

IMMIGRATION FILE

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

IMMIGRATION SERVICE

734

No. _____

SUBJECT: _____

In re.
CHIN FONG GO
 of
 "Yon Chong Hong"
 Merchants,
 No. 337 So. Clark St.,
 Chicago, Illinois.
 U. S. A.

AGE:- Forty Two Yrs.
 HEIGHT:- 5' 4".

THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA. }
 NORTHERN DISTRICT OF ILLINOIS. }
 EASTERN DIVISION. }
 SCT:



WE, THE UNDERSIGN_____, Citizens of the United States and residents of the City of Chicago, in the division and district aforesaid, Do Hereby Certify that we have been well acquainted with the above-named CHIN FONG GO for more than five years last past; and we do further certify as follows, namely:

For upwards of one year immediately prior to the month of August of last year (1908) the said Chin Fong Go has been a merchant and member of the firm of "YON CHONG HONG", Chinese Drug Store of No. 337 So. Clark street in the City of Chicago and State of Illinois; and during the said year of our acquaintance with him, the said Chin Fong Go has been engaged in buying and selling merchandise at the said fixed place of business under the trade-name and style of the said firm of which he is a member; and during the said year of our acquaintance with him he has not been engaged in the performance of manual labor, skilled or unskilled, of any kind, except such as has been necessary in the conduct of his said business as such merchant as aforesaid.

WE DO FURTHER CERTIFY That the foregoing photograph, hereto affixed, is a true and correct likeness of the said CHIN FONG GO.

And we do further certify that we have been credibly informed and believe the said Chin Fong Go has a financial interest of One Thousand Dollars (\$1000.00) in the business and assets of the said firm of which he is a member; and, from our frequent visits to the said place of business and our general acquaintance with the various members of the said concern, we have become well satisfied that the said Chin Fong Go was actively engaged in the business of the said firm, exercised a voice in the management, business and affairs thereof; that he enjoyed his proper share in the profits thereof and that he is a bona fide member of said "YON CHONG HONG".

Dated, at Chicago, Illinois, March 4th, 1909.

Charles A. Wright
 (Address) 98 Jackson St.,
Chicago, Ill's.

Zoro Risley
 (Address) 9 Illinois Trust & Savings Bank,
Chicago, Ill's.

In re.
CHIN FONG GO
of
"Quong Chong Hai Co.",
Merchants,
No. 21 North Avenue,
Duluth, Minnesota,
U. S. A.

AGE:- Forty Two Yrs.
HEIGHT:- 5' 4".

THE STATE OF MINNESOTA.)
COUNTY OF ST. LOUIS. } SS
CITY OF DULUTH.)

WE, THE UNDERSIGNED, Citizens of the United States and residents of the City of Duluth, in the County of St. Louis and State of Minnesota, Do Hereby Certify that we have been well acquainted with the above-named CHIN FONG GO for the seven months last past; and we do further certify as follows, namely:-

For the seven months last past the said Chin Fong Go has been a Merchant and member of the firm of "Quong Chong Hai Co.", Importers in Chinese and Japanese Merchandise of No. 21 North Fifth Avenue in the City of Duluth and State of Minnesota; and during the said period of our acquaintance with him, the said Chin Fong Go has been engaged in buying and selling merchandise at the said fixed place of business under the said trade-name and style of the said firm of which he is a member; and during the said year of our acquaintance with him he has not been engaged in the performance of manual labor, skilled or unskilled, of any kind, except such as has been necessary in the conduct of his said business as such merchant as aforesaid.

WE DO FURTHER CERTIFY That the foregoing photograph annexed hereto, is a true and correct likeness of the said CHIN FONG GO.

And we do further certify that we have been credibly informed and believe the said Chin Fong Go has a financial interest of One Thousand Dollars in the business and assets of the said firm of which he is a member; and, from our frequent visits to the said place of business and our general acquaintance with the various members of the said concern, we have become well satisfied that the said Chin Fong Go is actively engaged in the business of the said firm, exercises a voice in the management, business and affairs thereof; and that he enjoys his proper share in the profits thereof and that he is a bona fide member of said "Quong Chong Hai Co."

Dated, at Duluth, Minnesota, March 6, 1909.

John H. Dugan
(Address) First National Bank
Duluth, Minn.

J. H. Reile
(Address) J. H. Greenwell

UNITED STATES COMMISSIONER,
DISTRICT OF MINNESOTA.

APPLICATION FOR ENDORSEMENT OF ACCOMPANYING AFFIDAVITS UNDER
RULE 25, REGULATIONS OF FEBRUARY 26th, 1907.

Chicago, Illinois,

March 5th, 1909.

To

LORENZO T. PLUMMER, ESQ.,

Chinese Inspector in Charge,

Chicago, Illinois.

Sir:

My name is CHIN FONG GO. I am forty-two years of age; was born in the Village of Sin Ning, province of Kwong Tung, Empire of China, and came to the United States in the 7th K. S., landing at the Port of San Francisco in the State of California, during the month of May.

For the ten years following my arrival in the United States I remained in the said City of San Francisco, residing at No. 762 Clay street, at which number the firm of "Wah On Chung", Chinese Grocers, carried on their business, and for the greater part of the time I was employed by said firm.

In K. S. Seventeen I came to the City of Chicago and purchased an interest for which I paid the sum of One Thousand Dollars in the Chinese Merchant Firm of "Wing Chong Hai, Company", of number 319 So. Clark street, and I have owned said interest ever since and enjoy the profits therefrom.

During the 28th K. S. I, with other local Chinese organized the firm of "Yen Chong Hong", Chinese Druggists of No. 337 So. Clark street, in the City of Chicago aforesaid. Since the organization of the said firm and until the month of August of the past year I was the manager of the said firm, and I still retain my interest therein.

About seven months ago, in August, 1908, I went to the City of Duluth in the State of Minnesota, where I started the firm of "Quong Chong Hai Co.", Importers and Dealers in Chinese and Japanese Merchandise, and located at No. 21 North Fifth Avenue, West, in the City of Duluth aforesaid. From the time of the organization of the said firm I have been its manager and I now occupy that position.

During my residence in the United States I have visited China twice,- In the 19th K.S. I returned to China by the way of Van Couver, B. C., and came back to this country by way of the same Port and arrived in the City of Chicago in September of the 20th K. S. Again, in the 26th K. S. I again visited China departing from the said Port of Van Couver and returning via the same port in the month of October of the 27th Kwong Su.

For upwards of one year last past I have not been engaged or interested in the performance of manual labor, skilled or unskilled, of any kind, except such as has been necessary in the conduct of my said business as a Merchant as aforesaid.

I now desire to visit China and to return upon the completion of my visit, to resume my present residence, occupation and status in the United States.

Wherefore, I transmit herewith the evidence of two credible witnesses other than Chinese, and pray that the same may be endorsed as provided by proper Regulation.

Very respectfully,

Chin Fong Go.
No. 337 So. Clark Street,
Chicago, Illinois.

Department of Commerce and Labor
IMMIGRATION SERVICE

OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER
SEATTLE, WASH.

N.W.

No. 26,547.

RECEIVED
DEC 19 1910
Inspector in Charge,
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS.

Dec. 15th, 1910.

Inspector in Charge

U.S. Immigration Service,
Chicago, Ill.

S i r:

This is to advise you that Chinese Chin Fong Go, whose status was the subject of your communication of March 18th, 1909, No. 734, to the Inspector in Charge, Minneapolis, Minnesota, arrived at this port October 31st, 1910, on the S.S. "Iroquois", and that he was admitted the following day as a returning merchant of Chicago, Ill. and Duluth, Minn.

Respectfully,

HAM-LAW

Ellis P. Blyer
Commissioner.

JMS

(C O P Y)

Department of Commerce and Labor

U. S. Immigration Service.

Office of Inspector in Charge,

Port of Duluth, Minnesota.

May 24, 1909.

No. 1398.

Charles W. Seaman,
Inspector in Charge,
Minneapolis, Minnesota

Sir:

Herewith enclosed are all papers in the case of Chin Fong Go, who has clearly established his right as a merchant in the cities of Chicago, Ill., and Duluth, Minnesota. The investigations of the same are attached.

These papers would have been forwarded sooner but we learned that Chin Fong Go before he would depart for China would return to Duluth, and I, therefore, desired at the time of his arrival to question him further on the subject at issue. Chin Fong Go appeared at this office on the 21st instant, and I directed Inspector Joseph J. Perdomo to question him along the line of the testimony in his case, which he corroborated fully.

Chin Fong Go intends leaving here within a day or two for Vancouver, B.C., departing from the United States at Portal, N.D. therefore, we will be unable to receive a reply from the Portal office relative to the acceptance of these papers and the said Chinaman will have to satisfy the officers at Portal, personally, at the time of his departure through that port.

A copy of the enclosed papers will be in the possession of Chin Fong Go, also a copy of the same forwarded for your office, as well as the investigation here forwarded in triplicate along the line of the suggestion of Inspector in Charge Plummer's letter of March 18, 1909, No. 734.

Respectfully,
(Signed) William H. Dean,
Inspector in Charge.

Report on investigation regarding CHIN FONG GO,*
a Chinese merchant of No. 21 Fifth Ave., Duluth,
Minnesota, as per request of Inspector Chas. W.
Seaman of Minneapolis.

In the absence of Chin Fong Go, the Chinaman in question, who has not as yet, returned from Chicago, Chin Nee Wai, the representative partner at the head of the QUONG CHONG HAI Co. was interviewed; he shows the Articles of Incorporation of the said Company, properly executed according to the provisions of the law; through the said documents I find that the place is capitalized at \$9500.00 with eleven share holders, of which eleven share holders or members of the Company, Chin Fong Go is one, with a capital of Fifteen hundred dollars (\$15000.00)

The duly authorized manager of the firm, during the absence of Chin Fong Go, is Chin Soon Chong.

The facts reveal a discrepancy with his testimony at Chicago, Ibl. dated March 5th. 1909, viz:-His actual coming to Duluth took place the 15th. of September 1908, and not in August, as stated in the affidavit. And the opening of the place of business mentioned took place the 19th. of the same month,-four days after his arrival.

The two witnesses who signed the affidavits at Duluth, to wit:- John H. Dight, Cashier, First National Bank, and T. H. Little, Cashier, U. S. Custom House, were also interviewed, and under oath testified in substance to the following:

Mr. Dight says:-I do not know the Chinaman in question very well, but I judge by the photograph that he is the man in question allright; they brought me the affidavit already prepared and ready for me to sign; I do not know who wrote it, but it is worded a little stronger than possibly I ought to have signed; I did it as a favor to them, trusting almost entirely to the honorableness of the man, who in fact appears to me as an upright individual, well appearing and intelligent.

Question:-How many times altogether, since you became acquainted

(2)

with Chin Fon Go, have you conversed with him personally?

Answer:-Not more than two or three times.

Q.-Your affidavit speaks of "frequent visits" to his place of business. How many, as closely as you can remember, were those visits?

A.-Probably a couple of times.

Q.-How soon after they opened up business at 21 Fifth Ave. Duluth, did you call on them?

A.-It was some time last Fall, but do not remember.

Q.-When was it that they opened for business the said place?

A.-It was about October, or possibly earlier.

Q.-You say that you are credibly informed that the said Chinaman has a financial interest on one thousand dollars in this business. How did you get that information; what was your source?

A.-Their own representation.

Q.-How do you know that Chin Fong Go exercises a voice in the management, business and affairs of the place?

A.-I do not know at all, except what they themselves represented to me as the facts.

Q.-How do you know that he enjoys his proper share of the profits?

A.-I do not know about that either, except what they themselves told me.

Q.-Did you ever know the man in question before he came to Duluth?

A.-No.

Q.-How do you know that he is a "bona fide" member of this mercantile Company here at Duluth?

A.-Only what they told me themselves; their own representation of all such facts, none of which of course have come to me as a direct, personal insight of affairs.

Q.-Please define and explain explicitly your acquaintance with Chin Fong Go. Is it a general passing acquaintance, or a close personal acquaintance; what is the degree of your acquaintance?

A.-Only a passing acquaintance.

Q. - Did you ever see, meet or visit Chin Fong Go any where besides the said place of business?

A. - No; except when he came here with another countryman of his to see me about the signing of those papers.

Q. - Then, how do you know that he never performed manual labor?

A. - His own representation of it to me, and then judging by his general appearance; he reveals no signs of manual labor.

*** The same questions as above were presented to Mr. Little, whose answers, in substance, were as follows:

"Altogether I have seen the said Chinaman probably four or five times. I visited their place of business about a dozen times.

My first visit to them was about two months after they opened up here at Duluth.-Their opening of business was in September 1908.

As to my source of knowledge of his amount of capital in the business, I have only their say so of it; that is all I know.-In the same way of course, I have no personal knowledge of their business, share of profits, genuiness of partnership and the like, except by hear-say.

I never knew him before he came to Duluth.

My acquaintance with him is in a business way; I had to call at their place of business to examine packages of merchandise, and in that way met him three or four times. And he always had a 'managing' voice about him.

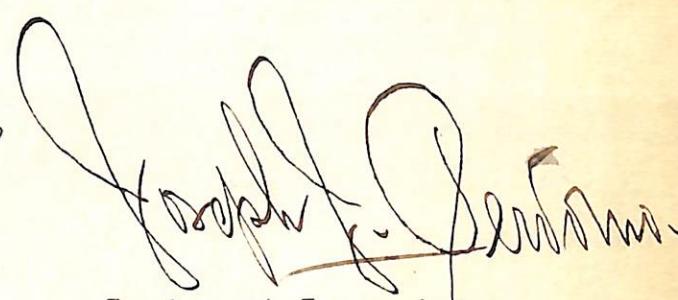
I never saw him performing any manual labor; more than that I can not tell."

In confirmation of the testimony rendered in above affidavits, -April 1909,-I have this 21st. of May 1909 taken oath of Chin Fong Go, concerning the various representations thereof, and find them correct in every respect, deriving therefrom the main facts that the said Chin Fong Go is

(4)

a bona fide merchant, manager of the firm of Quon Chong Hai Co. at Duluth, Minnesota, and a resident of the said place for a period of eight months, from September 1908 to date.

Respectfully,



John J. O'Brien

Immigrant Inspector.

Duluth, Minnesota, May 21, 1909.

No. 734.

March 18th, 1909.

Inspector in Charge,
Immigration Service,
Minneapolis, Minn.

Sir:-

I hand you herewith papers in the case of CHIN FONG GO, a merchant of Chicago and Duluth, who desires to visit China and return to the United States.

This is the Chinaman who was the subject of recent correspondence with your office. Chin Fong Go came to Chicago and I advised him to have these papers drawn up to cover his interest in the firm of Yen Chong Tong here in Chicago and the firm of Quong Chong Hai in Duluth.

I have examined applicant as to his interest in these two establishments, and also the Chinaman, Chin Ying Lum who is a partner of this firm here in Chicago and will manage its business while applicant is in China. I inclose a transcript of the notes taken.

I also inclose sworn statements of the two white witnesses whom I regard as credible witnesses, upon the regular forms used, and I inclose a copy of the partnership list of Yen Chong Tong which was furnished me November 14th, 1907. This firm of Yen Chong Tong is a small establishment, dealing almost entirely in Chinese drugs and medicines; but I believe that its bona fide members and those who devote their entire time to it are entitled to the privileges of merchants.

No. 734.

-2-

3/18/09.

Applicant has been about the store, apparently its manager, since I have been in Chicago, and is the person whom I have examined when it has been necessary to examine the manager of the firm, and I am of the opinion that during the time he was in Chicago that he did no manual labor except such as was incident to the conduct of the firm's business.

Chin Fong Go informs me that intends to go to Duluth within a few days, and I would suggest that after you have made the necessary examinations at Duluth and a report in the case, that you forward the papers to him at his Duluth address. I inclose three copies of this man's application in order that you may have a copy for your files after you have given one to applicant and have sent one to the port of departure. I would request that you send me a copy of your report to Portal in order that my files here may be complete.

Respectfully,

(Signed) L. T. Plummer.

Chinese Inspector in Charge.

522 Commercial National Bk. Bldg. CHICAGO

March 16th, 1909.

Case of : L. T. Plummer, Examining Inspector.
 CHIN FONG GO, : Charley Kee, Interpreter.
 Merchant departing. : W. B. Calkins, Stenographer.

Applicant, CHIN FONG GO, sworn by Inspector Plummer, testified:

Q. What is your name? A. Chin Fong Go.

Q. Is that your marriage name or your boyhood name?

A. Boyhood name.

Q. What is your marriage name? A. Chin Ming Fee.

Q. What is your occupation at the present time? A. At the present time I am in Chicago in the drug business. In Duluth, I was in the grocery business and crockery.

Q. What is the name of the firm with which you are connected here in Chicago? A. Yon Chong Tong.

Q. Where is that firm located? A. 337 So. Clark St.

Q. How long have you been connected with that firm? A. K.S. 28, I started in the basement at 323 So. Clark St. under Hip Lung's and stayed there two years. Then I moved and have been five years where I am now.

Q. Have you been at 337 So. Clark St. ever since? A. Yes.

Q. How much of an interest have you in that firm? A. One thousand dollars.

Q. Did you put one thousand dollars into the firm when you first started in K.S. 28, or does that represent the value of your interest now? A. I put in \$1,000.00 when I started.

Q. Has there been any change in the membership of this firm since you gave me a list on November 14th, 1907? A. No change.

Q. Is that a list of the same members, same interests and everything? A. Yes.

Q. When did you go to Duluth? A. Last year, Chinese date, in the 8th month.

Q. What is the name of the firm that you organized there?

A. Kwong Chung Hai.

Q. How much capital have you invested there altogether?

A. I put in \$1,500.00 there.

Q. How much was put in by all the partners? A. Nine thousand dollars.

Q. How much would you say that the goods on hand are worth?

A. Over four thousand dollars worth of goods on hand.

Q. Who has been the manager of this firm of Yon Chong Tong since you have been in Duluth? A. Some tribe cousin of mine takes care of it.

Q. What is his name? A. Chin Ming Dung.

Q. Is he related to you in any way? A. Yes, tribe cousin.

Q. Who will run the firm here in Chicago while you are in China? A. Chin Ying Lum.

Q. Who will run the store in Duluth? A. Chin Soon Chung. He is in Duluth now.

Q. What is the value of the goods that your Chicago store has on hand now? A. About two thousand dollars.

Q. What class of goods do you carry here? A. Drugs.

Q. Are you going to China on your own business or on business of the firm? A. Business of my own.

Q. How many children have you in China? A. I have not any yet.

Q. Will you still keep your interest in this Chicago firm and the Duluth firm while you are in China? A. Yes.

Q. How old are you at the present time? A. Forty-two.

Q. When did you first come to the United States? A. K.S. 7.

Q. What have you been doing since you have been in the United States? A. I was with Wah On Teung in San Francisco for ten years.

Q. What did you do then? A. K.S. 17, I came into the firm of Wing Chong Hai, 319 So. Clark St., Chicago.

Testimony of applicant, CHIN FONG GO, continued:

Q. How long were you in the firm of Wing Chong Hai? A. Nine years.

Q. Were you in the firm of Wing Chong Hai up to the time that you started the firm of Yon Chong Tong? A. I had an interest in Wing Chong Hai until I started Yon Chong Tong.

Q. Are you registered? A. No.

Q. Why didn't you get a certificate? A. K.S. 19 I went home to China and in the last part of the year K.S. 20, I came back.

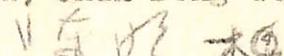
Q. Since you have been in the United States, have you done any manual labor such as working in restaurants or laundries, or any other work outside of the firms you have been connected with? A. No, I have always been in the mercantile business.

Q. Have you understood the interpreter? A. Yes.

Applicant signed his testimony in English & Chinese.

(Signed) Chin Fong Go,

Applicant.



(Signed) Chin Ming Fee,

Applicant.



(Signed) Charley Kee,

Interpreter.

(Signed) L. T. Plummer,

Inspector.

Applicant returned to this office on March 18th, 1909 and stated that he had made a mistake in answer to the question if he had any children in China. He stated then that he had one boy in China. Inspector Plummer examined him as follows:

Q. What is your boy's name? A. Chin Gee Yuen.

Q. How old is he? A. Fifteen years. He was born in K.S. 20.

Q. Have you any other children? A. No.

Q. What is your wife's name? A. Moy Shee.

Q. Where was this boy born? A. Village of Chung Ling.
My wife used to live in On Foon.

Q. Does your boy live in Chung Ling now? A. Yes.

Q. What village did your wife come from? A. You Gum, On Foon province.

Q. Do you understand my questions? A. Yes.

March 17th, 1909.

Place: same.

Witness, CHIN YING LUM, sworn by Inspector Plummer, testified;

Q What is your name? A. Chin Ying Lum.

Q What is your business? A. In a drug store, always have been a druggist.

Q Are you a member of the firm of Yon Chong Tong? A. Yes.

Q Do you know this man? A. Yes, he is my partner, Chin Fong Go.

Q How much of an interest have you in that firm? A. \$500.00.

Q Who are the partners who devote their entire time to the firm's business? A. Chin Fong Go, Chin Ying Lum and Chin Ming; three of us.

Q Who will run the store when Chin Fong Go goes to China? A. I will run it? He will leave it to me.

Q Who will run the place in Duluth, do you know? A. Chin Soon Chung.

Q Are you related to Chin Fong Go, in any way? A. Just a tribe cousin.

Q Have you any other name besides Chin Ying Lum? A. Chin Ying Lum is my marriage name. Chin Fung is my boyhood name.

Q Have you any children in China? A. One boy.

Q How old is he and what's his name? A. Chin Hung Teoo, eight years old.

Q Will Chin Fong Go still keep his interest in the firm while he is in China? A. Yes, in a year or so he will come back again.

Q Have you understood the interpreter? A. Yes, I understand him.

Witness signed his testimony in Chinese.

P.Y. 言
P.Y. 仁

(Signed) Charley Kee, Interpreter.

(Signed) L. T. Plummer, Inspector.