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Trade Union Cannot Be Law Guardian

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Trade Union Cannot Be Law Guardian 1,000 LDC Men Mandor Found Guilty Of Rape

From Our Own Correspondent
KUALA LUMPUR, Monday.

IT is the duty of trade unions, instead of taking the law into their own hands to report either to the estate manager or the police commissioner of suspected commission of any serious offence.

This was pointed out in the course of a trial before Mr. Justice Wilkinson in the Supreme Court, Kuala Lumpur, in which the head Mandor of West Country Estate, Kajang,

was convicted of rape.

It appeared the chairman, secretary and some committee members of the labour union on the estate, instead of reporting the incident to the person in charge of the estate or to the police, proceeded to hold an "unofficial court" at which they apparently convicted the accused and fined him \$25.

The first the police heard about this incident was on May 29 when the manager of West Country Estate informed the O.C.P.D., Kajang of the rumour of a rape on the estate.

Fined \$50

The statements and witnesses alleged that on May 27 Thirumalay, head Mandor on the estate, committed rape on a 16-year-old Indian girl employed on the same estate. The girl reported the matter to the secretary of the labour union on the estate.

A meeting of the labour union was called on the night of August 28 and an "unofficial court" was held. Witnesses were called to make statements and exhibits were produced at this "trial" and the accused was found guilty and fined \$50.

Information



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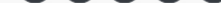


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The accused said the fine was too heavy and so it was reduced to \$25.
The labour union resolved that the fine when realised should be given to the temple.
The matter would have ended there had the police not heard about it.

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