

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
IMMIGRATION SERVICE

IMMIGRATION FILE

No. 538

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 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 Pennsylvania, at the City of Philadelphia, in said district, April 16th, 1894; and is numbered 122,610.



HEREUNTO ANNEXED IS A TRUE AND CORRECT PHOTOGRAPH OF ME NOW; and MY DESCRIPTION IS AS FOLLOWS:-

NAME:- LEE WAH.

AGE:- Forty-One (41) Years.

RESIDENCE:- No. 291 Clark st., Chicago, Illinois.

OCCUPATION:- Laundryman.

HEIGHT:- Six (6) Feet (In Sandals).

COMPLEXION:- Light. EYES:- Dark Brown.

MARKS:- Small Mole, Left Eyebrow.

I CLAIM TO POSSESS THE PROPERTY AND DEBTS DESCRIBED BELOW:-

Property:- None, except the Debts below, and money in hand.

DEBTS:- Payable by one LEE CHUN, Restaurateur, of No. 291 Clark street, in the City of Chicago, County of Cook and State of Illinois, for money loaned, the sum of Seven Hundred Dollars (\$700.00).

Payable by one LEE WAH (Same name as mine), a Restaurateur, of No. 331 Clark street, in the City of Chicago, County of Cook and State of Illinois, for money loaned, the sum of Three Hundred Fifty Dollars (\$350.00).

Said debts aggregate, and are worth, reasonably and at least, the sum of One Thousand Dollars (\$1,000.00). The same are not covered by promissory note, or notes, or other evidence of ascertained liability.

I HEREBY AGREE That none of such property and debt shall be sold, diverted, transferred or collected during my absence from the United States, and that the same 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 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., Dec 19, 1906.

Lee Wah

Subscribed and sworn to, by the above-named LEE WAH, at the City of Chicago, in the County of Cook and State of Illinois, this 19 day of December, A.D., nineteen hundred six, before me.

Ward E. Thompson
Immigrant & Chinese Inspector

August 19, 1907.

Lee Wah,
Care of Quong Tsui Yuen,
145 Connaught Road, Hong Kong, China.

Sir:

As requested by you, your case has been investigated and as the report is favorable, you will be permitted to enter the United States at this Port, provided you do not controvert any of the statements contained in your original application.

Respectfully,

Amel W. Parker
Chinese Inspector in Charge.

*Respectfully referred to the Chinese
Inspector in Charge at Chicago, Ill. for his
information*

RECEIVED

Aug 22 1907

OFFICE OF,
CHINESE INSP. IN CHARGE.

726-C

Department of Commerce and Customs
OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER
IMMIGRATION SERVICE

Chinese Inspector in Charge,
New York City.

Sir:

I inclose herewith papers in the case of Lee Wah, a Chinese laborer of Chicago, Ill., now in China and desiring to return to this country, and request that Lee Wah, (same name as applicant) an alleged debtor in the case be examined as to the existence of the alleged debt of \$356.00, due the applicant and that the report of same together with all papers be transmitted to the Chinese Inspector in Charge, Port of New York, direct.

The Inspector in Charge, Chicago, Ill. transmitted the papers to this office with the information that the witness was now residing in Norfolk, Va., the case was accordingly sent there, the Acting Inspector in Charge, returned the case to this office with the information that the witness Lee Wah was now residing with Tuck High, No. 19 Mott St. New York City.

Respectfully,

Acting Commissioner.

AFMcL.

Inc. 23,795.

Official copy respectfully referred to Inspector in Charge
Chicago, Ill.

J. H. Hughes
Acting Commissioner.

RECEIVED

Aug 17 1907
OFFICE OF,
CHINESE INSP. IN CHARGE.

August 15, 1907.

CHICAGO, August 1, 1907.

Case of : L.T.Plummer, Examining Inspector,
LEE WAH, : J.G.C.Longchallon, Interpreter,
Lab. Ret. : A.T.Wilson, Stenographer.

Witness, LEE CHUN, sworn by Inspector Plummer, testified:

Q What is your name? A Lee Chun.

Q What is your business? A Restaurant keeper.

Q Do you own a restaurant at the present time? A Yes.

Q Where is the restaurant? A Hammond, Ind.

Q Do you know this man (showing photograph of applicant)?

A Yes, it is Lee Wah.

Q Do you owe him any money? A Yes.

Q How much? A \$700.

Q Have you paid him any money since he has been in China?

A Not yet.

Q When will you pay him? A When he comes back.

Q Has there been any change in the obligation since his departure? A No change.

Q Have you understood the interpreter? A Yes.

Witness signed his testimony in English.

(Signed) Lee Chun, Witness,
(Signed) J.G.C.Longchallon, Interpreter,
(Signed) L.T.Plummer, Inspector.

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

Applicant, sworn by Inspector Plummer, testified:

- Q What is your name?
A Lee Wah.
Q What is your full Chinese name?
A Lee Thlim Wah.
Q What is your business?
A Laundryman.
Q Where is your laundry located?
A I live in the store of Wah Ching Lung. For the last 4 or 5 years I have worked wherever I could.
Q On what do you base your right to a return certificate?
A On the ground that people in this country owe me money.
Q Who owes you money and how much?
A Lee Chun owes me \$700, and Lee Wah owes me \$350.
Q State the circumstances connected with this indebtedness of Lee Chun.
A American date, June 1, 1906, he borrowed \$700 from me, went to Flint, Michigan, to open up a restaurant, and now he has failed and come back to Chicago and is not able to pay me at present.
Q Where did this loan take place?
A At the store of Wah Ching Lung, 291 S. Clark St., Chicago.
Q Did you lend him this \$700 all at one time?
A Yes, all at one time.
Q How much money of his own did he have at that time?
A I do not know how much money he had at the time. All I know is that he asked me for \$700 and I loaned it to him. He did not tell me how much money he had.
Q Did he give you a note for it?
A No note at all, only we are good cousins and I know I can trust him.
Q How closely related are you?
A Our grandfathers were brothers.
Q State the circumstances connected with this indebtedness of Lee Wah?
A This loan took place May 15, 1906, American date. He borrowed \$350 from me to put into this restaurant at 331 S. Clark St., where he is now. I gave him this money in this restaurant.
Q Did you lend it to him all at one time?
A Yes, all at one time.
Q How much money of his own did he put into that restaurant?
A I do not know how much money he put into that restaurant, but he has a third interest.
Q Do you think he put any of his own money into the restaurant?
A I should think he must have, but I don't know whether he did or not. I should think he would need this \$350 to get a third interest in this restaurant.
Q Where did you get all this money that you loaned these men?
A I worked all the time during the past few years, and I saved my money and deposited it with Wah Ching Lung.
Q What security have you for these loans?
A I have no security at all for these loans. Both of these men are the same kin to me and I know they are both good men.
Q Did you put these loans down in a book?
A I did not put these loans in any book at all, as they are very large amounts which I remember very well. I also agreed not to charge them any interest. I only helped them out for cousin's sake.

1/3/07.

- Q Did Lee Chun lose all the money he put into that restaurant at Flint, Michigan?
- A Yes, sir, he lost all the money he had in that restaurant, and he is now shipping all the furniture down to Wah Ching Lung.
- Q Are these debts true debts, or have you manufactured them in order to go to China?
- A No, sir, I did not make up these debts, as these two men actually owe me this money and I know I loaned them my good clean money, and now I want to go to China and they can't pay me. I did not intend to go to China until a short time ago and I went to these two men and asked them to pay me, and one of the men said he was in hard luck and could not pay me at the present time, and so I have to go without the money.
- Q When will they pay you?
- A I do not know when they will pay me, but they agreed to pay me when I come back if they have it.
- Q Have you understood Interpreter Wong Aloy?
- A Yes, sir.

Applicant signed his testimony in English:

(Signed) LEE WAH,	Applicant.
(Signed) L. T. PLUMMER,	Inspector.
(Signed) WONG ALOY,	Interpreter.

1/3/07.

Witness, LEE CHUN, sworn by Inspector Plummer, testified:

- Q What is your name?
A Lee Chun.
Q What is your full Chinese name?
A That is the only name I have.
Q Are you registered?
A Yes, sir. (Produces certificate No. 105002, issued to Chun Lee, laborer, at Madison, Wisconsin, March 10, 1894.)
Q Do you know this man (showing photograph of applicant)?
A Yes, I know him; that is Lee Wah.
Q Do you owe him any money; if so, how much?
A Yes, sir, I owe him \$700.
Q State the circumstances connected with this indebtedness?
A On the first day of June 1906, American date, I borrowed \$700 from Lee Wah and I used it to put into the restaurant at Flint, Michigan. This loan took place at the store of Wah Ching Lung & Co., 291 S. Clark St., Chicago.
Q How much money altogether did you put into that restaurant at Flint?
A Over a thousand dollars; I can't say exactly. The business is closed up and all the books were destroyed.
Q Why did you close the restaurant?
A There was no business and I couldn't make it pay.
Q Did you lose all the money you put in?
A We lost all we had except our furniture.
Q Did you have a partner, and if so, who was he?
A No, sir; no partner at all. I had men working for me.
Q How long have you known Lee Wah?
A I knew him in China. We lived close together in China.
Q Did you give him any note for this money?
A No, sir, no notes at all, only money loaned on trust.
Q Are you any relation to Lee Wah?
A Our grandfathers were brothers.
Q Did you put this loan down in your book?
A No, sir, I did not put it on my book at all, but he ought to, as I owe him \$700.
Q Is this a true debt? Do you actually owe him this \$700, or have you made this debt up to enable him to go to China?
A It is a true debt; it is not false. I used this money to put into this restaurant.
Q When will you pay him?
A When he comes back to this country I will pay him if I can. I would pay him now if I had it.
Q When did you close your restaurant in Flint?
A I opened this restaurant in July and I closed up some time in September, and I remember very well the American newspaper spoke of it, too.
Q Have you understood Interpreter Wong Aloy?
A Yes, sir.

Witness signed his testimony in Chinese:

(Signed) LEE CHUN, Witness.
(Signed) L. T. PLUMMER, Inspector.
(Signed) WONG ALOY, Interpreter.

1/3/07.

Witness, LEE WAH, sworn by Inspector Plummer, testified:

Q What is your name?

A Lee Wah.

Q What is your full Chinese name?

A My marriage name is Lee Lin One.

Q Do you know this man (showing photograph of applicant)?

A Yes, sir. He also has the same name as I have, Lee Wah, but his full Chinese name is Lee Thlin Wah.

Q How much money do you owe him?

A \$350.

Q State all the circumstances connected with the indebtedness?

A American date, middle part of May 1906, I borrowed \$350 to put into the restaurant at 331 S. Clark St. This money passed over to me at my restaurant.

Q How much money did you put into that restaurant altogether?

A The whole restaurant is worth \$2,000, \$500 a share, and I have one share. Q Did you put this account down in your book?

A Yes. (Produces account book and the Interpreter reads: "Received from Lee Wah \$350." No dates given anywhere in the book.

Q When did you put this down in your book?

A At the time the loan took place.

~~Q Did you give him any note for the~~

Q Did you give ~~xx~~ him any note for the money?

A No, no note.

Q What relation are you to Lee Wah?

A Our great grandfathers were brothers.

Q When will you repay this loan?

A After he returns to this country I will pay him if I have it.

Q Is this a true debt? Do you actually owe him this money or have you made it ~~up~~ up to enable him to go back to China?

A He really loaned this money to me and I did not make this debt up at all.

Q Are you making any money in your restaurant?

A Not very much.

Q Have you understood Interpreter Wong Aloy?

A Yes.

Witness signed his testimony in English:

(Signed) LEE WAH, Witness.

(Signed) L. T. PLUMMER, Inspector.

(Signed) WONG ALOY, Interpreter.