and said that the Bank was a great boon to the people of the District.

Mr. J. C. Amarasingham and Mudaliyar S. M. Visuvalingam were elected Vice-presidents.

Mubandram Ponnambalam, on vacating the chair, thanked the house, for the cooperation they had given him during the last four years he was president of the Bank.

### Registrar Congratulates

Mr. Lucette was then called upon to offer a few remarks. He said that everything was alive in the hall and it gave him a great deal of confidence in the future of co-operation in Jaffna. Co-operation was sufficiently deep-seated among the people, and they were alive enough to keep it going. He

## LETTER TO THE EDITOR

### VILLAGE COMMITTEES AND VILLAGE TRIBUNALS.

Sir,—It is not sufficiently understood by the public that the possession of judicial functions by the Village Committees is a serious danger to the public. The Committees are composed of political groups or cliques and consequently the justice meted out is political justice, mob justice or justice of the group or party in power. This cannot dispense justice impartially and truly.

The establishment of Village Tribunals in the Jaffna District as in all the Singalese Districts or rather in the rest of Ceylon is a step that Jaffna should press for. The Government Agent, N. P., I understand, recommended the establishment of Village Tribunals in the Jaffna District. The Presidents are persons who are selected by the Government Agents and are paid Officers of the Government. The Presidents are assisted by 3 or more assessors selected from a list of responsible unofficers registered as qualified to serve as assessors. The President and the assessors are thus in a good position to dispense justice impartially and fearlessly. They cannot go wrong in view of the responsibility of the President to the Government Agent.

The Urban Councils and the Municipal Councils do not enjoy judicial functions. It is strange that Village Committees without a higher qualification for members or the chairman or for both should have been allowed to exercise judicial functions. Even the State Council members do not possess judicial functions. The Panchayat system of old is different and it must be suited to the age. The present age demands that judicial functions shall be removed from the Village Committees and the Committees have done great harm to the people of Jaffna.

I may suggest that Proctors be appointed as Presidents and that they shall receive a salary of Rs. 1800 per annum.

I must compliment Mudaliyar Arumugam of the District Court of Jaffna for his able defence for this policy on behalf of the public of Jaffna before the Judicial Commission. Much of the crimes can be reduced. Costly litigation can be avoided. Our members of the State Council will take some action in this matter.

Yours Truly,  
"C."

Jaffna, July 18, 1935.

## St. John's College Prize-Giving

The annual Prize-Giving at the St. John's College, Jaffna comes off on Friday, the 26th instant, at 6.30 p.m. Mr. E. T. Dyson, Government Agent, N. P., will preside and Mrs. Dyson will distribute the prizes.

congratulated them on their vitality. Their Bank stood on a splendid financial position and he congratulated them on their efficient work.

Mr. C. R. R. R. R. the Assistant Registrar of Co-operative Societies who was called upon to say a few words said that they had now a gathering of five to six hundred Co-operators. Howasglad of the response Co-operation was having in the North. He hoped to find a bigger assembly at the next conference. Mr. Lucette had given them good advice and he hoped that when they returned home, they would do co-operative work with added zeal.

Mr. C. Arulampalam proposed a vote of thanks to Mr. Lucette, and Mr. Thampoo proposed a vote of thanks to the four chairmen who presided at the Conference.

A member of the audience moved that at the next Conference Mr. Lucette, should address them in Tamil (Laughter).



**SUKA AND JANAKA**

(Continued from page 3)

servation of Dharma, how is it they advocate cruelty to animals? In some sacrifices, use of intoxicating drinks, indulging in dice and other practices are prescribed. These are, in my view, nothing but Adharma and anachara. We have heard how Sasibindu sacrificed animals whose hide heaped together out-peaked the Vindhya and whose blood flowed as a river called Charmanati. Do you call this whole sale slaughter of animals Dharma? The Vedas enjoin man to take to Graha-thashrama. When one is disappointed in that Ashram, one loses his sense, his self respect and even his life. Just see the deception played by the Vedas—showing the mirage of pleasure and fantasizing the poor human beings. My considered view is, one cannot be a Jivanmukta when he is in the midst of Samsara.

JANAKA: Cruelty to animals is one thing, sacrifice advocated by the Vedas quite another thing. The Vedic sacrifice is not Abimsa. Cruelty is never the intention of the Vedas even as smoke is never the attribute of fire. Smoke is the impurity of the fuel. What is outwardly cruel is not really cruelty. If the sacrifice is performed as a Duty and with no attachment it is not cruelty. So a Grihasta should follow the Vedic injunctions prescribed for his Ashram and should on his actions with complete detachment to become a Jivanmukta. That is the considered opinion of the Great men learned in the Shastra.

SUKA:—Let us leave aside animal sacrifice and cruelty to animals for the present. You assert that a Grihasta can be a Jivanmukta. I cannot countenance that idea for a moment. The Grihasta is caught in the mesh of illusion and deluding joys. How can he be free from desires? Even though he may be well versed in the Shastras and competent to distinguish between things eternal and transient, his mind is not freed from the illusion of Samsara. Mere learning of the Scriptures, logical disputations about the interpretation of the texts, would never remove the darkness of Maya, even as the word lamp will never illumine a place. What is wanted is spotless purity of mind at all times, occasions and circumstances. That state is not attainable in married life. Let me take your case. You cannot say your desire to amass wealth is dead. I do not think that you are disgusted with the worldly pleasures. Your ambition for conquests and consolidation is not in the wane, I believe. In short you are not freed from desires. You feel jubilant over a victory, despondent over a defeat. Then how you can be called a Jivanmukta? You dream, you sleep and you wake like ordinary men and you are called a Videha. Now you worry about your exchequer; now about your army and ammunition; and now about your enemies; so that you are never free. I don't want to wound your feelings. I am not yet convinced.

JANAKA:—I concur with every word of what you say. Now, you want to leave your father and lead a lonely life in the forest for fear of Samsara. You run to the forest to be away from men; but you find yourself in the midst of wild beasts. In course of time you will become attached to some of them. There also you are not free. You will have your physical cravings like hunger, sleep and the like even there. You have to go in quest of staff, water-pot and deer hide in the forest and you will have your worries about your animal friends and your necessities. In the same way I have my worries incidental to my office. Worry is a worry after all. Somehow or other you are prejudiced and your mind is confused. I, on the contrary, am clear headed and do not bother about the idea of bondage. So you see the road is the key to salvation. Your body may be bound, but you cannot be bound. If you realize this the whole trouble is over. In any Ashram your body is ever limited and bound. You are ever free provided your mind is free.

Suka bowed to Janaka and returned to his father completely convinced. Vyasa was very much pleased to see in his son the change of mind. Suka, a born Yogi, passed through the Grihasta and Vanaprastha Ashramas to the final state of complete renunciation, his fortis. (Dharmarajya)

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**Order Nisi**

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF JAFFNA

Testamentary Jurisdiction No. 124

In the matter of the estate of the late Cumaraswamy Velauthar of Puloly West Deceased.

C. Velauther Candappa of Puloly West. Petitioner.

Vs.

1. C. Velauther Cumaraswamy of do
2. C. Velauther Arumugam of do
3. Kathirithamby Subramaniam
4. and his wife Thangamma of Puloly West
5. Paramoo Thambiraja and
6. his wife Ponachchipillai
7. C. Velauther Narsalingam of Puloly West Respondents.

This matter of the petition of the abovesaid petitioner praying that Letters of Administration to the estate

of the said late Cumaraswamy Velauther be issued to him coming on for disposal before C. Cumaraswamy Esquire, District Judge, on the 12th day of July 1935 in the presence of Messrs Kandaiya & Mylvaganam Proctors, on the part of the petitioner and the affidavit of the petitioner dated 12th day of June 1935 having been read. It is ordered that the petitioner be declared entitled to have letters of Administration to the estate of the said intestate issued to him as one of the heirs of the said intestate unless the respondents or any other person shall on or before the 31st day of July 1935 show sufficient cause to the satisfaction of this Court to the contrary.

This 22nd day of June 1935

Sgd. C. Cumaraswamy

District Judge

(O. 50 32 & 22-7-35)

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