

Case of Sun He, arrested at El Paso, Texas, and statement taken
13
May 2, 1907, by Inspector F. W. McFarland, H. K. Faung acting as
interpreter. After being warned that anything he might say at this
time would be used against him later in court, if necessary, wit-
ness testified as follows:

- Q What is your name? A Sun He.
Q Have you any other names? A No.
Q How old are you? A 31.
Q Where were you born? A In San Francisco.
Q What year? A K. S. 3, 6th month, 29th day.
Q At what street and number? A Dupont Street, I do not remember
the number, because I went to China when I was a little
boy. I can remember only that I was born on the second
floor.
Q How old were you when you first went to China? A K.S. 10th year,
when I was eight years old.
Q What was your father's name? A Yee Ah Pok.
Q What was his marriage name? A Fook Wah.
Q What was your mother's surname? A Dong.
Q Who went to China with you? A Father and mother.
Q Have you any brothers or sisters? A No.
Q Where are your father and mother now? A They are dead now.
Q In what year did your father die? A Last year. (When read back
witness adds: "I have since heard that my father and mother
are dead).
Q When did your mother die? A Few years ago. Not quite three
years ago.
Q When did you first come back to the United States? A In KS 23.
Q At what port did you land? A Montreal.
Q Did you go by Victoria and Vancouver? A Yes.
Q Do you remember what month and day you reached Vancouver?
A I do not remember when I reached Vancouver but it seems to me I
left Hongkong about the first part of June of K.S. 23.
Q You left the United States when you were a child and did not come
back again until you were grown up? A Yes.
Q Do you remember any other streets in San Francisco besides Dupont
Street? A I remember one or two.
Q What are they? A Washington and Polk Street.
Q Any others? A Oregon Street.
Q Any others? A Can not remember any more.
Q Does Washington Street cross Dupont Street or run in the same
direction? A I do not remember.
Q Have you ever been back to San Francisco since you left there as
a child? A Yes.
Q When did you go back to San Francisco? A I was back in San Fran-
cisco in KS 23, after I was tried and discharged.
Q How long did you stay in San Francisco at that time? A Until
last year, after the fire, I came to El Paso.
Q Did you go direct to San Francisco after you were discharged in
New York? A Yes.
Q Where did you cross from Canada into the United States? A At
Malone.
Q What month were you arrested at Malone? A Chinese 7th month.
(When read back says "I was discharged 7th month, 24th day.")
Q How long were you under arrest before you were discharged? A
About two weeks.
Q Where were you kept while you were under arrest? A At the de-
tention house where the other Chinese were detained.
Q Did you apply to the Immigration officers first, or come in without
being seen by them? A I could not speak English myself
and had to ask a friend of mine to ask the Immigration

- officers whether I could be permitted to enter the United States, but was informed that I could not be admitted, so afterwards I sneaked in and was arrested and discharged on trial.
- Q When you or your friend spoke to the Immigration authorities were you asked a whole lot of questions? A No, they only said that they could not allow me to enter the United States.
- Q What did you tell the officers in order to prove to them you had a right to enter the United States? A I said that I was born in San Francisco and wished to come back to the United States to live, and he said that he was not sure whether I was born in San Francisco or not.
- Q Did you offer to prove to the Immigration authorities that you were born in San Francisco? A No.
- Q Why did n't you offer to prove to the Immigration authorities that you were born in San Francisco? A I did not know what evidence or proof was necessary, because I was a small boy at that time.
- Q You were not a small boy when you applied at Malone, were you?
- A No, I was over 20 years old then.
- Q Were you kept in the Immigration detention shed or in the jail before you were tried.
- A Jail.
- Q When you were tried what proof did you offer? A I did not offer anything. Instead they gave me this paper as evidence that I was discharged by the judge.
- Q Did n't you have any witnesses to prove to the judge that you were born in San Francisco? A Yes, my father's friend was a witness at that time in my behalf.
- Q What was your father's friend's name? A Why do you ask me these questions when I have already been tried and discharged.
- Q We are not sure that you are the same man that was tried and discharged, and I ask these questions to find out.
- A Yes, this is my paper, delivered to me in person by the judge, in the presence of the customs officer.
- Q What kind of looking man was the judge? A I can not describe the judge in any way at all, and I could not recall even whether he was an old man or a young man, but I can only remember indistinctly his name as being Badger, not knowing his initials.
- Q Did Mr. Badger wear a beard on his face? A I do not remember that. He had a little moustache.
- Q How much railroad fare did you have to pay from Malone to San Francisco? A I do not know how much was the fare from Malone, N. Y., to San Francisco, but I paid \$70 Chinese money to my friend to get my ticket from Malone to San Francisco. Afterwards this friend told me that he had paid \$30 more and told me that if I did not have the money to pay him at the time I could pay him when I returned to China. I do not know whether that was \$30 Chinese or American.
- Q Was this other money Chinese or gold? A I do not know.
- Q How long were you on the road from Malone to San Francisco?
- A I do not remember now.
- Q Was it one day? A I do not remember at all.
- Q Was it three hours? A If you do not believe me take my papers and investigate.
- Q Do you swear that you have told the whole truth and nothing but the truth, in the foregoing testimony which you have given?
- A Yes.
- Q What friends can we write to to see whether you were born in San Francisco? A I do not know of any at present, because the one who testified in my behalf at the time of my return from China is now dead, and some who know that I was born in San Francisco have gone to China, and others have gone to places unknown to me.

- Q Did n't you have to tell the judge at Malone what house number you were born at? A No.
- Q When did you reach El Paso from San Francisco? A I have been here about a year now. I came here right after the fire in San Francisco.
- Q Where were you working in San Francisco at the time of the fire? A I worked at Ying Kee, alias Yee Wah, on Polk Street. I do not remember the number.
- Q When did you leave San Francisco did you come by land or water? A By train.
- Q Where did you get on the train? A At Oakland.
- Q How many days after the fire was that? A Few days, but I do not remember how many days. I do not remember anything now.
- Q How much railroad fare from San Francisco here? A About \$40.
- Q How far from San Francisco to Oakland? A Just a little way.
- Q Can you walk from San Francisco to Oakland? A I never walked myself. I went over on the cars.
- Q Did you go from San Francisco to Oakland on the train or street cars? A I do not remember. Don't ask me any more, because I can not remember now.
- Q Do you know anybody that ever walked from San Francisco to Oakland? A No, do not ask me any more questions. Investigate my case by the papers.
- Q What is your marriage name? A Oy Wah.
- Q What is your surname? A Yee.
- Q Was it the Chinese 7th month and 24th day that you were discharged? A Yes.
- Q How do you remember that date? A I remember that because I was discharged after having been in trouble, just the same or in the same way I can remember that I have been questioned by you today.
- Q Are you sure that it was not the American 7th month? A Chinese 7th month.
- Q Why did n't you get on the train right in San Francisco? A Because at the time San Francisco was on fire there was much debris all over San Francisco and dead bodies in the streets, so I went to Oakland.
- Q How did you go to Oakland from San Francisco? A I do not remember. There is a body of water separating.
- Q You do not remember whether you went by train or by boat? A No.
- Q Is Polk Street in Chinatown? A I do not know whether it is in Chinatown or not, but Polk Street is only a small street or sort of alley.
- Q If you have been living there can't you tell whether it is in Chinatown? A Yes, it is near Chinatown.
- Q How close to Dupont Street? A Yes, not very far.
- Q Does it cross Dupont Street? A I do not remember that.
- Q Who are the principal Chinese merchants in San Francisco? A Hai Hing Lung is the name of the store.
- Q What street is the Hai Hing Lung on? A I do not remember.
- Q Were you ever in that store? A No, I only heard of it.
- Q What Chinese stores have you ever been in in San Francisco? A I do not remember what stores in San Francisco that I have been in because I had to work so hard in the laundry, washing and ironing all the time.
- Q How often do the street cars run on Dupont Street? A Do not ask me anything more. There is no fun to be asked so much. You can take the papers to investigate.
- Q What is your friend's name that helped you at MALONE Malone? A He is not my friend. He was my father's friend. I do not know his name. I only call him uncle.
- Q When did you first see this uncle? A I met him for the first time in Malone, because my father wrote to him to meet me there.
- Q Did this man testify to the judge that you were born in San Francisco? A Yes.

Sun He p4

- Q How did he know? A Because he was a friend of my father's.
- Q Was he the only witness that you had at Malone?
- A Yes. He was the only one.
- Q Is n't there someone now in San Francisco that we can write to to find out whether you were born there? A I can not tell now, because I would have to find out whether that friend is still there.
- Q What Chinese were in San Francisco when you were there that know about your birth? A I can not remember. There were friends in San Francisco who know I was born in San Francisco. The people in the laundry where I worked know I was born there, but I do not know where they are now.
- Q What were the names of those people you worked with in the laundry?
- A Yee Ah Fon; Ah Sam, I do not know his surname. I only remember these two.
- Q Is it an iron bridge or a wooden bridge across from San Francisco to Oakland? A Iron.
- Q How do you know that it is iron? A I never crossed it but I heard of it.
- Q Is there anything more that you wish to say in regard to your case?
- A No.
- Q What dialect do you speak? A See Yup dialect.
- Q Do you understand this interpreter? A Yes, sir.
- Q Is this the paper given you by Com'r. Badger when you were discharged? A Yes, sir. (Paper shown being the one with photograph of witness attached offered by him as evidence of his right to be in the United States, dated July 24, 1897.

Signed in Chinese characters and sworn to before me this
2d day of May, 1907, at El Paso, Texas.

Immigrant Inspector.