

THE LEE FAMILY PAPERS

an inventory

by

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THE LIBRARY  
UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA  
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### Lee Family Papers

The Lee family papers were donated to the University of British Columbia, by Ian Lee, a computer programmer in the UBC Library, in 1982. The papers are the records of the business activities of his father Lee Kepment and his grandfather, Lee Thung.

Lee Thung, also known as Lee Sai Thung, Lee Sai Chong, Lee Sai Sung, was born in Suey Low village, in the district of Sun Ning, province of Kuantung, on October 27, 1878.

He arrived in North America, in search of Gim San, in 1893, on a clipper ship which landed in San Francisco. He was unaccompanied. The records show that he arrived in Victoria on August 15, 1892 aboard the Empress of Japan.

He was initially employed as kitchen help in the Empress Hotel. The date of his arrival in Vancouver is not known, but it was probably at least 1895. By the early 1900's he became one of the most prominent businessmen among the Chinese in Vancouver. His principal business was as a general merchant. He founded the Lee Yune Company, which was one of the communities' most successful shops. Along with this business he had acquired much real estate and was responsible for constructing many of the buildings in Chinatown. Records also show that he did considerable work contracting for the fishing industry in B.C. supplying Chinese labour to the maritime fishing companies' canneries. He was also prominent in the founding of the Lee Association of Canada. He died in 1951.

Lee Kepment, his son, was born in China in 1898. He arrived in Canada on December 11, 1911 with his mother, Hong Shee. He resided at 1576 Kitchener Street from 1912 until the day he died. He worked in the business of Lee Yune with his father and became the principal manager of the business until its demise in the late 1920's. He then worked as a court interpreter, and generally was prominent in the aid to immigrant Chinese. He became manager of Kam Yen Jan Sausage Company in the early 1930's until the 1940's. He was self-employed in business from the late 1940's until his death in 1976. He was married to Irene Kee in 1931. Lee Kepment was prominent in Chinese politics; heavily involved with the Kuo Min Tang, he was Canada's representative in 1939 at the Chinese Parliament in Chung King. He left the Kuo Min Tang not long after the end of World War II. He was also prominent in Chinese Liberal politics.

The papers were received from Ian Lee in 1982. They have been kept in their original order, which in some cases appears slightly confusing, as dates vary from file to file.

LEE FAMILY PAPERS

Box No.	Series	Date
	<u>Correspondence</u>	
1-1		undated
1-2		undated statements
1-3		undated statements
1-4	re Steveston property	1895-1912
1-5		1898
1-6		1901
1-7		1904
1-8		1906
1-9		1907
1-10		1908
1-11		1907-1908
2-1	steamship company	1908
2-2	monthly statements	1908-1909
2-3		1909
2-4	Hong Yuen Company	1909
2-5	steamships	1909
2-6	127 E. Pender St. property	1909-1911
2-7		1910
2-8	statements	1910
2-9		1911
2-10	Tai On Company	1911
2-11	Chinese Chamber of Commerce	1911-1914
3-1	Pu Hing Company	1911
3-2	statements	1911-1912
3-3		1912
3-4		1913
3-5	Chinese Chamber of Commerce receipts	1913
3-6	real estate and taxes	1913-1915
3-7		1914
3-8	real estate	1914-1923
4-1		1915
4-2		1915
4-3		1915
4-4		1916-1917
4-5		1916
4-6		1916
5-1		1917
5-2		1917
5-3		1918
5-4	fortune teller	1917
5-5	Lee Sai Wu	1918
5-6		1918-1921
5-7		1919
5-8	Chinese Freemasons	1919, 1924
5-9		1920

Box no.	Series	Date
<u>Correspondence (cont)</u>		
6-1		1920
6-2		1920-1923
6-3	Pender St. property	1920-1924
6-4		1921
6-5		1921-1929
6-6		1922
7-1	Maritime Fisheries Ltd.	1922
7-2		1923-1925
7-3		1923
7-4	Bank of B.C. vs Lun Bang	1923
7-5		1924
7-6		1925
7-7	Lee Yen S; Estate, Michigan	1925
7-8		1926
7-9	Mrs Lee Kepment funeral	1926
7-10	T. Inglis Hasang-wine imports	1926-1933
7-11	life insurance	1927
7-12		1927
8-1		1928
8-2	Canada Morning News	1928-1930
8-3	Chinese Nationalist League,	1929-1933
8-4	Chinese Consulate	1930
8-5		1931
8-6		1932
8-7	Chinese Anti-Japanese Society	1932
8-8		1933
8-9		1934
8-10	Hong Kong Cafe	1934
8-11	<u>Newsclippings</u>	1933-1939
8-12	<u>Published items</u>	
Boxes 9 to 12, 13	<u>Account books</u>	
	<u>Bank books, cheque registers etc</u>	1913-1914, 1921 various
	<u>Tai On Company records</u>	years

Box 19

李給民兄 . 酬勞寶減 . [Issued by] 馬吉堂 . , [1919]

[Ledger of Accounts], 各客來往數登記部 , [1908]

[Record of Disbursements] 支數部 , no date .

[Accounts Payable Ledger] 欠數部列 , [c1912]

[Ledger for two Lee's] 數存工部 , [1924]

[Accounts Book] 各伴總工部 , [1917]

[Account Book for Li Shi fan] 世璿兄來往數 [1908?]

[Record of Liquidation of Tang] 杰忠堂徵信錄 , [1917]

[Record of Hui] — 友欠會銀 , [1912]

[Journal of receipts and disbursements, plus ledger] 牛格進銀  
總部 , [1912]

[Records of Lee Kepmeret] 給民記數部 , [1921]

[Lee Yune Ranch accounts] 各伴工金部, 利源園 [1922]

[Lee Yune Ranch, Meat Purchases] . 利源園取肉部 [1924]

[Tai On Company] 大安初部日逐 [1926]

Box 10.

[Record of Li Lung Xi Tang] 李隴西堂, 議案部 [1915]

[Lee Yune Ranch Record] 進數利源園進數部. [1924]

[Record for 2 Chinese firms]. 弄法公司部; 大安三兄進利部

[Shares Record]. 土名烏梅崙, 七號公司股份部, [1912]

[Record re: McKichan Block, 329 Vernon Drive], 1912.

[ " " ] 周錦棠兄.

[Ledger] 各來往付柜銀數記部, no date.

[Record re: Li Shi-fan's property at Bender and Gore]  
世瑞兄來往數部, [1911]

[Record re 7<sup>th</sup> Avenue joint purchase] 李鵬, 李福合股  
買屋登記部, [1911].

[Dice game Record] 大安色仔進上利部 [1911].

[Record of Building by Li Lung Xi Tang] 隴西健樓進支部  
[1909]

[Record of Da Yi Guan] 大益館進上利部, [1915]

[Record of Jun Yi Tang] 均益堂登記部, [1908].

Box 11

[Ledger] 各客來往付柜部 [1909]

[Journal] 李給民之伍叔德置業記數部 [1920]

[Donations to School] 崇義學校年損部, [1922]

[Record, Yi Yuan Company] 益源內柜進支部, [1907]

Telegraph Copy Book, 1906-1910.

[Ledger] 各會項欠數部 [1912]

[Account Book, Da An Company] 大安卡登取貨部, [1915]

[Gambling Record] 大維天牛棧部 [1924]

[Share Agreement, Peking Restaurant, Victoria] 李世璋東翁, 1910

[Annual Summary] 李世璋兄來往數列.

Box 12.

[Wine Imports] 代理接辦中國酒公司章程, 1926

["酒公司 - 支數稿流部, 進數稿流部, 1926]

[Record for Lin De-shao] 林德紹鴻股部存記 [1900]

[Record for Tong An Zhen] 同安棧書東 [1899]

[Hedger re 127-133 E. Pender Street] 1924

大羅天部, [1924]

洞天館部 [1924]

大羅天股份記部 [1924]

各客欠數來往部 [1911].



Box 9

李給民兄 . 酬答寶減 . [Issued by] 馬吉堂 . , [1919]

[Ledger of Accounts], 各客來往數登記部 , [1908]

[Record of Disbursements] 支數部 , no date .

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[Shares Record]. 土名烏梅崙, 七隴公司股份部, [1912]

[Record re: McKichan Block, 319 Vernon Drive], 1912.

["

"], 周錦棠兄.

[Ledger] 各來往付柜銀數記部, no date.

[Record re: Li Shi-tan's property at Bender and Gore].  
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[Journal] 李給民 & 伍叔德置業記數部 [1920]

[Donations to School] 崇義學校年損部, [1922]

[Record, Yi Yuan Company] 益源內柜進支部, [1907]

Telegraph Copy Book, 1906-1910.

[Ledger] 各會項欠數部 [1912]

[Account Book, Da An Company] 大安卡簽取貨部 [1915]

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[Share Agreement, Peking Restaurant, Victoria] 李世璋東翁, 1916

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