

They had been tried in the district court, and appeals taken from the judgments, both by the defendants who were convicted, and by the government, as to some of those who were acquitted, to this court of appeal, in which the case was being heard *de novo*. We entered by the door from the judge's consultation room, and took seats behind the judges. They took no notice of our entry, but proceeded with the business in hand. The room was a rather large apartment, severely plain in its furnishings, and arranged quite like one of our own court rooms. The three judges sat in a row on a platform, raised about two feet above the floor, and at their right, a little apart from them, also on the bench sat the Crown prosecutor, while the clerk who was taking note of the proceedings sat on the left. The judges wore black gowns ornamented with a sort of embroidered cape, or yoke, of red braid, and a species of liberty cap with tabs of black erepe behind. The barristers wore the same style of gown, ornamented with white braid in a fashion similar to that of the judges, and the same sort of cap.

There were some fifty defendants seated on benches directly in front of the judges, and behind them their counsel, behind whom again was the usual crowd of court spectators. In the Japanese courts there are no juries, and all questions are asked by the presiding judge. Counsel for either side may suggest to the court the putting of a particular question, but the court may accept the suggestion or not, as it sees fit. When we entered, the presiding judge was calling the defendants for identification. Each man, as his name was pronounced, arose and replied to questions as to his age, residence, occupation, etc. Many of the defendants were students, and it was evidently the old story of turbulent youth in conflict with established institutions. Many of them had fine faces, and they arose and stood with quiet dignity as they answered the judge. Their rioting was intended as a protest against the increase of taxation to maintain the military establishment only, and a warning to the government that the limit of burden upon a poor, patient, and industrious people had been reached. I should like to have followed the whole