

IMMIGRATION FILE

## U. S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

IMMIGRATION SERVICE

No. 421

SUBJECT:

Hong-Kong, China 5/

14-204

Mr. Edwin S. Layman

Dear sir.

I will proceed toward to  
America on about  
by U. S. M. S.

than by train to Chicago,

Will you kindly answer  
my case.

Respectfully Your  
Chin Kong Tong  
of the firm of Kim Kee  
293, S. Clark St.  
Chicago, Ill.

A.  
Q.  
A.  
C.

IMMIGRATION FILE

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR  
IMMIGRATION SERVICE

No. 421

CHICAGO

September 5, 1907.

Case of : D. Arthur Plumly, Examining Inspector.  
CHIN KONG FONG, :  
Mer. Ret.: J.G.C.Longchallon, Interpreter.

Witness, CHAN PAK SUN, sworn by Inspector Plumly,  
testified in English:

Q. What is your name? A Chan Pak Sun.

Q. Are you married? A No, sir.

Q. What is your business? A Manager of the King Joy Lo  
restaurant, Randolph St. near Dearborn St., Chicago.

Q. How long have you been a resident of Chicago?  
A Since 1893.

Q. Do you know this man (showing photograph of applicant)?  
A Yes, that is Chin Kong Fong.

Q. How long have you known him? A Almost ever since I  
lived in Chicago, off and on. I think he went back to China once  
before.

Q. What is his occupation? A Some of the time he kept a  
laundry, but for a year or two before he went to China he was con-  
nected with the Kim Kee Co., 307 S. Clark St., Chicago.

Q. Do you know how much interest he had in that firm?  
A No, I do not.

Q. Are you connected with the firm in any way? A No, sir.

Q. When did he go back to China? A Over three years ago,  
a few days after Chinese New Year's. I remember having a little  
~~lunch down there as a farewell to him.~~

Q. While he was engaged in the store did he do any other  
business at all? A Not while he was in the store.

Q. And his occupation before that was laundryman? A Yes, sir.

Q. Do you know whether or not he got registered? A I think  
he did but I am not positive. I helped register a great many  
and I photographed over 1300. There were so many that I can not  
be positive as to any individual.

Q. What is the value of the stock of goods now carried by the  
firm of Kim Kee & Co.? A I don't think the stock of goods is  
worth over \$5,000.00. I have only been in the store occasionally  
during the last year or two and I am not familiar with their  
business.

Q. Is there anything else you care to say? A No, sir.

Q. Have you understood me? A Yes, sir.

Witness signed his testimony in English, after same was  
read to and approved by him:

(Signed) CHAN PAK SUN, Witness.

(Signed) D. ARTHUR PLUMLY, Inspector.

## IMMIGRATION FILE

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR  
IMMIGRATION SERVICE

No. 421

SUBJECT:

CHIN KONG FONG

-2-

9/5/07.

Witness, CHIN MUN KIM, sworn by Inspector Plumly, testified:

- Q What is your name? A Chin Mun Kim.  
 Q How old are you? A 42.  
 Q Are you married? A Yes.  
 Q What is your boyhood name? A Chin Dun.  
 Q What is your business? A Merchant; manager of the firm of Kim Kee & Co., 307 S. Clark St., Chicago.  
 Q When did you move your store from 293 S. Clark St.? A Last year, Chinese January.  
 Q What is the value of the stock of goods carried by your firm at the present time? A A little over \$2,000.00.  
 Q What is your interest in the business? A \$1,500.00.  
 Q How long have you been manager of this firm? A Ever since it was organized.  
 Q When was it organized? A K.S. 28, 7, 14th to 18th day; I am not sure just what day.  
 Q In November 1903 you gave us a sworn list of the firm membership. Is that list a correct list of the firm membership at the present time? A Yes, sir.  
 Q Has the store paid any dividends? A We have not made much but what we have made we have put back into the business.  
 Q Who are the members of the firm whose entire time is devoted to its business at the present time? A I am the only one.  
 Q Do you employ anyone in the store? A Yes, one man.  
 Q What is his name and how much do you pay him? A Mok Ying Nie; we pay him \$30.00 a month.  
 Q How long has he been in the store? A 8 months.  
 Q Where is Chin Mun Tong at the present time? A He is at the Hong Fong Lo restaurant.  
 Q Where is Chin Ying? A He is working in the laundry on 43rd St. near Cottage Grove Ave.  
 Q How long has Chin Mun Tong been in the Hong Fong Lo restaurant? A About 7 months.  
 Q How long has Chin Ying been in this laundry on 43rd St.? A Ever since last February.  
 Q Then you are the only member of your firm whose entire time is devoted to its business at the present time? A Yes, sir.  
 Q Do you know this man (showing photograph of applicant)? A Yes, it is Chin Kong Fong.  
 Q Is he a member of your firm? A Yes.  
 Q How long has he been a member of your firm? A Since it was organized.  
 Q How long have you known him? A From K.S. 27th year.  
 Q How long have you been in Chicago? A I have known him ever since I came to Chicago six years ago.  
 Q What was Chin Kong Fong's occupation when you first knew him? A He was a laundryman.  
 Q Was Chin Kong Fong ever engaged in the business of Kim Kee & Co.? A Yes, he was engaged in the business until he went to China.  
 Q When did he go to China? A K.S. 30, 1, 3rd or 4th day.  
 Q For how long a time before Chin Kong Fong's departure for China was he engaged in your store, all of his time devoted to its business? A About one year.  
 Q How much less than one year was it? A One year.  
 Q Was it exactly one year before his departure? A A little over one year. I don't remember exactly but a little over one year. I don't remember exact dates--it has been so long. I am giving them as near as I can remember.

## IMMIGRATION FILE

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR  
IMMIGRATION SERVICE

No. 421

SUBJECT:

CHIN KONG FONG

-3-

9/5/07.

Q What were his duties about your store? A He was a salesman.

Q Did he do anything else? A No, he was always a salesman in the store.

Q Did he do any other work about the store than sell goods? A Sometimes he went out to make collections. In Chinese business we have no particular duties to one man; everybody helps to do what they can.

Q How much money has Chin Kong Fong invested in your store at the present time? A \$500.00.

Q Did he invest that when you organized the firm or is that his interest now? A He put in \$500.00 cash when the firm was organized.

Q Do you know whether or not Chin Kong Fong was ever registered? A I don't know.

Q Do you know whether or not he was ever connected with any other firm? A No, I don't know.

Q Did he ever tell you anything about it? A No.

Q What will Chin Kong Fong do when he returns to Chicago?

A He will come back into the store and do the same work as he did before he went away. When he comes back if he is willing to stay in the store, all right; but if not he may retire, as we do not know his intentions.

Q Has Chin Kong Fong withdrawn any part of his interest since he went back to China? A No, he still has the same interest.

Q Why did Chin Kong Fong go to China without being examined before his departure? A I remember that he had Commissioner Foote prepare his paper and Chin Pak Sun and Wong Aloy were connected with it, and I think he came up here for examination. I don't know whether he was examined. I know that he had some important family business in China.

Q Is Chin Kong Fong married? A Yes.

Q Has he any children? A He had a son, which is dead. I don't know whether he has any more children or not.

Q Does your firm do any more business now than it did at the time of Chin Kong Fong's departure for China? A No, it is about the same.

Q Isn't it a fact that Chin Kong Fong never was actively connected with your firm but was always a laundryman? A He was a laundryman before he came into the store before the firm was organized, since which time he has always been in the store.

Q How is that? You say your firm was organized K.S. 28,7, and Chin Kong Fong went to China K.S. 30, 1, and that he had been in your store a little over one year before his departure.

A When I said that I was not sure of the dates but I know he went away to China just about two years after the firm was organized.

Q How many men were engaged in the store, all their time devoted to its business, at the time of his departure? A Three.

Q Who were they? A Myself, Chin Mun Tong and Chin Ying.

Q Did you employ any other men at that time? A No, we did not hire anybody at that time.

Q Why is it that it took three men to handle the business of your firm then and only two men now? A We are doing less business now.

Q And you don't carry as large a stock of goods now, either, do you? A We have a little less stock now.

Q Did Chin Mun Tong or Chin Ying know Chin Kong Fong during the period of registration? Were they living in Chicago before you came here in K.S. 27th? A Chin Ying was here before me but Chin Mun Tong came after I did.

Q Is there anything else you care to say? A No.

Q Have you understood the Interpreter? A Yes.

Witness signed his testimony in Chinese:

(Signed) CHIN MUN KIM,

Witness.

(Signed) D. ARTHUR PLUMLY,

Inspector.

(Signed) J.G.C.LONGCHALLON,

Interpreter.

IMMIGRATION FILE

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR  
IMMIGRATION SERVICE

No. 421

SUBJECT:

CHICAGO, September 6, 1905.

Case of : L. T. Plummer, Examining Inspector.  
CHIN KONG FONG, : Wong Aloy, Interpreter.  
Ret. Mer. : D. Arthur Plumly, Stenographer.

Witness, sworn by Inspector Plummer, testified:

- Q What is your name?  
A Chin Mun Kim.  
Q What is your business?  
A Chinese merchant; treasurer of the firm of Kim Kee & Co.  
Q Where is your store located?  
A No. 293 S. Clark St., Chicago, Ill.  
Q How long have you been connected with that firm?  
A Since K.S. 28th year and 7th month.  
Q When was that firm organized?  
A About that same time.  
Q How much money has your whole firm got in its business?  
A When we first opened we put in altogether \$8,000.  
Q How much have you got now?  
A We didn't put in any since, but we put all the dividends back in the business.  
Q How much is the business worth now?  
A I can not give you the exact amount but we have a good deal of money loaned out to start different laundries and several men ran away without paying us, and I can not tell exactly how much we have at the present time.  
Q How much is the stock of goods now carried by your firm worth?  
A Between \$2,000 and \$3,000.  
Q How much debts do you have now due the firm?  
A Between \$4,000 and \$5,000. We have more money put up on debts than anything else.  
Q How many partners have you in that firm altogether?  
A Eleven.  
Q You gave me a sworn list of the firm membership in November 1903. Is that list a correct list of the firm membership at the present time?  
A The same; it has never been changed.  
Q Do you know this man (showing photo of applicant)?  
A Yes, it is Chin Kong Fong.  
Q How long has he been a member of your firm?  
A Ever since we organized the firm. He has been with me ever since I came to Chicago.  
Q How long have you been in Chicago?  
A I came here in K.S. 27th year and we opened this firm in K.S. 28.  
Q When did he go back to China?  
A Last year; Chinese date January 3d he left Chicago.  
Q What does he do in your store?  
A Odd jobs; he does everything.  
Q How many members have you got in your firm now that work in the store all the time?  
A Three.  
Q Who are they?  
A Myself, Chin Mun Tong, and Chin Ying.  
Q Is Ching Ying a member of your firm?  
A Yes.  
Q How long has he been in your store all the time?  
A Ever since Chin Kong Fong went to China.

IMMIGRATION FILE

## U. S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

IMMIGRATION SERVICE

No. 421

SUBJECT:

Case of CHIN KONG FONG.

-2-

9/6/05.

- Q How much money has Chin Kong Fong invested in your firm?  
A \$500.00.  
Q Did he put \$500 in at the start or is that all he has in it now?  
A He put \$500 in when the store was opened.  
Q Is he coming back in your store when he comes back?  
A Yes, if he comes back he will go in the store.  
Q What will you then do with Chin Ying?  
A When Chin Kong Fong comes back Chin Ying may go to China or he may stay in the store a little longer.  
Q What do you mean by a little longer?  
A I don't know what Chin Ying wants to do himself but he spoke to me some time ago about going back to China.  
Q Does Chin Kong Fong intend to go in the store again or work in a laundry?  
A He will come back in the store to take my place, as I want to go to China.  
Q Have you got anybody else in your firm who is going to China?  
A My brother may go to China before I go.  
Q Do you know why Chin Kong Fong went to China before I had an opportunity to examine him?  
A At that time the paper was half finished and he received a letter from his father stating that Chin Kong Fong's son was dead and he felt very bad about it and was very discouraged and didn't care then whether he got back or not, and took the train and went home.

(Signed) CHIN MUN KIM,  
(Signed) WONG ALOY,  
(Signed) L. T. PLUMMER,

Witness.  
Interpreter.  
Inspector.

IMMIGRATION FILE

## U. S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

IMMIGRATION SERVICE

No. 421

SUBJECT: \_\_\_\_\_

Department of Commerce and Labor  
IMMIGRATION SERVICEOFFICE OF CHINESE INSPECTOR IN CHARGE  
PORT TOWNSEND, WASH.

No. 3199.

August 21, 1905.

L. T. Plummer,

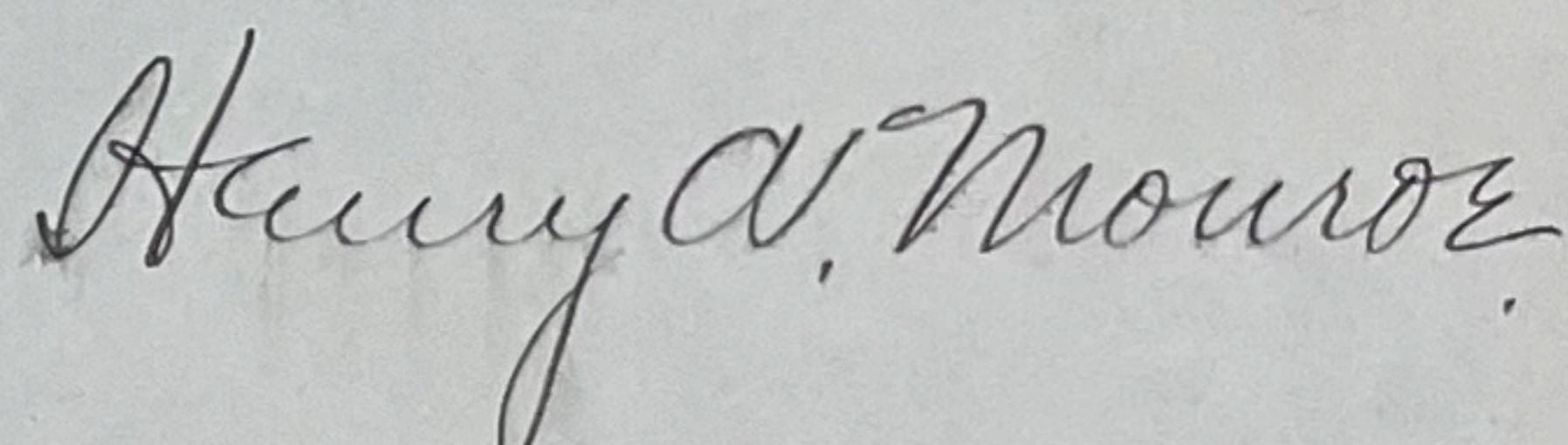
Chinese Inspector in Charge, Federal Bldg.,  
Chicago, Illinois,

Sir:

I beg to herewith enclose for the usual reinvestigation the papers in the case of CHIN KONG FONG, an alleged Chinese merchant of the firm of Kim Kee Co., #293 Clark St., Chicago, Illinois.

Chin Kong Fong has, through U. S. Commissioner Mark A. Foote, Chicago, Illinois, given notice of his intention to return to the United States through this port, and requests an investigation of his mercantile status so that upon arrival he may be readmitted without delay.

Respectfully,

CEK  
ENCL

Acting Chinese Inspector in Charge.