

# "My Future" by Shig Katayama

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The years 1942 and 1943 have brought quite a few changes into my ambition, my way of thinking, and of looking into the future. The outlook of the years to come is very unfavorable for me. This great conflict that has arisen between the United States and Japan has made life very miserable for me and my friends of Japanese decent. Before this conflict between the two countries, I secured my education with American friends and looked into life as would they. Day to day we attended and absorbed the teachings of a democratic nation. We learned of dictatorship, communism, and Nazism, where only one person had control over the people, but this Democratic way of living was by far the best conditions in which to live. As I look into the future, I have one thing on my mind and that, I wish will come true. That is, to live in a democratic country or world. With the intentions of living in a democratic world I wish to be a success in the business I go into.

Medicine has been in my mind for quite a while. To attend a college of Pharmacy at the University of California at Berkley is my intentions. This institution has one of the best Pharmacy departments in the United States, so I have heard. Being so, this is my choice. After graduation a job in a small drug store would be good experience. Continuing on and then establish one of my own. After this goal is attained, which indeed, will take a lot of practice and study I will be on my own and not under my parents guiding hand.

Next the social problems will enter and marriage to a nice girl would be suitable. To live in an average 6 room house and to have 4 children, 2 boys and 2 girls, and have one of my sons carry on where I have left off. To retire at the age of 60 years and relax till my heart's content.

Pharmacy is essential to humans as long as they live, so I think that I will be contributing toward man kind. On the other hand my parents have aske me to carry on their profession as farmers. This is alright but all the hard work and sweat put into this I don't not think money can buy. True, if everybody took the same attitude I did we would not eat but, I think that there are others besides me who are more interested in the farming line. At the present time farming is more essential than Pharmacy, but without Pharmacy the thousands of wounded and dying this war would be dead. Of course farming is hit hard in teh States becasue of the lack of working men. My opinion is that each one is as important as the others.

Social Security, or savings account would be one of the best investments one can make. During my working age to invest in some kind of proposition that will be of greater value for me in the future. Life

insurance is another motive of investments. If by my death, my wife and children will have some kind of a base to back them up in their many years to follow.

Another thing that is on my mind is to repay my parents for what they have done for me. Since an infant, I was fortunate to have both of my parents look after me, until now and I hope in many more years to come. To build them a home in the country, or the city, or where ever they whthink they like best and give them their well earned rest.

My future depends on my way of working, studying, and trying to keep up with the trends of life as they progress. My parents have been more or less old fashion and they have not kept up with the times. I remembered in several occasions where I have told them to do things with machinerey but thinking their way better they used their hands and long hours. This sort of things I think that I will do away with and let my children do as things progress.

In the social part of my life I wish to meet as I said before an understandable girl, considerate and sociable. These qualifications are hard to fill I know, but I think, when and if the time comes she will be the one to fill them. Through married men, who have had expirience, books, and what nots, the best ways to get along with women is through courtship for at least 2 years. Through these years I can find out here likes, dislikes, personality, neatness, and companionship. Lots of girls do not know how to sew or cook and to get stuck with one of this type is going to be hard to get along with. On the other hand, she might be just the opposit and the kind that one would like to have for his faithful companion for life. Each day as I read the papers there one thing that always interests me and that is divorces. As I read about them, I wonder if a thing like the such will enter my life. When marriage comes along I will choose wisely and the best.

I plan not to drink, but smoking I have not decided. These are both bad habits, the first I swear not to do and the latter, time will tell. If and when I smoke I think pipe is best fitted for me. All business men look more dignified when they smoke a pipe rather than a cigarette.

Well I think that about covers everything in my mind at the present time for future life in a democratic country. If I am unfortunate and have to live under any other rule most likely this will all change.

If Japan happens to lose this war all the American born Japanese (Niseis) will probably have to go back to Japan. Why? Even though we are citizens of the United States we are Japanese in all respects. I think that the racial predjudice will be so great that we will probably be kicked around and be as same as the colored people down South. This so happening, to get away from all of this I will probably accompany my parents to their home land and start out a new. What will I do remains to be seen. If its so happens that I am lucky enough to get into the line of business I want it will probably be farming. I do not know a think about Japan except it is over there and to predict anything would be foolish.

My life over there might be suitable but give me America, the land of appportunity.

This is just a brief summary of my future life. I could go on telling you if I did not suceed in one thing I would do this and that but that would be endless so with the above as I would want it, is my unseen

future. With "ifs", "I wish", "hope", "intend", "I will", and "I predict", I have given you a dim picture of my future. Whether or not this will come true or not I plan to make the best of it.