

IMMIGRATION FILE

## U. S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

IMMIGRATION SERVICE

No. 658

## STATEMENT OF DULY DISCHARGED CHINESE LABORER ABOUT TO DEPART FROM THE UNITED STATES WITH THE INTENTION OF RETURNING THERETO.

Made in compliance with the treaty between the United States and China, concluded and signed March 17th, 1894, ratified December 7th, 1894, and proclaimed by the President of the United States December 8th, 1894, and the act of Congress entitled "An Act to prohibit the coming into, and to regulate the residence within the United States, its Territories, and all territory under its jurisdiction, and the District of Columbia, of Chinese persons and persons of Chinese descent", approved April 20th, 1902, and the Rules and Regulations of the Secretary of the Treasury in conformity therewith.

I HEREBY DECLARE That I am a Chinese Laborer, and respectfully present herewith "Evidence of my right to be and remain in the United States".

HEREUNTO ATTACHED IS A TRUE LIKENESS OF ME AND MY DESCRIPTION IS AS FOLLOWS:-

NAME:- LEE CHEE.

AGE:- Thirty - five - 35- Years.

RESIDENCE:- No. 329 A So. Clark St., Chicago, Illinois.

OCCUPATION:- Soliciting Trade for Suey Wo Chung Co.

HEIGHT:- Five feet, Six and one-half inches-5' 6 1/2".

EYES:- Brown. COMPLEXION:- Dark.

MARKS:- Numerous, faint pits about head (Forehead Particularly).

I CLAIM TO POSSESS THE PROPERTY AND DEBTS DESCRIBED BELOW:

PROPERTY: None, except the Personal Property described below and Money in Hand.

## DEBTS:

Payable by one YOUNG TOY, Restaurateur, of number 1248 W. Madison street, (The Kwang Tung Lo Co.), in the City of Chicago, Illinois, for Money Loaned, the sum of Five Hundred Fifty Dollars, (\$550.00).

Payable by one YOUNG YUEN, Laundryman, of number 5140 39. Ashland Ave., in the City of Chicago, Illinois, for Money Loaned, the sum of Six Hundred Twenty Dollars (\$620.00).

Said debts aggregate, and are worth, reasonably and at least, One Thousand Dollars (\$1000.00). The same are unsettled and unascertained, and are not covered, in whole or in part, by promissory note or notes, or other evidence of ascertained liability.

I HEREBY DECLARE That the said property and debts shall not be diverted, transferred, assigned nor collected during my absence, but shall remain as they now remain as they now exist until my return to the United States.

I intend to depart from the United States at the sub-port of Portal, North Dakota, one month from the date hereof, or as soon hereafter as I may, and to return into the United States at the same sub-port of Portal, North Dakota, within one year thereafter.

WHEREFORE, I respectfully request a Certificate of my right to return to the United States.

Dated at Chicago, Illinois, U.S.A. *June 1-1908*, *March 27, 1908*.

Subscribed and sworn to, by the above-named LEE CHEE, at the City of Chicago, in the County of Cook and State of Illinois, this *et* day of November, A.D., Nineteen Hundred Eight, before me.

*Lee Chee*  
*L. P. Schuman*  
Chinese and Immigrant Inspr.

*June*

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Northern District of Illinois. } Set:  
Northern Division. }

Before Mark A. Peote, United States Commissioner for the Northern  
District of Illinois, at Chicago, in said division and district.

---Q---

THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

vs

LEE KEW (Lee Kiung),

LEE CHEE (KONG SONG), and

LEE GUM (Lee Kim).

CHARGE:- Violation Chinese Exclusion  
Laws; Sec. 6, Act of Nov. 3, 1893.-Being  
Chinese laborers found now in the  
United States without the proper  
Certificate of Residence required by  
law.

1901.

Oct. 3.—Affidavit of Frank W. Berkshire, Chinese Inspector, is filed.

Oct. 3.—Warrant issued. Defendants in court, in person; the United States, by Clark J. Tisdell, Esq., Asst. U.S. Att'y. Frank W. Berkshire, a witness on the part of the prosecution, is sworn and examined; and for the benefit of the defendants, further proceedings are adjourned until 10 o'clock A.M., the 7th instant; and the defendants are severally ordered to enter into recognizances on continuance, with sufficient surety or sureties, respectively, in sums of \$1000. each; in default whereof a mittimus is issued.

Oct. 7.—Parties in court, as before—L.B. Lowenthal, Esq., appearing for defendants; and on motion of the defence, the prosecution assenting, and good cause being shown, further proceedings are adjourned until 10 A.M., the 10th instant.

Oct. 10.—Parties in court, as last before—John F. Geeting, Esq., also appearing for defendants. Defendants move dismissal for lack of jurisdiction. Arguments are heard; decision reserved. Fred Lee is sworn as interpreter, and Lee gum is sworn and examined in his own behalf. Isaac D. Hirschberg and Mrs. Isaac D. Hirschberg, are sworn and examined in behalf of defendants, Lee Kew and Lee Chee; and, on motion of the prosecution, case is continued until 10 A.M., the 14th instant.

Oct. 14.—Parties in court, as last before. Lee Chee, in his own behalf, and Lee Hee Yang, a witness for defendants, and J.P. Hoy for the prosecution, are sworn and examined; and the defense is on good grounds shown, given a continuance until 10 o'clock A.M., the 24th instant.

Oct. 26.—Now come the defendants, in person and by their attorney, L.B. Lowenthal, Esq., and the United States, by Benjamin Davis, Esq., Asst. U.S. Att'y. The defendants move a reduction of bail; and they are severally ordered to enter into recognizances on continuance, with sufficient surety or sureties respectively, in sums of \$500. each; which they do, with Josiah H. Mack as surety; and justification of surety is taken.

Oct. 24.-Parties in court--The United States by Benjamin Davis, Esq., Asst. U. S. Att'y.; the defendants, in person and by counsel as before. The defendants move for a continuance for further time to procure evidence; and the same appearing necessary-- And for the further reason that C.J.Tisdel, Esq., Asst. U.S.Att'y. in charge of this prosecution, is absent, continuance until 10 A.M., the 30th instant.

Oct. 30.-Parties in court, the prosecution by Clark J. Tisdel, Esq., Asst. U.S. Att'y; the defendants, in person and by counsel as before; and at the instance of the prosecution, upon the showing made by the said Lee Kew (Lee Kiung) and Lee Gum (Lee Kim), the said Lee Kew, alias Lee Kiung, and Lee Gum, alias Lee Kim, are discharged at their own proper costs; and as to the said Lee Chee, alias Kong Song, further proceedings for his benefit are adjourned until 10 A.M., November 9, 1901.

Nov. 9.--Present:-Parties and counsel, as before. Robert M. Barnes, Suey Ho Shee, Chin How Toy, witnesses for the accused; Moy L.Ming, interpreter; F.B.Berkshire, U.S.witness, are sworn and examined; arguments of counsel heard; and case continued until 10 A.M., the 14th instant.

Nov. 14.-Present:- Parties and counsel, as before. F.W.Berkshire, U. S. witness, further examined; arguments are heard; and case continued until 10 A.M., the 18th instant.

Nov. 18.-Counsel for defendants engaged in another court. Case continued until 10 A.M., to-morrow.

Nov. 19.-Parties in court, as before.--Except John F. Geeting, Esq., and the motion to discontinue is over-ruled. Prosecution is given leave to amend the complaint herein by striking out the words "that he has just and reasonable grounds to believe"; and the said Lee Chee, alias Kong Song, is deemed and adjudged to be unlawfully within the United States. It is accordingly ordered that the said Lee Chee, alias Kong Song, be deported from the United States as provided by law, and he is remanded into the custody of the U. S. Marshal for that purpose, and order for deportation is issued.

S E A L

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA. }  
Northern District of Illinois. } Set:  
Northern Division. }

This is to certify that the Chinese person ordered to be deported by Com. M. A. Foote, and whose appeal to the District Court of the United States for the Northern District of Illinois is numbered 9379 was Lee Chee (Ko ng Song), a true likeness of whom is hereunto attached; that on the said appeal the case against him was dismissed.

I further certify that, although through inadvertence in preparing said appeal the name of Lee Kew was used instead of Lee Chee, the above-named Lee Chee (Kong Song) is the individual actually held for deportation by the Commissioner, who actually appeared and signed the bond after appeal, and who was discharged as aforesaid.

Chicago, Ill., January 22, 1901.

CLARK L. TISDELL

Asst. U. S. Att'y.

The United States of America. }  
Northern District of Illinois. } Set:  
Eastern Division. )

I, Mark A. Foote, United States Commissioner for the Northern District of Illinois, hereby certify from my notes, files and records now before me, as well as from distinct recollection, that in the matter of Lee Kew (Lee Kiung), Lee Chee (Kong Song) and Lee Gum (Lee Kim), record of which is truly shown in the annexed transcript, the prosecution was dismissed on Oct. 30, 1901, as to the said Lee Kew and Lee Gum, being continued in respect to Lee Chee, as shown in the transcript.

The case having been named, and for a long time conducted as "Lee Kew et al.", it was necessary to carry on the case against Lee Chee under the established title of "Lee Kew et al.", and in that way, through clerical error, when the Mandate and Order of Deportation was issued Nov. 19, 1901, the name Lee Kew was inadvertently substituted for the proper name, "Lee Chee" in the said mandate. It is apparent from a comparison of papers and files which I have this day made, that counsel for Lee Chee had the said Mandate before him when he prepared the appeal, and appeal bond, from which the matter was docketed in the District Court, on appeal; and that thus the appeal was prosecuted with record in the erroneous name; but Lee Chee was the person present in person and who signed his name, with the sureties, to the appeal bond.

And following is the return upon said Mandate, now in my files:

"This writ is returned unexecuted this 18th day of January  
"the within-named defendant having been released by the U.  
"S. District Court, on motion of the U. S. Attorney, on the  
"7th day of January, A. D., 1902.

John C. Ames, U.S.Marshal,  
By Edward St.Clair, Deputy."

Witness my hand and official seal,  
January 18, 1902.

Mark A. Foote,  
U. S. Commissioner, N. D. Ill's.  
SEAL

The United States of America, a  
Northern District of Illinois.) Set:  
Eastern Division,

I, Mark A. Footer, United States Commissioner for the North-  
ern District of Illinois, do hereby certify that the foregoing  
three pages constitute a true, full and correct copy of certain  
original papers this day produced before me.

Witness my hand and official seal, at the City of  
Chicago, in said division and district, this 27th  
day of March, nineteen hundred eight (1908).

*Mark A. Footer*  
U. S. Commissioner, N. D. Ill's.



Department of Commerce and Labor  
IMMIGRATION SERVICE

RECEIVED

OFFICE OF

PORT OF Portal

January 23, 1909

Lee Chee

102 Wing Lock Street,  
Hong Kong, China.

Sir:

Replying to your request for an ad interim investigation of your case prior to your intended return from China, I have to advise you that the said investigation has been conducted and the report of the Examining Officer is favorable. You will, therefore, be permitted to reenter the United States through this port, provided you do not, on your arrival here, controvert any statements contained in your original application.

Respectfully,

RAW

Chinese Inspector in Charge

OFFICIAL COPY respectfully furnished L. T. Plummer,  
Chinese Inspector in Charge, Chicago, Ill., acknowledgement  
being made of his letter of January 26, No. 653.

admitted 6/2/09 *O B Holton*  
Chinese Inspector in Charge

No. 658.

522, Commercial National Bk. Bldg. CHICAGO January 25th, 1909.

Case of

LEE CHEE : H. E. Tippett, Examining Inspector.  
Lab. returning. :

Witness, YOU YEN, sworn by Inspector Tippett, testified:  
(In English)

- Q What is your name? A. You Yen.  
Q What is your occupation? A. Laundryman.  
Q Where are you located? A. 237 E. 31st St.  
Q Where was you before? A. 5140 So. Ashland Ave.  
Q Do you know this applicant? (Showing photograph on paper)  
A. Yes, that is Lee Chee.  
Q Do you owe him any money? A. Yes.  
Q How much? A. \$620.00.  
Q Is the debt just the same now as it was when Lee Chee departed? A. Yes.  
Q You still owe him the money? A. Yes.

Witness signed his testimony in English.

(Signed) You Yen.

Subscribed and sworn to, before me this 27th day of January, 1909.

(Signed) H. E. Tippett,  
Inspector.

No. 658.

522 Commercial Nat'l. Bk. Bldg. CHICAGO January 26th, 1909.

Witness, YOU TOY, sworn by Inspector Tippett, testified:  
(In English)

- Q What is your name? A. You Toy.  
Q What is your occupation? A. Restauranteur.  
Q Where are you located? A. 1248 W. Madison St.  
Q Do you identify the photograph on this paper? (Showing picture)  
A. Yes, that is Lee Chee.  
Q Do you owe him any money? A. Yes.  
Q How much? A. \$550.00.  
Q Is the debt the same now as it was when applicant went away?  
A. Yes.

Witness signed his testimony in English.

(Signed) You Toy.

Subscribed and sworn to, before me this 26th day of January, 1909.

(Signed) H. E. Tippett,  
Inspector.

No. 658.

June 10th, 1908.

Mr. O. B. Holton,

Chinese Inspector in Charge,

Portal, North Dakota.

Sir:-

I hand you herewith papers in the case of LEE CHEE, laborer of this city who desires to visit China and return to the United States. The photograph attached to the application is a good likeness of the applicant and the descriptive statement is accurate.

This applicant is not registered, but in lieu of a certificate of residence, presents a discharge by the United States District Court of this city dated January 7th, 1902. U. S. Commissioner Mark A. Foote, before him the Chinaman was tried recognized the photograph of the applicant and informed me that without doubt this was the man who was tried and discharged at that time. There is no photograph attached to the Commissioner's record, but the Commissioner informs me that the photograph attached to the paper in Lee Chee's possession is a photograph of the defendant in that case.

This Chinaman bases his right to a return certificate on the fact that two Chinamen, Yo Toy and You Yen, owe him debts aggregating more than \$1,000.00. Upon this claim, I have ex-

6/30/08.

amined the applicant and his alleged debtors, and enclose a transcript of the notes taken.

From my examination, I am of the opinion that the applicant has complied with the law and is entitled to the certificate which he requests. I will hand one copy of the papers to the applicant with instructions to present it to you upon his departure through your port.

Respectfully,

(Signed) L. T. Plummer.

Chinese Inspector in Charge.

No. 658.

June 10th, 1908.

Lee Chee,

c/o Suey Wo Chung Co.,  
329 So. Clark St., Chicago.

Sir:-

I hand you herewith a copy of your application for a laborer's return certificate, and would instruct you to present the same to the Inspector in Charge at Portal, North Dakota upon your departure through that port.

Respectfully,

(Signed) L. T. Plummer.

Chinese Inspector in Charge.

June 8th, 1908.

Case of : L. T. Plummer, Examining Inspector.  
LEE CHEE, : J.G.C. Longchallion, Interpreter.  
Lab. departing. : W. B. Calkins, Stenographer.

Applicant, LEE CHEE, sworn by Inspector Plummer, testified:

- Q What is your name?  
A Lee Chee.  
Q What is your occupation?  
A I have not been doing anything now; but I used to be a salesman for Suey Woo Chung.  
Q Upon what do you base your right to a return certificate?  
A That people owe me money.  
Q Give me the names of your debtors and the amounts that they owe you?  
A Yo Toy owes me \$550.00. You Yen owes me \$620.00.  
Q Tell me how this debt of Yo Toy was incurred.  
A I don't remember unless I look in my book. (Witness produces book containing numerous entries. The interpreter reads "K.S. 33, 11th month, 20th day; loaned to Yo Toy \$300.00. K.S. 34, 1st month, 20th day; loaned to Yo Toy \$500.00. K.S. 34, 4th month, 25th day; received \$250.00. Balance due me, \$550.00.")  
Q When did you make these various entries in your book?  
A At the time the transactions took place.  
Q What was this loan of \$300.00 made for?  
A I do not know what he borrowed it for. He asked me to lend it to him. So, I did.  
Q How long have you known him?  
A I have known him a long while. He is a good friend of mine.  
Q Where did that loan take place?  
A At Suey Woo Chung on South Clark St.  
Q What was the second loan of \$500.00, made for?  
A He did not tell me what it was for.  
Q How long after he returned from China, did he borrow that money from you?  
A Not very long after.  
Q Why didn't you ask him what this money was to be used for?  
A I didn't ask him. He asked me to lend him the money, and I did.  
Q Will you have his interests in various restaurants as security for this debt? That is, could you take his interest in either of the restaurants which he owns, if he don't pay you this money?  
A No. I cannot take his interest.  
Q Did he give you a note for this money?  
A No.  
Q Why did you lend money to You Yen, and when?  
A (Witness produces account book containing numerous entries. Interpreter reads, "K.S. 32, 8th month, 15th day, You Yen borrowed \$620.00 from me.")  
Q What for?  
A I don't know. May be he borrowed it to put in a business, or may be he borrowed it to send home.  
Q Did you ask him?  
A No. I did not.  
Q Is he any relation to you?  
A No, we are just friends.  
Q How long have you known him?  
A I have known him since he used to live out in the Suburbs.  
Q Did he give you a note for this money?  
A No. And he has not paid me any since.

## Testimony of applicant, continued.

Q Doesn't he own a laundry now on So. Ashland Ave.?

A Yes.

Q Could you take that if he does not pay you?

A Yes, I could take it, if he doesn't pay me.

Q Was that the understanding at the time you made this loan?

A No.

Q Then, why do you say that you could take it?

A I misunderstood your question at first. I could not take the laundry if he didn't pay me.

Q If you never returned from China, what would they do about the loans?

A If I do not return, they will send the money to me.

Q Do you own a laundry or any business of your own here, now?

A No. I have no business in Chicago, now.

Q Have you understood the interpreter?

A Yes.

Applicant signed his testimony in English.

(Signed) Lee Chee,

Applicant.

(Signed) J.G.C. Longchallon, Interpreter.

(Signed) L. T. Plummer, Inspector.

June 8th, 1908.

Witness, YO TOY, sworn by Inspector Plummer, testified:  
(In English)

Q What is your name?

A Yo Toy.

Q What is your occupation?

A Restaurant business.

Q Do you know this man? (Showing photograph of applicant)

A Yes. Lee Chee.

Q Is he a relative of yours?

A No. He is no relation to me, but he is a friend who has his home in my city in China.

Q Why do you owe him any money?

A I need the money. I had no money. I borrowed it from him.

Q When did you borrow this from him?

A Last November.

Q How much?

A \$550.00.

Q Did you borrow \$550.00 last November?

A When I got back, he loaned me \$300.00. Last November, \$500.00. After that I paid him \$250.00 back. Just owe him now \$550.00.

Q When did you borrow the \$300.00 of him?

A Last November 20th, according to the Chinese calendar.

Q Why did you borrow that money of him?

A I need it to spend in the restaurant business.

Q How long had you been back from China at that time?

A Two months. I can't remember how many days, except I was back about a month and a half. I can't remember how many days.

Q In what restaurant did you put that money in, the first \$300.00?

A When I come back from China, I owe somebody yet. I need money to pay him and need money to spend in the business.

Q When did you borrow the \$500.00?

A January 21st. (Chinese)

Q What did you borrow that money for?

A I borrowed it to open a restaurant at 6323 So. Park Ave. near "White City" (Amusement Park). I spent it in that restaurant.

Q When did you pay back that \$250.00?

A Last month, I paid him back. He asked me for some money and I paid him back some.

Q Where did you get this \$250.00 to pay him?

A I got it from my business. When the profits were divided.

Q So now, you owe him \$550.00?

A Yes sir.

Q Do you consider that he would have a right to take an interest in one of your restaurants to pay for this money, in case you didn't pay him back?

A Certainly. He wanted some money. He asked me for some, but I didn't have it. I told him when he came back I would pay him.

Q If you didn't pay him, do you consider that he could take part of the interest in the restaurant?

A Yes, he could.

Q Would you be willing for me to go into court and testify as to that; that if you didn't pay him he could take part of your interest?

A Yes, certainly.

Q Does he belong to the Lee family?

A Yes, he lives about two or three houses from me in China.

Q Have you understood my questions?

A Yes sir.

Witness signed his testimony in English.

(Signed) Yo Toy, Witness.

(Signed) L. T. Plummer, Inspector.

June 8th, 1908.

Witness, YOU YEN, sworn by Inspector Plummer, testified:  
(In English)

Q What is your name?

A You Yen.

Q Did you go to China from Cairo, Ill., about four or five years ago?

A Yes sir.

Q What is your business?

A Laundry business.

Q Where?

A 5140 Ashland Ave.

Q Do you own that laundry?

A Yes sir.

Q Do you know this man? (Showing photograph of applicant)

A Yes, it is my good friend,

Q What's his name?

A Lee Chee.

Q What is his full Chinese name?

A Lee Chee is the only name I know him by.

Q How long have you known him?

A I have known him a long time.

Q Why do you owe him money?

A I borrowed money from him because I want some money to pay some debts. I had a little money. I wanted some money to send to China to my mama.

Q When did you borrow it?

A K.S. 32, 8th month 15th day.

Q Did you borrow it all at one time?

A Yes, he gave it to me altogether, but I have not paid him any since.

Q Why have you not paid him any? Didn't you make any in that laundry?

A Yes, but I spent it. I send money to my home in China every year. I wanted to pay my debts, but I had no money.

Q When will you pay him?

A When he comes back, I will pay him.

Q How are you going to pay him?

A I am going to make some money. I won't spend it and I will save it.

Q If you haven't been able to save any money during the last year, how are you going to save while he is in China?

A I will save some money and pay him.

Q Well, if you don't pay him this money, can he take your laundry?

A Sure, I will have to pay him.

Q What if you don't pay him, would you be willing for him to take your laundry?

A Sure.

Q What is your full Chinese name?

A Yo Joe Yen.

Q Did you give him any note for this money?

A No. I just put it down in my book.

Q Have you that book with you?

A No, I left it at home.

Q Bring me that book tomorrow, then.

On the following day, June 9th, 1908, witness re-appeared with the memorandum book.

(Witness produces book containing numerous entries. The interpreter reads, "K.S. 32, 8th month, 15th day, borrowed from Lee Chee, \$620.00.")

Q When did you put that down in your book?

A At the time the loan was made.

Q Is this a genuine debt or have you just made it up so that this man can go to China?

Testimony of witness, YO JOE YEN, continued.

A It is a true debt.

Q Have you understood my questions?

A Yes sir.

Witness signed his testimony in English.

(Signed) Joe Yen, Witness.

(Signed) J.G.C. Longchallon, Interpreter.

(Signed) L. T. Plummer, Inspector.