

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
IMMIGRATION SERVICE

No. 496

IMMIGRATION FILE

In re. CHOW LUNG GEE, Laundryman, No.455 West 14th street, 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 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 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 First District of Illinois, at Chicago in said district, on April 2, 1894; and is numbered "6360".

MY DESCRIPTION IS AS FOLLOWS;-

NAME:- CHOW LUNG GEE.
AGE:-Forty-Five (45) Years.
HEIGHT:-5 Feet, 6-1/4 Inches (In Chinese Sandals).
RESIDENCE:-No. 455 West 14th street, Chicago, Illinois.
OCCUPATION:-Laundryman.
EYES:-Dark Brown. COMPLEXION:-Dark.
MARKS:-Two Small Moles on Chin; One on Right Cheek.

I CLAIM TO POSSESS THE PROPERTY AND DEBTS BELOW:-

PROPERTY:-None, except the personal property described below, and money in hand.

DEBT:-Payable by one CHOW CHANG POK, Laundryman, of No. 455 West 14th street in the said City of Chicago, for the purchase-money on account of the purchase and sale of the "Hop Wah Laundry", at No. 455 West 14th street aforesaid, the sum of One Thousand and Fifty Dollars (\$1,050.00), with interest and expenses.

Said Debt is reasonably and actually 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, 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.

WHEREFORE, I respectfully request a Certificate of my right to return to the United States.

Dated, at Chicago, Illinois, U.S.A., August 27, 1906.

曾龍義

Subscribed and sworn to, by the above-named CHOW LUNG GEE, at the City of Chicago, in the County of Cook and State of Illinois, this 27 day of August, A.D., nineteen hundred six, before me.

Chinese and Immigrant Inspector.

CHICAGO

September 17, 1906.

Case of : L. T. Plummer, Examining Inspector.
CHOW LUNG GEE, : Wong Aloy, Interpreter.
Lab. Dep. : D. Arthur Plumly, Stenographer.

Applicant, sworn by Inspector Plummer, testified:

Q What is your name?

A Chow Lung Gee.

Q What is your business?

A Laundryman.

Q Do you own a laundry at the present time?

A I work for somebody else.

Q When was the last time that you owned a laundry?

A The last laundry I owned was 949 S. Leavitt St., near 21st St. Before that I ran a laundry at 5511 S. State St., and we had four or five men in the laundry. The landlord, Mr. Murphy, knows me well.

Q How long ago did you dispose of this Leavitt St. laundry?

A Just one year ago now. I ran it until three months ago.

Q What have you been doing since then?

A I worked for somebody else where I can get a job.

Q On what do you base your right to a return certificate?

A There is a man in this country who owes me money.

Q Who is the man that owes you money?

A Chow Chang Pok.

Q What is Chow Chang Pok's business?

A Laundryman.

Q Where?

A No. 455 West 14th St.

Q How does he happen to owe you money?

A I don't know what he borrowed it for. I only know that he borrowed it.

Q How much did he borrow?

A \$1050.00.

Q When did he borrow it?

A K.S. 31, 8, 10.

Q Where did this loan take place?

A At the store of Quong Hop Lung Co., 331 S. Clark St., Chicago.

Q Didn't he tell you what he wanted the money for when he borrowed it?

A He didn't tell me what he wanted it for particularly. He only said he needed it very badly and I let him have it.

Q Did he give you a note for it?

A When the loan took place he gave me a note and some time ago I asked him for the money and as he did not have it I took his laundry. That was a week or two before I made out my paper. When he agreed to give up his laundry for the debt I gave him the note or mortgage back which he gave me as security for the loan. Then we talked the matter over and as I was going to China and he could do better there than another man, I agreed to give him another chance and so I sold the laundry to him for \$1050.00 with the understanding that if he could not pay me the money when I returned from China that I would take the laundry back again.

9/17/06.

- Q How do you think it is any advantage to you to go through with all this transaction and by so doing lose the note, which is the only evidence you had there was anything due you?
- A In the first place I loaned this man money, \$1050.00. He gave me a note with the laundry as security for it. When I was getting ready to go to China I went to him with this note and said, "Here is this note which you gave me for your laundry. Either give me the money \$1050 or I will take the laundry." He said, "I haven't the money and you can take the laundry." I said "All right, I will take the laundry." On the same day he said "Now, you have the laundry and nobody else will pay you more than \$1050.00, and I can do better than a stranger here." I agreed to let him buy the laundry for \$1050 and if when I come back from China he will pay me, all well and good, but if not, I will take back the laundry. I sold it of my own free will and accord.
- Q Have you anything now to show that you owned the laundry or that the sale took place?
- A No, no notes at all, except we remember the date when the sale took place.
- Q When did this sale take place?
- A I remember it was a week or two before I made my paper I went to him and talked the matter over. I can't remember exactly when. We are cousins and trust each other.
- Q If he is your cousin and you trust him now, why didn't you trust him when he owed you the \$1050.00?
- A It is really not a note or a mortgage, only a memorandum he gave me.
- Q Did you put this sale transaction down in any book or make any memorandum of it?
- A No. I don't remember that date, as we know each other very well and I didn't put down anything. If I thought I would need the date I would have put it down.
- Q Well, if he should refuse to pay you, don't you think you would need the date?
- A The Chinese generally know when a sale of that kind takes place.
- Q Do the Chinese know that this sale took place?
- A Yes, the Chinese know that and especially our own cousins know that. Of course strangers might not know, but our cousins would know.
- Q Is this debt a true debt or is this story one that you have manufactured in order to enable you to go to China?
- A No, sir; this is not a manufactured debt. If I make such a thing as that I would be punished for it.
- Q Have you understood the Interpreter, Wong Aloy?
- A Yes, sir.

Applicant signed his testimony in Chinese:

(Signed) CHOW LUNG GEE, Applicant.

(Signed) L. T. PLUMMER, Inspector.

(Signed) WONG ALOY, Interpreter.

9/17/06.

Witness, CHOW CHANG POK, sworn by Inspector Plummer, testified:

- Q What is your name?
A Chow Chang EM Pok.
Q What is your business?
A Laundryman, at No. 455 West 14th St., Chicago.
Q Do you know this man (showing photograph of applicant)?
A Yes, sir; that is Chow Lung Gee. I used to know him in China.
Q Tell me all the circumstances connected with the loan you made from him some time ago?
A Last year I borrowed \$1050 from him and gave him a note for it. Some time ago he came to my laundry and asked me for this money. I said I didn't have any money and he said he would take the laundry away from me, and I said "All right, you can have the laundry." and so he gave me the note back. Finally we agreed that I stay in the laundry and I still owe him \$1050 and when he returns from China I will either pay him the \$1050 or give up the laundry.
Q At the time you borrowed that money of him, did you pledge the laundry as security for the loan?
A Yes.
Q When did you first borrow this \$1050?
A K.S. 31, 8, 10.
Q What did you borrow that money for?
A I sent some home to China and used some for my own expenses when I was sick.
Q When were you sick?
A I was sick all last year; just about one year altogether.
Q Were you sick when you borrowed this money or afterwards?
A I got well before I borrowed the money.
Q Were you in a hospital?
A I was in the hospital and had a doctor that belongs to my church.
Q How long were you in the hospital?
A At least four months.
Q Were you in the hospital before you borrowed this money or afterwards?
A I was in the hospital before I borrowed this money.
Q What part of this money did you use in paying the expenses of your sickness and what part did you send home?
A I paid the hospital doctor about \$550.
Q How much did you send home?
A \$500.
Q When was it that Chow Lung Gee came over to your laundry and you gave him the laundry in payment of the note?
A Last month.
Q What time?
A I don't remember exactly when. I should think over a month ago, and at the same time he gave me this note back.
Q Suppose when Chow Lung Gee comes back from China you are not able to pay him the \$1050 will he take back your laundry?
A Yes.
Q Is this a true debt or is it one that you have concocted up in order to enable him to go back to China?
A It is a true debt.
Q Have you understood Wong Aloy? A Yes, sir.

Witness signed his testimony in English:

(Signed) CHOW CHUNG POK, Witness.
(Signed) L. T. PLUMMER, Inspector.
(Signed) WONG ALOY, Interpreter.