

IMMIGRATION FILE

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR  
IMMIGRATION SERVICE

No. E 470

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

14-204



Form 551

**INCLOSURE 22813**

FROM  
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR  
IMMIGRATION SERVICE

Part of \_\_\_\_\_

14-756



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No. E 470

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

14-204





Whereas, LEE GOOK  
tograph is here-  
is about to de-  
United States, tem-  
visit to China,  
tion of returning  
States for the  
suming his present  
merchant therein;

Whereas, the said  
is lawfully enti-  
turn into the U-  
for the said pur-  
to the act of Con-  
May 5, 1892, amended  
and re-enacted  
and the treaty be-  
States of America  
Empire, of date De-  
which respectively provide as follows, to-wit:-----



SING, whose pho-  
unto attached,  
part from the  
porarily, upon a  
with the inten-  
into the United  
purpose of re-  
occupation as a  
and-----

LEE GOOK SING  
tled to so re-  
nited States,  
pose, pursuant  
gress approved  
November 3, 1893  
April 29, 1902,  
tween the United  
and the Chinese  
cember 8, 1894,

" A merchant is a person engaged in buying and selling merchandise  
"at a fixed place of business, which business is conducted in his  
"name, and who during the time he claims to be engaged as a mer-  
"chant does not engage in the performance of any manual labor, ex-  
"cept such as is necessary in the conduct of his business as such  
"merchant.

" Where an application is made by a chinaman for entrance into  
"the United States on the ground that he was formerly engaged in  
"this country as a merchant, he shall establish by the testimony of  
"two credible witnesses other than chinese the fact that he con-  
"ducted such business as hereinbefore defined for at least one  
"year before his departure from the United States, and that during  
"such year he was not engaged in the performance of any manual la-  
"bor except such as was necessary in the conduct of his business  
"as such merchant, and in default of such proof shall be refused  
"landing." (Act of May 5, 1892, amended November 3, 1893 re-enacted  
April 29, 1902.)

" Article III. The provisions of this Convention shall not affect  
"the right at present enjoyed of Chinese subjects, being officials,  
"teachers, students, merchants, or travellers for curiosity or pleas-  
"ure, but not laborers, of coming into the United States and resid-  
"ing therein." (Convention of Dec. 8, 1894 between the United States  
and China.)

NOW, THEREFORE, and for the better identification of the said LEE  
GOOK SING, and in order to facilitate his re-entry into the United  
States upon his said return hereto for the said purpose,

WE, THE UNDERSIGNED, Citizens of the United States and residents  
of the City of Chicago, in the County of Cook and State of Illinois  
Do hereby Certify that we have been well acquainted with the said  
LEE GOOK SING for upwards of one year last past, during which time  
he has been a reputable resident merchant of the said City of Chi-  
cago, and neither a huckster, peddler, laundryman or laborer of any  
kind.



During the said year of our acquaintance with him, the said LEE GOOK SING has been a reputable resident merchant of the said City of Chicago, and a member of the firm of Chinese persons trading and doing business under the trade-name and style of "WOH CHING LUNG CO." Importers and Dealers in Teas, Fancy-Goods, Groceries, Provisions and general Chinese and Japanese merchandise, at No. 291 Clark street, Chicago, aforesaid.

During the said year of our acquaintance with him, the said LEE GOOK SING has been so engaged in buying and selling merchandise at the said fixed place of business, which business has been conducted under the trade-name and style aforesaid of the said firm of which he is a member; and we do further certify that during the said year of our acquaintance with him the said LEE GOOK SING has not been engaged in the performance of ~~any~~ manual labor skilled or unskilled of any kind, except such as has been necessary in the conduct of his business as such merchant as aforesaid.

AND WE DO FURTHER CERTIFY, That the said trade-name and style is arbitrary and fanciful, and does not indicate the names of the members of the said firm, or of any of them; and that such use of such trade-names and styles is customary amongst Chinese and other merchants generally in the said City of Chicago and elsewhere throughout the United States so far as we are aware.

Dated, at Chicago, Illinois, U.S.A., October 5th, 1904.

XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

{ DESCRIPTION OF LEE GOOK SING. }

{ AGE: -Thirty-Six Years. }

{ HEIGHT: -5 Ft., 7 In. }

W. L. Benson

3 State St  
Chicago, Illinois.

John L. Marahan  
444 So. Clark St  
Chicago, Illinois.

XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX



LEE GOOK SING, MERCHANT, DEPARTING.

Chicago, Illinois, October 25, 1904.

WITNESS SWORN:

L. T. Plummer, Inspector,  
Wong Aloy, Interpreter.

- Q. What is your name?  
A. Lee Gook Sing.  
Q. What is your business?  
A. Chinese merchandise.  
Q. What firm are you a member of?  
A. Wah Ching Lung Co., #291 S. Clarke St., Chicago.  
Q. How long have you been a member of that firm?  
A. My interest in the business was given me by my father, and I think that my father and I have had an interest in the business altogether about 20 years.  
Q. How long have you had your interest?  
A. About ten years.  
Q. Where were you born?  
A. China.  
Q. When did you come to the U.S.?  
A. When I was 14 years of age I came with my father. I am now 36 years old. It was about 22 years ago.  
Q. What have you been doing since you came to the U.S.?  
A. Always been a merchant. Have never done any labor.  
Q. Did you get registered?  
A. No.  
Q. Why not?  
A. At that time so many merchants did not register besides me.  
Q. How long have you been in this Wah Ching Lung Co., devoting all your time to its business?  
A. Ten years; since my father went to China and I took his place.  
Q. How much money have you in that business?  
A. \$1000.00.  
Q. Have many partners are there in that firm?  
A. About 12 partners; five of them engaged in the store.  
Q. Who are the five engaged in the store?  
A. Lee King, Lee Yuen, Lee Jim, Lee You Ling, and myself.  
Q. Who are the other seven partners?  
A. Lee Sing, Lee Haw, Lee Fook, Lee Hing Dong, Lee Wah Chung, Lee Foo; that is all I think of. I now think of Lee Kim.  
Q. How much money have all of you together in that firm?  
A. \$16800.00.  
Q. How is that divided up?  
A. Close to \$10000.00 in goods; about \$5000.00 in debts. I don't know how much cash there is, the Manager knows that. This is merely my guess; I don't know positively.  
Q. Do you get any salary?  
A. Yes.  
Q. How much?  
A. About \$500.00 a year.  
Q. How much profit have you made in this concern; how much is your part of the profit?  
A. We let it go from year to year; we have never divided the profits.  
Q. What do you do in the store, what kind of work?  
A. I am assistant bookkeeper.  
Q. What else do you do?  
A. That is all I do; my health is not very good. I only spend four or five hours a day in the store. Most of the time I am in my room upstairs.  
Q. Don't you make more money gambling than you do out of your store?  
A. We don't keep a gambling house in our store.  
Q. Don't you yourself make more money by gambling than you do in the store?  
A. No. I don't gamble.



Q. What is your father's name?  
A. Lee Hop.  
Q. Have you ever been back to China since you first came here?  
A. No.  
Q. Do you remember what year K.S. it was when you came here from China?  
A. I think K.S. 7; but I am not sure.  
Q. Who is going to take your place in the store when you go to China?  
A. They have not decided who.  
Q. What do these other seven men do who are not in the store all the time?  
A. Some of them are in the city and some of them out of the city. Lee Wah Chung is at #301 S. Clarke St. in a drugstore.  
Q. Well what do these other partners do? Do they work in laundries, restaurants, &c.?  
A. I don't know what the rest do; but Lee Sing is in China, and Lee Haw is in China; I don't know what the rest do.  
Q. Are you married in China?  
A. No.  
Q. Are you married?  
A. No.  
Q. Do you think of anything more you want to say?  
A. Nothing in particular. Want to leave on next steamer if possible.  
Q. Have you understood the questions I have asked you?  
A. Yes.

Witness says he would like to spend a few days at Vancouver to collect some debts; and I would like very much to have that privilege.

The witness wishes to correct his statement, that the name of one of the partners, Lee Kim, should be Lee Tong. He is known by both these names.

LEE GOOK SING, MERCHANT, DEPARTING.

Chicago, Illinois, October 25, 1904.

WITNESS SWORN:

L. T. PLUMMER, INSPECTOR,  
WONG ALOY, INTERPRETER.

- Q. What is your name?  
A. Lee King.  
Q. What is your business?  
A. Merchant, Manager of Wah Ching Lung Co., #291 S. Clarke St., Chicago, Ills.  
Q. How long has that firm of Wah Ching Lung Co. been in existence?  
A. This firm has been in existence a great many years. I took possession of it K.S.20.  
Q. Are you registered?  
A. No, I am not.  
Q. Why?  
A. I always understood Merchants don't require to be registered.  
Q. I have been in Chicago for 29 years.  
Q. What have you been doing all that time?  
A. I have always been a merchant. Before I had this business I was with the firm of Hop Wing Lee.  
Q. Do you know this man? (Showing photograph of applicant.)  
A. Yes; it is Lee Gook Sing.  
Q. How long has he been a member of your firm?  
A. He has been with us since I have been in possession.  
Q. How much money has he in the store?  
A. \$1000.00.  
Q. What kind of work does he do in the store?  
A. He is assistant bookkeeper.  
Q. Do you pay him any salary?  
A. Yes.  
Q. How much?  
A. About \$50.00 a month.  
Q. Does he do any work outside of the store?  
A. No; nothing except in the store.  
Q. How much money have you invested in that business altogether?  
A. \$16800.00.  
Q. How is that divided up?  
A. We average between \$8000.00 and \$10000.00 stock on hand. I should judge about \$7000.00 debts. We have about \$10000.00 or \$12000.00 cash in the safe sometimes, not all belong to us. You can inquire about us at the Illinois Loan & Trust Co.  
Q. How many men do you have working in the store all the time?  
A. Five.  
Q. Who are they?  
A. Lee King, Lee Gook Sing, Lee Yuen, Lee You Ling, Lee Jim.  
Q. Do you do any manufacturing in your place?  
A. No manufacturing; buying and selling. We deal principally in rice, tea, starch, laundry supplies, Chinese silks, general groceries, &c.  
Q. Do you run any gambling house, boarding house, restaurant, or laundry?  
A. We never have a gambling house or boarding house or laundry or restaurant. A few weeks ago the papers gave a list of the stores which had gambling in them. They named most of the other stores, but did not name ours.  
Q. Do you think of anything more you wish to say?  
A. Nothing in particular; only I want him to get away as soon as possible.  
Q. Have you understood the questions asked you?  
A. Yes.

No. 470 *Chgo.*

(Name) Lee Gook Sing (Steamer)

**(Date)**

[illegible]