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Review of Views

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Justice For Detainees!

UTUSAN was not satisfied with the reply given by government on Jenderam detainees at the Federal Legislative Council meeting on 19th March. The reply indicates, Utusan said that "the government has decided to close the matter for all time." Utusan said that it is determined to pursue the matter "until justice is done."

Utusan was concerned with two questions. Firstly, the government would not consider paying compensations to persons detained in view of the loss of property incurred by them. They were released after much suffering and unnecessary delay due principally to the slowness of those concerned in getting their release. Utusan ascertained that they had nothing to do with undesirable elements."



The government also claimed that none of the Malay detainees wished to be resettled. Utusan said, "It is incredible, the paper said, Utusan's representative in K.L. received representation from the ex-detainees from Jenderam asking that they should be resettled and be given land since they cannot go back to Jenderam."



Another question over which Utusan Melayu was dissatisfied was that the total amount realised by the sale of perishable goods belonging to the detainees, according to government's reply, amounted to only \$2,097.50. Utusan was informed that the ex-detainees themselves that their property including bags of rice and poultry livestock etc. amounted to \$500,000.

"What happened to the difference?" the paper asked.



Utusan therefore requested General Templer to institute an enquiry into the "mismanagement of affairs and misuse of properties belonging to these Jenderam detainees and to consider giving adequate compensation and redress."

S.I.T. Tenants

WHY should the Singapore Improvement Trust be empowered to evict its tenants without having to give a reason? asked Nanyang Siang Pau.



It was apparent from the result of the recent test case said the Daily, that not only 65 other tenants of the S.I.T. flats but hundreds of other tenants may be asked to quit.

Nanyang said it was reasonable for the Police authorities to be empowered to detain under the emergency regulations a person without giving reasons. But, continued the Daily, there was no reason why the S.I.T. should be granted such arbitrary powers.

