

# The Korean Independence Movement

Actual photographs showing  
peaceful demonstrations of  
the Koreans for independence  
and brutal treatment accorded  
them by Japanese soldiery



## KOREA'S CRY FOR FREEDOM

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Without a single fire arm, sword or fighting weapon of any kind the Korean people, on the memorable March 1 (1919) rose like one man to cry out for their independence. Thousands upon thousands of them paraded in almost every city and village of any importance with nothing but the Korean flags in their hands, shouting "Mansei." Resentment against Japanese militarism and oppression was intense but the Koreans conducted themselves with marvellous self-restraint. Although the Japanese were taken by complete surprise no violence was done to their person and no damage to their property. Yet when the shock of surprise had passed away, shame and self-remorse quickly gave vent to Prussian-like brutality.



## JAPANESE PRUSSIANISM

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Japanese soldiers were let loose on the defenceless Koreans. For peacefully shouting "Mansei" the latter were bayoneted, sabred, trampled upon and beaten out of shape by the cruel soldiers of Japan. Koreans who took no part in the demonstrations were sought out from their houses and treated in the same manner—old men, and women as well as children, including girls, were not spared. They were dragged, between kicks and blows with rifle butt, to the police station, where they were subjected to more brutality and torture. Peaceful Koreans were pulled out of their beds in the middle of the night by the soldiers and police, who took delight in doing so. The photographs reproduced here were taken by a foreign eye-witness.





An immense procession of Korean demonstrators, shouting "Mansei" after presenting the declaration of independence to the American Consulate. The Consulate building appears in the background—*Seoul*.





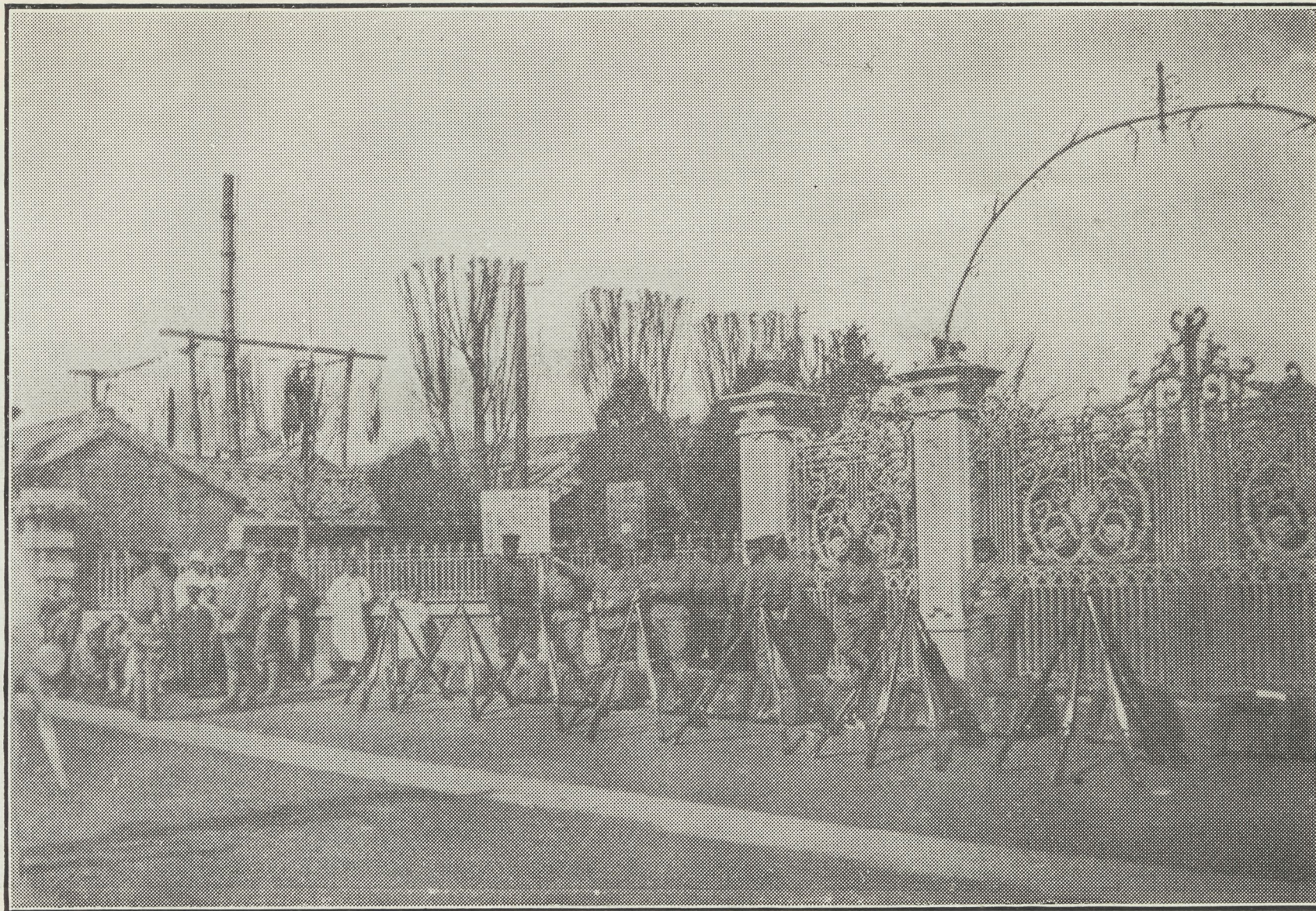
Thousands of enthusiastic Koreans, including women and girls, shouting "Mansei" with hands in the air outside the palace in Seoul.





Demonstration for independence in the Park. The Koreans are seen shouting "Mansei" with their hands up in the air. Not a single man is armed.





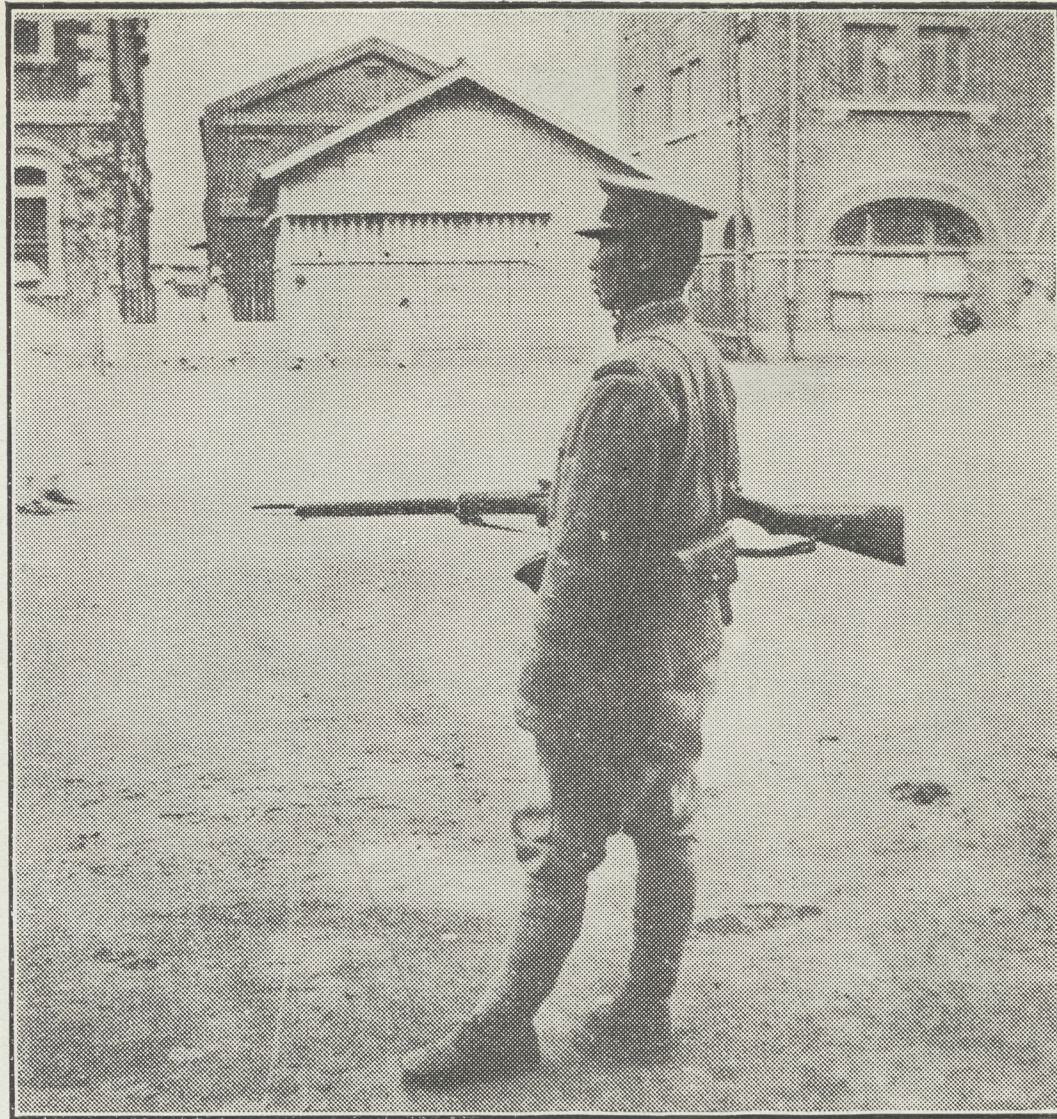
Japanese soldiers guarding the park gate after the demonstration to prevent further gathering of Koreans.





A corner of the park where Japanese soldiers are stationed to suppress Korean demonstrations.





Japanese soldiers dot the streets of Seoul and other important cities in Korea like flies—one Japanese soldier at intervals of five houses. A busy market square presents a deserted air.





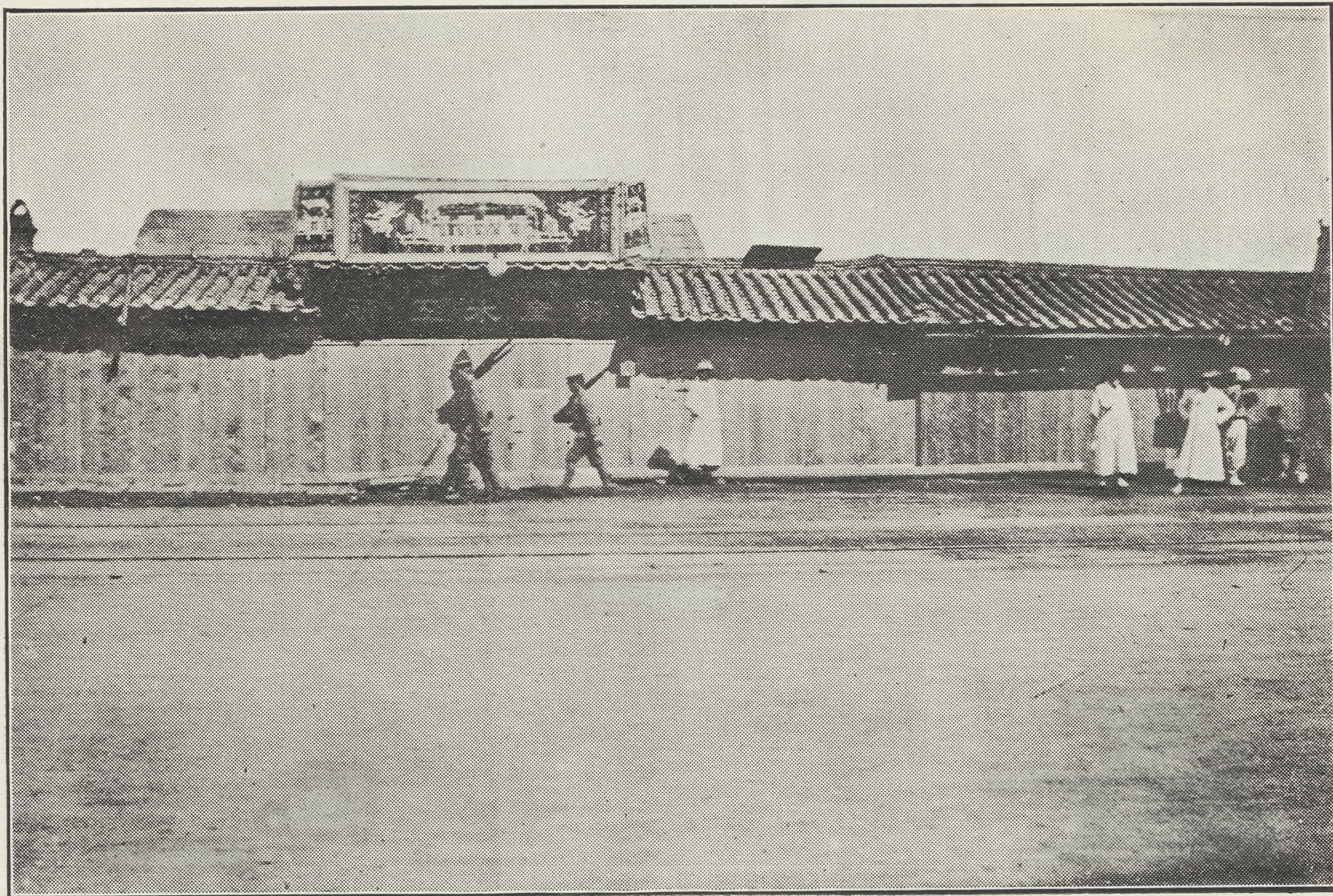
After the first surprise the Japanese authorities turned loose the soldiers on the Koreans. This picture shows how one of them was slashed and cut up all over the body by merciless Japanese soldiers.





Another picce of Japanese brutality. The leg of a Korean is beaten flat after being shot at.





To show their sympathy with the independence demonstrators and as a pacific means to demand the release of those who have been arrested, all Korean shopkeepers have closed their shops. Japanese soldiers are seen patrolling the streets with fixed bayonets.





This man is more fortunate. He has a bayonet stab in his eye. He was taken into one of the mission (Christian) hospitals, where he received treatment. The picture was taken one week after the man received the wound.





Japanese soldiers and armed police compelling the Koreans to open their shops against their wish.





He cries out for the liberty of the Koreans.



"Kopogo"  
C/O Mr. J. W. Crofoot,  
3 Route De Zikawei,  
French Concession,  
Shanghai.



Mr. C. H. Fahs,  
25 Madison Avenue,  
New York City, N. Y.,  
U. S. A.