

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
IMMIGRATION SERVICE

IMMIGRATION FILE

No. 502

SUBJECT:

In re. SOO WAH, No. 217 Park av (Austin)., Chicago, Illinois. Laundryman.

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 17", 1894, ratified 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 ~~xxxx~~ ~~xxxx~~ 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 District of Maryland, at the City of Baltimore in said district, on the 24" day of April, A.D., 1894, and is numbered "18,278".

MY DESCRIPTION IS AS FOLLOWS:

NAME:-- SOO WAH.
AGE:-- Forty-Three (43) Years.
HEIGHT:-- 5 Feet, 4 1/2 Inches (Barefooted).
RESIDENCE:-- No. 217 Park av (Austin), Chicago, Ill.
OCCUPATION:-- Laundryman.
EYES:-- Dark Brown. COMPLEXION:-- Olive.
MARKS:-- None.

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 MOY TOM, Laundryman, of No. 688 Sixty-Third street, in the City of Chicago, County of Cook and State of Illinois, for money loaned, the sum of Five Hundred Twenty Dollars (\$520.00).

Payable by one MOY JUNG, Laundryman, of No. 6606 Wentworth avenue, in the City of Chicago, County of Cook and State of Illinois, for money loaned, the sum of Five Hundred Ten Dollars (\$510.00).

Said Debts aggregate, and are actually and reasonably worth, at least One Thousand Dollars (\$1,000.00). They are unsettled and unascertained, and are 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 may, and to return to the United States at the same sub-port of Portal, North Dakota, within one year thereafter.

Dated, at Chicago, Ill., Sept 24, 1906.

Subscribed and sworn to by the above-
named SOO WAH, at the City of Chicago,
in the County of Cook and State of Illinois,
this 24 day of September A.D., 1906,
before me.

Soo Wah

L. J. Plummer

Chinese and Immigrant Inspector.

Department of Commerce and Labor

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

Department of Commerce and Labor

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

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

Q What is your name?
A Soo Wah.
Q What is your Chinese name?
A Moy Gop Sing.
Q What is your business?
A Laundryman.
Q Where is your laundry located?
A No. 217 Park Ave., Austin, Chicago, Ill.
Q Do you own that laundry there?
A I used to own it but I sold it out.
Q When did you sell it?
A About two months ago.
Q How long did you own it?
A About three years.
Q On what do you base your right to a return certificate?
A I am a registered ~~x~~ laborer, and people in this country owe me money.
Q Who owe you money?
A Moy Tom and Moy Jung.
Q How long have you known Moy Tom?
A I knew him in China. We lived in the same village.
Q How long have you known Moy Jung?
A He also lived in my village in China, and I have known him since we were boys.
Q How much does Moy Tom owe you?
A \$520.00.
Q When did he borrow it?
A Last year, either 7th or 8th month.
Q All at one time?
A Yes, sir; all at one time.
Q What did he borrow it for?
A He borrowed it to put in that laundry on 63d St.
Q How much money did he put into that laundry altogether?
A I can not tell exactly how much but I know the laundry is worth over \$1,000.00.
Q Where did the loan take place?
A At the store of Sing Lung & Co., No. 309 S. Clark St., Chicago.
Q Did he give you any note for it?
A No, sir; no note; just trust.
Q Did you put it down in any book?
A No, sir.
Q Give me the exact date that this loan took place?
A K.S. 31st year, either the last part of the 7th or the first part of the 8th month. I can not give you the exact date. It was the same as he bought this laundry.
Q How much does Moy Jung owe you?
A \$510.00.
Q What did he borrow that for?
A He borrowed it to put into a laundry on Wentworth Ave.
Q When did the loan take place?
A About five months ago.
Q All at one time?
A Yes, sir.
Q Where did the loan take place?
A Also at the store of Sing Lung & Co., 309 S. Clark St., Chicago.

- Q Give me the exact date of this loan?
- A I can not give you the date, but it is about five months ago.
That is the only way I can remember it.
- Q How are you going to remember it one or two years from now?
- A I remember it was on a Monday and it was such a large amount of money that I shall never forget it. I remember it was at the time he bought this laundry where he now is.
- Q Did Moy Jung give you any note for this money?
- A No, sir; no note given, as the Chinese of this country seldom give any notes for money borrowed.
- Q Have you got any security for these two loans?
- A No, it is only a matter of trust. I gave them the money to buy their laundries with.
- Q If they didn't pay you, could you take their laundries away?
- A No, I couldn't take their laundries away by law.
- Q Are these genuine debts or are they debts that you have trumped up to enable you to go to China?
- A Yes, sir; they are true debts.
- Q Have you understood Interpreter Wong Aloy?
- A Yes, sir.

Applicant, sworn by Inspector Plummer, signed his testimony in English:

(Signed) SOO WAH, Applicant.

(Signed) L. T. PLUMMER, Inspector.

(Signed) WONG ALOY, Interpreter.

Witness, MOY TOM, sworn by Inspector Plummer, testified:

- Q What is your name?
A Moy Tom.
Q What is your occupation?
A Laundryman.
Q Where is your laundry located at the present time?
A No. 688 East 63d St., Chicago.
Q Do you know this man (showing photo of applicant)?
A Yes, that is Soo Wah.
Q What is his Chinese name?
A The Chinese have several names. One of his names is Soo Wah and another is Moy Gop Sing.
Q How long have you known him?
A I knew him in China before we came to this country, and I have known him here several years besides.
Q Do you owe him any money?
A Yes, I owe him \$520.00.
Q What do you owe him that money for?
A I borrowed it to put into this laundry I am now in.
Q Do you own that laundry?
A I own one-third of it.
Q Who owns the balance?
A Moy You and Moy Sing.
Q How much money did you put into that laundry?
A My own self \$500. The whole laundry is worth \$1500.
Q When did this loan take place?
A K.S. 31st year, about 8th month.
Q Did you three men buy that laundry outright at that time?
A No, sir; my two partners were there before and I bought my interest of them.
Q Didn't you have any money of your own at that time?
A No, sir.
Q Why not?
A When I was in my old laundry on Cottage Grove Ave. I lost money.
Q Where did this loan take place?
A At the store of Sing Lung & Co., 309 S. Clark St., Chicago.
Q Did you give him any note?
A No, it is only trust.
Q Has he got any security for this loan?
A No, no security at all; it is only a matter of trust.
Q Is this a true debt? Do you actually owe him this money, or is this a debt that you have trumped up to enable him to go to China?
A I really owe him the money.
Q When are you going to pay him?
A I can not tell when I can pay him, but after he comes back to this country I will pay him if I have it.
Q Don't you make good money in that laundry where you are now?
A Yes, sir, I make some but our expenses are heavy.
Q Have you understood Interpreter Wong Aloy?
A Yes, sir.

Witness signed his testimony in English:

(Signed) MOY TOM, Witness.

(Signed) L. T. PLUMMER, Inspector.

(Signed) WONG ALOY, Interpreter.

Witness, MOY JUNG, sworn by Inspector Plummer, testified:

- Q What is your name?
A Moy Jung.
Q What is your business?
A Laundryman.
Q Where is your laundry located at the present time?
A No. 6606 Wentworth Ave.
Q Do you own that laundry?
A Yes, I own half; I have a partner.
Q How long have you owned it?
A About five months.
Q Did you buy it or open it?
A I bought it.
Q Who did you buy it of?
A I bought it from my cousin Moy Bing Nie.
Q How much did you pay for it?
A \$1100.00.
Q Where did you get the money?
A I borrowed it of Soo Wah.
Q How much did you borrow of Soo Wah?
A \$510.00.
Q Do you know this man (showing photo of applicant)?
A Yes, sir; that is Soo Wah.
Q How much money did you put into that laundry yourself?
A \$510.00.
Q Didn't you have any money of your own?
A No, sir.
Q Why didn't you have any money of your own?
A When I owned a laundry before my health wasn't very good and I had to employ men to work for me, and I also sent some money to China.
Q How does it happen that you borrowed \$510.00? Why didn't you ~~had~~ borrow \$515.00 or an even \$500.00? What is the \$10.00 for?
A I only asked him for \$510.00 and he gave it to me.
Q Why was that? You couldn't buy a half interest in an \$1100.00 laundry with only ~~\$2~~ \$510.00.
A I had some money of my own.
Q How much money of your own did you have?
A I put in \$50 of my own money.
Q When do you expect to pay him back?
A After he comes back to this country I will pay him if I have it.
Q Are you making any money in that laundry where you are now?
A No, not very much.
Q Did you give him any note for this money?
A No.
Q Did you put it down in any book?
A Yes, I put it down in my book.
(Produces account book and Interpreter reads:
K.S. 32, 3, 15 borrow from Soo Wah \$510.00.)
Q Is this a true debt? Do you actually owe him this money?
Is this an honest debt or is it one that you have trumped up to enable him to go to China?
A It is an absolutely true debt.
Q Will you ever pay him the \$510.00? A Yes, sir.
Q Have you understood Interpreter Wong Aloy? A Yes, sir.
Witness signed his testimony in Chinese:
(Signed) MOY K JUNG, Witness.
(Signed) L. T. PLUMMER, Inspector.
(Signed) WONG ALOY, Interpreter.