

What will my future ambition be? By George Odahara

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Term Report

What will my future ambition be?

When I first entered into junior high school my ambition was to be a printer. While in junior high school the elective I took was printshop. This is where I began learning the trade of a printer. In class I learned how to set type. In this shop they had only one case of type to each member of the class. For four semesters I studied this slow way to set type. When I finished my course in print in junior high school I had learned to set type fairly well. When I entered into high school I started to take print shop for my first choice in electives. The little I had learned in junior high school was very valuable to me in this new shop. The first thing I had to do was to get used to this new shop. The environment of this new shop was much more difficult to get used to than the old shop in junior high school because it had much more equipment in it. The first project I started was to set type for calling cards, for friends. In this new shop it had much more type of different types, which makes the cards look much more attractive. The knowledge of what I had learned in junior high school became very valuable because I could keep up with the class when setting type. The rest of the semester I watched people work the various equipments and machinery and learned how it run and how to run it. During the second semester I learned to work the press it took almost the whole semester to learn to run it. I took advantage of the time, when the press was empty I would practice. It was during the third semester when I started to run things on the press for the school. I would run such things as report cards, announcements, programs, etc. There were other things we had to learn while running the press. We had to learn to clean the press so it would suit the instructor. During the fourth semester when I had the first opportunity to work on the school I grabbed it and helped by hardest. I would help run the school paper on the press, and set type for headings of different subjects.

The second opportunity was offered to me during the first semester, when I had a chance to learn to run the linotype machine. The linotype machine is a very technical machine which sets type into one form. It forms from hot melting lead which comes out into one solid form. This machine is used in all newspaper companies. The linotype machine is faster than the old fashion way of printing a paper. The old fashion way was to set type by hand. The linotype machine is a very expensive machine because it has so many different parts to it. The cost is from \$2,000.00 and up.

When the opportunity came I started with an instructor beside me. I would practice everyday until I got enough nerve to try to work it without a instructor beside me. In less than a month I started to work on the school paper again. I sat up type on the linotype machine for the rest of the semester. It was during his semester when I had the most fun in all of my schooling in print shop.

During the sixth semester I attended school only three months therefore I did not do nothing except play with the linotype machine.

After the outbreak of war I only attended school a short time because of evacuation. I knew I would lose all of my opportunity of being a printer so I thought it over and now I think that a farmer would be the best job for a Japanese because over eighty five percent of the Japanese were raising food for California.

My next best ambition I have, is to be a farmer. During my years at university high school I have taken the course of floriculture for two years. University high school is considered one of the best school for agriculture in the state of California. One quarter of the school grounds is taken for agriculture.

The first thing I learned was the names of plants by their common as well as botanical names. In this school they have room enough for people who want to become farmer to work on the ground and raise things. I have stayed in the class room for one semester and studied out of books. The other three semesters I have had actual experience out of doors.

In the class room we studied how to raise plants, plant seeds, and how to take care of them. We also took plants and tore them apart and learned the parts of a plant.

The second semester we went out of doors and started to learn the whats and whens by actual experience. We learned how to use tools and their names. People think that there is no art to spading the ground but there is. In farming or working in a nursery there is an art to everything. Every week we would change jobs to get the hang of the various kinds of jobs.

During the third semester I got ahead of the rest of the class and got special jobs in the working in the greenhouse. This work is very interesting because you learn things scientifically instead of reading it out of dry books. You might read that the temperature must be a certain degree but if you get it by experience you catch on much quicker. There is a certain way of watering which I learned during this semester.

During the fourth semester I was promoted to a bigger job. I was in charge of all of the greenhouses and had workers work for me. During the last half of the semester I got a bigger job. I was in charge of the greenhouse and also a group of boys who were landscaping.

This was one subject I took for my science which I will never regret. I think that I got more out of this subject than any subject I have ever taken.

The course in floriculture came in handy with my outside work. I was working with my father on Saturday's and some times after school. He was doing landscaping and gardening. During the summer

I would take the responsibility and start on one of his landscape job and finish it by myself. This is the way I started and during the summer vacations I would do half of his landscaping for him.

During the outbreak of war he was not permitted to enter into certain parts of the city so I quit school and finished up all of his work until evacuation.

I will always remember the old school which taught me the things that I did in my work. Up to this day I am still thinking of that grand old teacher who taught me the right things when I work.

After school is out I am planning to find a job on some farm. (if the army don't catch me first)

Please do not read in class keep personal between this teacher and myself. Thanks

(Property of George Odahara Per V)