

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

IMMIGRATION FILE

IMMIGRATION SERVICE

No. 501

Department of Commerce and Labor

In re. LEM CHEW, No. 1766 22d street, Chicago, Illinois. LAUNDRYMAN.

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

See letter dated Dec. 18, 07. Por

in Lee Wah's file No. 538.

Made in compliance with the treaty between the United States and China, concluded and signed on March 17, 1894, ratified on December 7, 1894, and proclaimed by the President of the United States December 8, 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 29, 1902, and the Rules and Regulations of the Secretary of the Treasury in conformity therewith.



I HEREBY DECLARE That I am a Chinese Laborer, duly registered as such under the act of Congress approved November 3, 1893. My Certificate of Residence is attached to this Statement. It was issued to me by the Collector of Internal Revenue for the First District of Illinois, at Chicago in said District, on September 16, 1901; and is numbered "137,659". It was issued to me in lieu of Certificate No. "5802", unavoidably lost or destroyed.

MY DESCRIPTION IS AS FOLLOWS:

NAME: - LEM CHEW.
AGE: - Thirty One years. (By Chinese reckoning, 32.)
RESIDENCE: - No. 1766 22d street, Chicago, Illinois.
OCCUPATION: - Laundryman.
HEIGHT: - 5 Feet, 2-1/2 Inches, in American Shoes.
EYES: - Dark Brown. COMPLEXION: - Light.
PHYSICAL MARKS AND PECULIARITIES FOR IDENTIFICATION:
Faint Scar, Outer End Right Eye-Brow.

I CLAIM TO POSSESS THE PROPERTY AND DEBTS DESCRIBED BELOW:-

PROPERTY: - None, except the Laundry and debt below, and cash in hand.

DEBTS: - Payable by one LEM CHING, Laundryman, of No. 1766 Twenty Second street, Chicago, in the County of Cook and State of Illinois, for money loaned, the sum of Two Hundred Ninety Five Dollars (\$295.00).

Payable by one LEM SOW, Laundryman, of No. 1766 Twenty Second street, Chicago, in the County of Cook and State of Illinois, for money loaned, the sum of Three Hundred Ninety Two Dollars (\$392.00).

I also am the owner of the "Lam Wing" Laundry there, at said No. 1766 Twenty Second street. I paid for it, and it is worth Five Hundred Twenty Dollars (\$520.00).

The value of said property and debts aggregates, and the same are actually and reasonably worth at least One Thousand Dollars (\$1,000.00); and the said debts are not evidenced by promissory notes or other evidences of ascertained liability, but are unsettled and unascertained.

I HEREBY AGREE That none of such property or debts shall be diverted, transferred, assigned or collected during my absence, and that the above-described property and claims shall remain as they now exist until my return to the United States.

depart from, and

I intend to return to the United States at the port of San Francisco, in the State of California, departing therefrom one month from the date hereof, or as soon hereafter as I may, and returning within one year thereafter.

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

Subscribed and sworn to, by the above-named LEM CHEW, at the City of Chicago, in the County of Cook and State of Illinois, this 21 day of September, 1906, before me.

Lem Chew

John J. [Signature]
Collector & Immigration Inspector

CHICAGO, July 16, 1907.

Case of : D. Arthur Plumly, Examining Inspector.
LEM CHEW,
Lab. Ret.

Witness, LEM CHING, sworn by Inspector Plumly, testified (in English):

Q What is your name? A Lem Ching.
Q Are you married? A No.
Q Do you own this laundry? A No. Lem Chew owns it. Lem
Sow and I are running it while he is away in China.
Q Who is this (showing photo of applicant)? A Lem Chew.
Q Do you owe him any money? A Yes, \$295.00.
Q Have you paid him any money since he has been in China?
A No.
Q When will you pay him? A When he comes back.
Q Does the obligation remain the same as it was at the time
of his departure? A Yes.
Q How much business does this laundry do? A \$50 a week
in winter - \$60 to \$70 in summer.
Q How many men work here? A Two, sometimes three, includ-
ing myself.
Q Have you understood my questions? A Yes.

Witness signed his testimony in Chinese.

(Signed) D. Arthur Plumly, Inspector.

Witness, LEM SOW, sworn by Inspector Plumly, testified (in English):

Q What is your name? A Lem Sow.
Q Are you married? A No.
Q Do you own this laundry? A No.
Q Who owns it? A Lem Chew.
Q Who is this (showing photo of applicant) A Lem Chew.
Q Do you owe him any money? A Yes; \$392.
Q Have you paid him any money since he has been in China?
A No.
Q Has there been any change in the obligation since his de-
parture? A No.
Q How much business does this laundry do? A \$60 to \$70
a week in summer; \$40 to \$50 a week in winter.
Q When will you pay him? A After he comes back, when I
get it, I will pay him.
Q How many men work here? A Lem Ching and I are here all
the time. When business is heavy we hire another man.
Q Have you understood my questions? A Yes.

Witness signed his testimony in Chinese.

(Signed) D. Arthur Plumly.

Department of Commerce and Labor

.6307 - Lam Ching, Lab., Chgo.
~~317 S. Clark St.~~

29 yrs

134 W. Jackson St.

laundryman

5-5½

dark brown

dark

no marks

issued March 29/94 - Chicago.

8135 - Lam Lou (or Lam Lou)

34

317 S. Clark

laundryman

5-6½

dark brown

light

no marks.

issued April 26/94 - Chicago.

Lam Chew

Care Hop Tai Wo.

32 Tong Man St.

Hong Kong,

China.

Chicago, July 15/07.
Department of Commerce and Labor

Sworn.

Name? Lem C hing.

Married? No.

Own this laundry? No. Lem Chew
owns it. Lem Sow and I
are running it while he is
away in China.

Who is this (photo)? Lem Chew.

Owe him any money? Yes. \$295.00.

Paid him any since in China? No.

When pay him? When he comes back.

Does obligation remain same as at time
of his departure? Yes.

How much business does laundry do?

\$50 ^{week} winter - \$60 to \$70 summer.

How many men work here?

2, sometimes 3, including myself.

Understood? Yes.

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D. Arthur Plumly

Sworn.

Chicago, July 15/07.

Name? Lem Sow.

Married? No.

~~Own~~ ^{this laundry?} No.

Who owns it? Lem Chew.

" is this (photo)? Lem Chew.

Owe him money? Yes; \$392.

Have you paid him any money since he has been in China? No.

Any change obligation since departure? No.

How much business does laundry do?

\$60 to \$70 week summer.

\$40 to \$50 " winter.

When pay? After he comes back when I get it I will pay him.

How many men work here?

Lem Ching and I are here all the time. When business is heavy we hire another man.

Understood me? Yes.

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CHICAGO

October 3, 1906.

Case of : L. T. Plummer, Examining Inspector.
LEEM CHEW, :
Lab. Dep. : Wong Aloy, Interpreter.

Applicant, LEEM CHEW, sworn by Inspector Plummer, testified:

Q What is your name?
A Lem Chew.
Q What is your business?
A Laundryman.
Q Do you own this laundry?
A Yes, sir.
Q How long have you owned it?
A Almost three years.
Q Who did you buy it of?
A Lem Wing.
Q What did you pay?
A \$520.00.
Q How many men do you employ?
A Two men besides myself.
Q How much business do you do?
A \$70 to \$80 a week.
Q How much do you believe this place is worth?
A From \$560 to \$600.
Q Who owes you money?
A Lem Sow and Lem Ching.
Q How much does Lem Sow owe you?
A \$392.
Q What does he owe you \$392 for?
A I loaned him this money at three different times; once when he was sick, once to send to China, and once to look around for some business with.
Q Did you put this loan down in any book?
A Yes, sir. Produced account book and the Interpreter read:
"K.S. 31, 12, 21 Lem ~~Sow~~ Sow borrowed \$152; K.S. 32, 1, 15 Lem Sow borrowed \$65; K.S. 32, 4, 9 Lem Sow borrowed \$175; altogether \$392."
Q How did he happen to borrow so much money in so short a time?
A The first loan he used partly for himself and to send to China. The second time about New Year's he was sick on account of his feet. The third time he borrowed to look about from town to town for an opening for a laundry. He can't pay me now, so I have let him work here and save his money, so he can pay me when I return.
Q How long have you known him?
A I knew him in China.
Q Did ~~you~~ he give you a note for the loan?
A No, sir.
Q How much does Lem Ching owe you?
A \$350.00.
Q What for?
A He borrowed it to buy a laundry with and lost money there. After he sold out he paid some other debts, sent some to China, paid me \$55 and now he owes me \$295.00.
Q When was this money borrowed?
A K.S. 31, 12, 1st day.
Q All at one time?
A Yes.
Q

10/3/06.

Q Where was this laundry he bought?

A Naperville, Illinois.

Q How much did he pay for it?

A I don't know, but he borrowed this from me and I think he borrowed some from other men besides.

Q Did you put it down in any book?

A Yes. Produces account book and the Interpreter reads:
"K.S. 31, 12, 1 Lem Ching borrowed \$350; K.S. 32, 5, 5
returned \$55.; still owes \$295."

Q Did he give you any note?

A No.

Q When will these men pay you?

A When I come back if they have it.

Q Are these true debts or are they false?

A No, they are not false, but true.

Applicant signed his testimony in English:

(Signed) LEM CHEW, Applicant.

(Signed) L. T. PLUMMER, Inspector.

(Signed) WONG ALOY, Interpreter.

10/3/06.

Witness, LEM CHING, sworn by Inspector Plummer, testified:

- Q What is your name? A Lem Ching.
Q What is your business? A Laundryman.
Q Do you own a laundry?
A No, I am working for Lem Chew.
Q Do you know this man (showing photograph of applicant)?
A Yes, it is Lem Chew.
Q Do you owe him any money?
A Yes, I owed him \$350, but I paid him \$55 of it, so I owe him \$295.
Q When was this borrowed?
A Witness produces a book and Interpreter reads, as follows:
"K.S. 31, 12, 1 borrowed from Lem Chew \$350; K.S. 32, 5, 5 paid back \$55; still owe him \$295."
Q What was this money borrowed for?
A To buy a laundry with, but I had bad luck and sold it.
Q Where was this laundry?
A Naperville, Ill., a country town.
Q How much did you pay for it?
A \$470.00.
Q Where did you get the balance of the money?
A I had it myself.
Q How much did you sell it for?
A For the same price I paid for it.
Q Why didn't you pay Lem Chew, then?
A I owed some money to another cousin and he needed the money worse than Lem Chew, so I paid him first.
Q Who was that cousin and how much did you pay him?
A I owed Quong Yuen \$200.
Q Did you give any note for this money?
A No.
Q Is this a true debt?
A Yes.
Q How long have you been in this laundry here?
A Four or five weeks.
Q Are you registered?
A Yes. (Shows certificate No. 6307 issued to Lem Ching at Chicago, March 29, 1894; age 29, height 5-5-1/2.)

Witness signed his testimony in Chinese:

(Signed) LEM CHING, Witness.

(Signed) L. T. PLUMMER, Inspector.

(Signed) WONG ALOY, Interpreter.

10/4/06.

Witness, LEM SOW, sworn by Inspector Plummer, testified:

- Q What is your name? A Lem Sow.
Q What is your business? A Laundryman.
Q Do you own a laundry?
A No, I just work; I used to own one.
Q Do you ~~xxx~~ know this man (showing photograph of applicant)?
A Yes; it is Lem Chew.
Q How long have you known him?
A I knew him in China before I came to the United States.
Q Do you owe him any money?
A Yes, altogether \$392.
Q What for?
A I borrowed it at different times; first to send to China to repair a house with; second on account of sickness, I had trouble with my feet; and third to look for a location for a laundry.
Q When was this borrowed?
A Witness produces book and the Interpreter reads:
"K.S. 31, 12, 21 borrowed from Lem Chew \$152; K.S. 32, 1, 15 borrowed \$65; K.S. 32, 4, 9 borrowed \$175; altogether \$392."
Q Did you give any note for these loans?
A No.
Q Where did these loans take place?
A Here at this laundry.
Q Why haven't you paid back any?
A Since I borrowed this I have had bad luck, sickness, and have been around looking for a business. Finally I made up my mind to come here and save my money and pay him when ~~x~~ he returns.
Q Is this a true debt?
A Yes.
Q Are you registered?
A Witness produces certificate No. 8135, issued at Chicago, April 26, 1894, to Lam Sow; age 34, height 5 ft. 6-1/2 in."
Q Have you understood the Interpreter?
A Yes.

Witness signed his testimony in Chinese:

(Signed) LEM SOW, Witness.

(Signed) L. T. PLUMMER, Inspector.

(Signed) WONG ALOY, Interpreter.