

See letter dated Sept. 21, 07. Port  
in Moy Yick's file No. 473.

Department of Commerce and Labor

See letter dated Oct. 6, 1906 Port  
in Moy Chung's file No. 409.

In re. LAY SOY, Laundryman, (Basement) 313 Clark st., Chicago, Illinois.

STATEMENT OF  
REGISTERED 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 29th, 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 Chinese Inspector at Washington, D.C., on September 8th, 1905; and is numbered "143,494". It was issued in lieu of Certificate No. 6026, previously issued to me by the Collector of Internal Revenue for the First District of Illinois, at the City of Chicago in said District, and which was unavoidably lost, as heretofore shown.



MY DESCRIPTION IS AS FOLLOWS:  
NAME:-- LAY SOY.  
AGE:--Forty Six (46) Years.  
HEIGHT:--Five Feet, Eight Inches in American Shoes.  
RESIDENCE:--(Basement) No. 313 Clark st., Chicago, Ill's.  
OCCUPATION:--Laundryman (Unemployed).  
EYES:--Dark Brown. COMPLEXION:--Dark.  
MARKS & PECULIARITIES:--None.

I CLAIM TO POSSESS THE PROPERTY AND DEBT BELOW:--  
PROPERTY:--None, except the personal property described below, and money in hand.

DEBT:--Payable by one LAW SAM, Merchant, of No. 313 Clark street, Chicago, in the County of Cook and State of Illinois, for monies loaned, the sum of One Thousand Dollars (1,000.00).

Said debt aggregates, and is actually and reasonably worth at least One Thousand Dollars (\$1,000.00). It is unsettled and unascertained, and is not covered by promissory note or notes, or other evidence of ascertained liability.

I HEREBY AGREE That none of such debt shall be diverted, transferred or collected during my absence, but shall remain as it now exists until my return to the United States.

I intend to depart from the United States at the sub-port of Portal, in the State of North Dakota, one month from the date hereof, or as soon hereafter as I can, and to return to 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., Sept 17, 1906.

*Lay Soy*

Subscribed and sworn to, by the above-named LAY SOY, at the City of Chicago, in the County of Cook and State of Illinois, this 17 day of September, A.D., nineteen hundred and six, before me.

*L. P. Hume*

Chinese & Immigrant Inspector.



October 1, 1906.

Case of : L. T. Plummer, Examining Inspector.  
LAY SOY, : Wong Aloy, Interpreter.  
Lab. Dep. : D. Arthur Plumly, Stenographer.

Applicant, LAY SOY, sworn by Inspector Plummer, testified:

- Q What is your name?  
A Lay Soy.  
Q What is your business?  
A Laundryman.  
Q Where is your laundry located?  
A No. 1229 East 75th St. I work there.  
Q Do you own that laundry?  
A The laundry belongs to Lay Hop. I only work there.  
Q On what do you base your right to a return certificate?  
A I am a registered laborer and people in this country owe me money.  
Q Who owe you money?  
A Lee You owed me the money until the time he died and then it was transferred over to Law Sam.  
Q How did Lee You happen to owe you that money?  
A He was a merchant. He borrowed it from me before.  
Q Did he borrow it from you himself or did his firm borrow it?  
A He borrowed it for the firm.  
Q Did he himself borrow it of you to use in the firm or did the firm of Quong Yut Chung borrow it?  
A The firm of Quong Yut Chung.  
Q When did the firm of Quong Yut Chung borrow it of you?  
A Either four or five years ago.  
Q That is too indefinite. Give me the exact date?  
A I can not give you the exact date, but I remember it was six years ago.  
Q Didn't you put it down in your book or make any memorandum of it?  
A No, I am a laundryman and I very seldom keep books, and he borrowed this money for the firm to send to China and buy goods with.  
Q Did he borrow it all at one time?  
A Three different times.  
A Give me the dates that these three loans took place and the amounts of each one?  
A I can not give you the dates, but I remember the first loan was for \$300.00, the second for \$150.00, and the third one for \$150.00, making \$600.00 in all.  
Q Was this money on deposit with the firm at the time he borrowed it of you?  
A Yes, I had this money on deposit in the store and he took the loans out of that.  
Q Was none of this money ever paid back? Wasn't any of it ever returned to you?  
A? No.  
Q Your application states that Law Sam owes you \$1,000.00. Now, how does Law Sam owe you \$1,000.00?  
A Some time ago I put \$400.00 into the business and when I wanted to go to China I tried to withdraw it but I couldn't, and so I consider that the firm owes me \$1,000.00.



- Q Don't you consider that you have \$1,000.00 interest in the firm instead of Law Sam individually owing you \$1,000.00?
- A A short time ago I talked with Law Sam and I told him that I wanted to withdraw my interest in the firm, and Law Sam said I couldn't have the money, and I said I wouldn't trust the firm any longer but I would trust him if he would promise to pay me when I returned, and he said he would, so I hold him responsible for the money instead of the firm.
- Q Has Law Sam been the manager of that firm ever since Lee You's death?
- A Yes, sir.
- Q Why did you put \$400.00 into that firm when they already owed you \$1,000.00?
- A When the firm of Quong Yut Chung ceased to do a profitable business it was re-organized under the name of Sing Yick, and then Law Sam came to me and asked me if I wanted to put some money into the business and I ~~was~~ said I would to help him out, and I considered that I had a \$400.00 interest in the firm.
- Q Have you any promissory note to show for this money?
- A No.
- Q Is this a true debt?
- A Yes, sir.
- Q Do you expect that Law Sam will ever pay you the \$1,000.00?
- A He will pay me when I come back from China.
- Q Have you understood Interpreter Wong Aloy?
- A Yes, sir.

Applicant signed his testimony in English:

(Signed) LAY SOY, Applicant.

(Signed) L. T. PLUMMER, Inspector.

(Signed) WONG ALOY, Interpreter.



Witness, LAW SAM, sworn by Inspector Plummer, testified:

- Q What is your name?  
A Law Sam.  
Q What is your business?  
A Merchant; manager of the firm of Sing Yick & Co., 313 S. Clark St., Chicago.  
Q Do you know this man (showing photo of applicant)?  
A Yes, sir; that is Lay Soy Lim. I owe him money.  
Q How much money do you owe him?  
A The only money that I ever got from him was \$400.00, but there was \$600.00 that Lee You borrowed of him for the firm before he died, and after Lee You's death when I came into the firm we considered that the firm still owed him \$600.00. The last \$400.00 was put into the firm with the understanding that he could withdraw it at any time he wanted to, but when he wanted to go to China we were unable to pay him and so he holds me responsible for that.  
Q Do you regard yourself as personally responsible for the debts of the firm before Lee You's death?  
A Yes, I am personally responsible but I expect my partners to help me out.  
Q Do you regard it as a personal debt or as a firm debt?  
A I regard it as a personal debt, but I will try to hold the firm for it.  
Q When did these loans to the firm take place?  
A I understand that he had money deposited with Lee You and I don't know just when Lee You borrowed it, but he told me before his death that he had borrowed \$600.00 of him for the firm.  
Q Did Lee You tell you that?  
A Yes, sir.  
Q When did he put in this \$400.00?  
A Last year, Chinese date, about 7th or 8th month; I don't know exactly when. He put the money in two or three different times.  
Q Do your books show that?  
A My brother will know that. He keeps the books.  
Q Will you bring up the books that show that this \$400.00 was put into your firm?  
A Yes, sir.  
Q How is that you consider ~~xxxxxxx~~ now that this is a personal debt that you owe him?  
A The money is really owed to him by the firm but he wouldn't stand for that and so he holds me responsible for it and I agreed to that.  
Q Is this a true debt or is it one that you have conjured up to enable you to go to China?  
A It is a true debt; it is not false. I don't want to say I owe people ~~xxxxxxx~~ money when I don't, as they would hold me responsible.  
Q Have you understood Interpreter Wong Aloy? A Yes, sir.

Witness signed his testimony in English:

(Signed) LAW SAM, Witne

(Signed) L. T. PLUMMER, T

(Signed) WONG ALOY, Interpreter.



Witness, LAW SAM, appeared later in the day and produced the firm's account books, translated by the Interpreter as follows:

First book.

"Lai Sui Lim K.S. 28th year, 9th month, transferred from Lee You \$600.00, secured by Law Sam. K.S. 31st year, 6th month, 3d day Lai Sui Lim deposited \$340.00."

Second book or day book.

"Lai Sui Lim K.S. 31, 11, 4 deposited \$60.00."

"Q Where are the firm's books on x which the store's accounts were kept prior to the death of Lee You?

A The books were sent to China after Lee You's death.