

## IMMIGRATION FILE

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR  
IMMIGRATION SERVICENo. 732

In re.  
LEE BOW WON,  
of  
"Wing Tank & Co.,  
Merchants,  
No. 301 So. Clark St.,  
Chicago, Illinois,  
U. S. A.

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AGE:-- Thirty Three.  
HEIGHT:-- Five Ft. Seven In.

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THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA. )  
NORTHERN DISTRICT OF ILLINOIS. ) SGT.  
EASTERN DIVISION. )



WE, THE UNDERSIGNED, Citizens of the United States and residents of the City of Chicago and vicinity, in the division and district aforesaid, Do Hereby Certify that we have been well acquainted with the above-named LEE BOW WON for the <sup>five</sup>ten years last past; and we do further certify as follows, namely:

For upwards of one year last past the said LEE BOW WON has been a merchant and member of the firm of "Wing Tank & Co.", Chinese Merchants, trading and doing business at No. 301 So. Clark street, Chicago aforesaid, dealers in Teas, Silks, Groceries and general Chinese and Japanese Merchandise; and during the said year of our acquaintance with him the said Lee Bow Won has not been a huckster, peddler, laundryman or laborer of any kind.

During the said year of our acquaintance with him, the said Lee Bow Won has been engaged in buying and selling merchandise at the said fixed place of business under the said trade-name and style of the said firm of which he is a member; and during the said year of our acquaintance with him he has not been engaged in the performance of manual labour, skilled or unskilled, of any kind, except such as has been necessary in the conduct of his said business as such merchant as aforesaid.

WE DO FURTHER CERTIFY That the foregoing photograph, hereto affixed, is a true and correct likeness of the said LEE BOW WON.

And we do further certify that we have been credibly informed and believe the said LEE BOW WON has a financial interest of One Thousand Dollars (\$1,000.00) and upwards in the business and assets of



the said firm of which he is a member; and, from our frequent visits to the said place of business and our general acquaintance with the various members of the said concern, we have become well satisfied that the said Lee Bow Won is actively engaged in the business of the said firm, exercises a voice in the management, business and affairs thereof, that he is a bona fide member of said "Wing Tank & Co.," and that he enjoys his proper share in the profits thereof.

Dated, at Chicago, Illinois, February 8th, 1909.

S. L. Stenson  
(Address) 3-15 State St Chicago, ILL.

John D. Mauahau  
(Address) 444 So. Clark St Chicago, ILL.

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STATE OF ILLINOIS.)  
COUNTY OF COOK. ) SSN  
CITY OF CHICAGO. )

S. L. Stenson, of the City of Chicago in the State and County aforesaid, being first duly sworn according to law, deposes and says as follows, to-wit:-

I am a citizen of the United States, and a resident of the City of Chicago in the County of Cook and State of Illinois, where I follow the occupation of Buyer Salernan Lingerie.

I am one of the signers of the foregoing and annexed certificate; and the statements therein made are true and correct, to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Subscribed and sworn to, this )  
8th day of February, A.D., 1909, )  
before me.

Mark A. Foote,  
Notary Public, Cook Co., Ill.

S. L. Stenson

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STATE OF ILLINOIS.)  
COUNTY OF COOK. ) SS.  
CITY OF CHICAGO. )

John D. Mauahau of the City of Chicago in the County and State aforesaid, being first duly sworn according to law, deposes and says as follows, to-wit:-

I am a citizen of the United States, and a resident of the City of Chicago in the County of Cook and State of Illinois, where I follow the occupation of Laundry Supply Dealer.

I am one of the signers of the foregoing and annexed certificate; and the statements therein made are true and correct, to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Subscribed and sworn to, this )  
8th day of February, A.D., 1909, )  
before me.

Mark A. Foote,  
Notary Public, Cook Co., Ill.

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Chicago, Ill., February 8, 1909.

To

LORENZO T. PLUMMER, ESQ.,

Chinese Inspector In Charge,

Chicago, Illinois.

Sir:

My name is LEE BOW WON. I am thirty-three years of age - and was born at No. 714 Dupont street in the City of San Francisco, State of California, on the 15th day of the 12th month of K. S. Three.

My mother was named YEE SHEE and my father was LEE DON YEN, a Merchant of "Wan Chung & Co.," General Merchants located on the ground-floor of number 714 Dupont street aforesaid.

In the 7th K.S. my father and mother returned to China, taking me with them. At the time of my return to China with my father he entered the firm of "Yee Song Hong", Drug Merchants of San Chung, China, and he still retains his member-ship in said firm.

In the 23rd K.S. I returned to the United States, coming direct to the City of Chicago, Illinois via Vancouver, B. C. and Portal, North Dakota. For the four years after my arrival in the City of Chicago I was employed by the Chinese Merchant firm of "Hop Wing Lee," No. 291 So. Clark street.

During the thirtieth year of Kwang Su together with other Chinese I organized the firm of "WING TANK & CO.," Dealers in General Chinese and Japanese Merchandise, and located at No. 301 So Clark street, Chicago aforesaid. At the time of the establishment of said firm I invested the sum of One Thousand Dollars in same, and I now hold said interest and enjoy the profits thereof, and the same is now worth the sum of \$2000.00.

For upwards of one year last past I have not been engaged or interested in the performance of manual labor of any kind, except such as has been necessary in the conduct of my said business as a merchant and member of said "WING TANK & CO."

Since my return to the United States in the 23rd K. S. I have not been back to China; I now desire to visit my father at San Chung, and to return upon the completion of my visit, to resume my present

residence, occupation and status in the United States.

"herefore, I transmit herewith the evidence of two credible

witnesses other than Chinese, and pray that the same may be on-

passed as provided by proper regulation.

Very respectfully,

李振堂

No. 301 So. Clark Street,  
Chicago, Illinois, U.S.A.



Department of Commerce and Labor  
IMMIGRATION SERVICE

OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER  
SEATTLE, WASH.

Ham -  
No. 5658-C.

April 9, 1910.

Inspector in Charge,  
U.S. Immigration Service,  
Chicago, Illinois.

RECEIVED  
APR 13 1910  
Inspector in Charge,  
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS.

S i r:

By your endorsement, this office is in receipt of your No. 732, written by Inspector Ebey, under date of April 5, 1910, with which was transmitted record of LEE BOW WON, an alleged member of the Wing Tank Company, South Clark Street, your city. Accompanying the same was the report of Inspector Ebey, showing that this Chinese retains unchanged his mercantile status.

Respectfully,

HAM-FNS

*Ellis D. Miller*  
C o m m i s s i o n e r .

*JMS*

No. 732.

April 5th, 1910.

Dr. P. L. Prentis,  
Inspector in Charge,  
Chicago, Ill.

Sir:-

In the matter of LEE BOW WON, alleged merchant of the Wing Tank Co., 301 So. Clark St. who requests an ad interim investigation of his mercantile status, I beg leave to report that I have examined the manager of this company who testifies that LEE BOW WON is a member of his firm, that he performed no labor outside of the store during the year before his departure, that the store is still in business, and that applicant retains unchanged his interest in the store which he possessed at the time of his departure for China.

I beg to recommend that the applicant in this case receive favorable consideration.

Respectfully,

(Signed) Howard D. Eby

Inc.

Chinese Inspector.

Respectfully approved and forwarded to the Commissioner of Immigration, Seattle, Washington, in reply to his letter No. 5658-C of March 28, 1910, and returning all papers therewith inclosed with a transcript of the testimony taken at this time.

(Signed) P. L. Prentis

Inspector in Charge.

WBC



April 2, 1910.

Case of : Howard D. Ebey, Examining Inspector.  
LEE BOW WON, : Edward B. Kan, Interpreter.  
Merchant returning. : W. B. Calkins, Stenographer.

Witness, LEE WON YAWN, sworn by Inspector Ebey, testified:

Q What is your name? A. Lee Won Yawn.  
Q Is that your boyhood name? A. That is my marriage name. Lee You  
Ot is my boyhood name.  
Q When you testified in this case before, you stated that Lee Won Yawn  
was your boyhood name and Lee You Ot your marriage name? A. They made a mistake  
before.  
Q Are you manager of the Wing Tank Co., A. Yes.  
Q You recognize this picture? (Showing photograph of applicant) A. It  
is the picture of Lee Bow Won.  
Q Is he a member of your firm? A. Yes.  
Q How long has he been a member of your firm? A. Ever since the store  
was organized; since K.S. 30.  
Q What is his interest in the store? A. \$1,000.00.  
Q What is the value of your stock of goods? A. About twenty-thousand  
dollars.  
Q How many members in the firm? A. Eighteen.  
Q Who were working in the store when Lee Bow Won went to China?  
A. Woo Jung Yin, Ng Shee Goon, Ng Yee Shu, Lee Chung, Lee Won Chong, Lee Heu,  
Lee Doo, Lee Cing, and myself.  
Q Does Lee Bow Won receive wages for working in the store? A. Yes.  
Q How much? A. \$40.00 a month.  
Q During the year before he went to China, did he perform any manual  
labor outside of the store? A. He worked in the store ever since the store was  
opened.  
Q Does he still retain his interest in the store? A. Yes.  
Q Is the firm still engaged in business? A. Yes, no change.  
Q There has been no change in his connection with the store since he  
went to China? A. No.

Witness signed his name in English and Chinese.

(Signed) Lee Won Yawn,

Witness.

陈云李

(Signed) Howard D. Ebey,

Inspector.

(Signed) Edward B. Kan,

Interpreter.



No. 732.

March 10th, 1909.

Mr. O. B. Holton,  
Chinese Inspector in Charge,  
Portal, North Dakota.

Sir:-

I hand you herewith papers in the case of LEE BOW WON, merchant of this city who desires to visit China and return to the United States. I inclose the sworn statements of the two white witnesses upon the regular forms used whom I regard as credible witnesses, and also inclose a transcript of the notes taken at the examination of applicant, Lee Bow Won, and of Lee Won Yawn, the manager of the firm of Wing Tank & Co., of which applicant claims to be a member.

This firm of Wing Tank is a bona fide mercantile establishment, does a good business among the Chinese, and I believe that the statement of the manager as to the value of the goods on hand is a fair one. Both the white witnesses claim to have known applicant since this firm was organized which was about five years ago, and that he has been employed about the store practically all his time since then.

From my examination, I am of the opinion that applicant is as he claims, a bona fide merchant and entitled to the privilege he requests. Will you please inform me what your probable decision



will be; and if favorable I will forward a copy of the papers to applicant with instructions to present them to you for your endorsement upon his departure through your port.

Respectfully,

(Signed) L. T. Plummer.

Chinese Inspector in Charge.



522 Commercial Nat'l. Bk. Bldg. CHICAGO

March 4th, 1909.

Case of : L. T. Plummer, Examining Inspector.  
LEE BOW WON, : Charley Lee, Interpreter.  
Merchant departing. : W. B. Calkins, Stenographer.

Witness, LEE WON YAWN, sworn by Inspector Plummer, testified:  
(In English)

- Q What is your name? A. Lee Won Yawn.  
Q Is that your boyhood name or your marriage name?  
A. Boyhood name.  
Q What is your marriage name? A. Lee You Ot.  
Q Are you the manager of the firm of Wing Tank & Co. 301  
So. Clark St.? A. Yes sir.  
Q How long have you been the manager of that concern?  
A. Since it started, K.S. 30, the 4th month.  
Q Has there been any change in the membership of your firm  
since a partnership list was furnished me October 4th, 1905?  
A. No change.  
Q At the present time, about what would you say is a fair  
estimate of the value of the goods your firm has on hand?  
A. Twenty thousand dollars.  
Q How many partners have you who work in the store all the  
time? A. Nine.  
Q Give me their names. A. Yee Chung, Ng Yee Sue, Lee  
Bow Won, Ng She Gwon, Lee Wun Chong, Lee Hew, Lee Doo, Lee Gin,  
Lee Won Yawn.  
Q Do you know this man here? (Showing photograph of applicant)  
A. Lee Bow On.  
Q Is he one of your partners? A. Yes.  
Q How long has he had his interest in your firm? A. Since  
we started business.  
Q How much money has he in there? A. \$1,000.00 when he  
started.  
Q How much has he now? A. \$2,000.00.  
Q Has he put in any more money or does that represent the  
profit since the business was started? A. His share has increased  
that much.  
Q How long has he been in the store devoting all his time  
to the firm's business? A. Since we started business.  
Q Since you started business, has he done any manual labor  
such as working in laundries or restaurants or any work outside of  
the store? A. No, he only works in the store.  
Q What kind of work, does he do in the store? A. Just a  
clerk.  
Q How much salary does he draw? A. \$40.00 a month.  
Q Is he going to China on his own business or on business  
of the firm? A. He is going to China to see his father and also  
on business for the firm.  
Q What will he do when he comes back from China? A. He  
will come back to the store.  
Q How long did you say that Lee Hew was working in the store?  
A. About a year now; since Lee Won Chong went to China. Lee Hew  
took his place.  
Q How long has Lee Gin been working in the store? A. A  
little over a year too.  
Q Who will take Lee Bow Won's place when he goes to China?  
A. Nobody will take it right away.  
Q What other names has Lee Bow Won? A. Lee Toy Sang.  
Q Has he the name Lee Jeon? A. No.  
Q Have you understood my questions? Yes.

Witness signed his names in English & Chinese.

(Signed) Lee Won Yawn,

Witness.

(Lee You Ot)



3/4/09.

Applicant, LEE BOW WON, sworn by Inspector Plummer, testified:

Q What is your name? A. Lee Bow Won.  
 Q Is that your boyhood name or your marriage name?  
 A. Marriage name.  
 Q What is your boyhood name? A. Lee Toy Sang.  
 Q Have you any other names except these two? A. That is all.  
 Q What is your occupation at the present time? A. In the grocery business.  
 Q What firm are you a member of? A. Wing Tank & Co., 301 So. Clark St.  
 Q How long have you been a member of that firm? A. Five years.  
 Q Have you been a member since it was organized? A. Yes.  
 Q How much of an interest have you? A. \$1,000.00.  
 Q What is that interest worth today? A. Worth all of \$2,000.00.  
 Q What is the value of the goods that your firm has on hand at the present time? A. In the neighborhood of \$20,000.00.  
 Q What were you doing before you joined this firm of Wing Tank & Co.? A. I have been always in business. I was connected with Hop Wing Kee before.  
 Q How many partners has your firm altogether? A. Eighteen.  
 Q How many partners are there now who devote all their time to the firm's business? A. Nine persons.  
 Q Give me their names. A. Lee Chung, Lee Won Yawn, Ng Yee Sue, Lee Bow Won, Ng She Gwon, Lee Won Chong, Lee Doo, Lee Hew and Lee Gin.  
 Q How long has Lee Hew been working in the store? A. He has been in the place since his return in K.S. 33.  
 Q What is your work about the store? A. Sell goods, check goods and pack goods.  
 Q What pay do you get? A. \$40.00 a month.  
 Q Does that include your profits? A. Only wages.  
 Q Why are you going to China at this time? A. I want to go home to see my folks. At the same time I am going on business of the store, to purchase some goods which we need to sell here.  
 Q Are you married? A. Yes.  
 Q How many children have you? A. Two boys.  
 Q What are their names? and ages? A. Lee Fook Hung, fourteen years; and Lee Fook Jew, twelve years.  
 Q When did you first come to this country? A. K.S. 23.  
 Q Was that the first time you were ever in this country?  
 A. I went back from San Francisco in K.S. 5 with my father and mother and remained in China until K.S. 23.  
 Q Since you have been a member of this firm of Wing Tank & Co. have you done any manual labor such as working in laundries or restaurants, or any work outside of the store? A. All my time has been in the store.  
 Q Who will take your place in the store while you are gone?  
 A. I think they will select Lee Won Sang.  
 Q Is your wife living in China? A. Yes.  
 Q What is her family name? A. Yee Shee.  
 Q Do you intend to bring your wife and children back with you on your return? A. I expect to bring a boy with me.  
 Q Which one? A. The oldest one.  
 Q Where was he born? A. Born in China.  
 Q What do you intend to do with him? A. Go to school.  
 Q Have you understood the interpreter? A. Yes.  
 Applicant signed his names in Chinese.

(Signed) Charley Kee,

Interpreter.

(Signed) L. T. Plummer,

Inspector.