

THE NEW CHINESE REGISTRATION CERTIFICATES.



STATE OF CALIFORNIA

CERTIFICATE OF RESIDENCE

THIS IS TO CERTIFY that

... male Citizen of the Chinese Empire

BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS

Occupation \_\_\_\_\_  
 PO Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 Age .. \_\_\_\_\_ Years. Weight \_\_\_\_\_ Pounds  
 Height \_\_\_\_\_ Feet \_\_\_\_\_ Inches  
 Color \_\_\_\_\_ Complexion \_\_\_\_\_  
 Family Name \_\_\_\_\_ Trade \_\_\_\_\_  
 Employed as \_\_\_\_\_  
 At \_\_\_\_\_  
 Name of Employer \_\_\_\_\_  
 P.O. Advt. of Employer \_\_\_\_\_



Noticeable Facial Marks or Bodily Deformities \_\_\_\_\_  
 Place of Birth \_\_\_\_\_  
 Province of \_\_\_\_\_ China  
 Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_ 18\_\_  
 Date of Emigration \_\_\_\_\_ 18\_\_  
 Date of Arrival in the United States \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_ 18\_\_  
 Port of Landing \_\_\_\_\_

San Francisco Cal.

Now Resides at No \_\_\_\_\_ Street.  
 on the \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_  
 County of \_\_\_\_\_ State of California

At the last session of the Legislature an act was passed providing for the registration of and the issuance of certificates of residence to all Chinese persons in the State. The execution of this law, which went into effect on July 1st, is principally the duty of the Commissioner of the Bureau of Labor Statistics, the various county clerks and such deputies as may be appointed for the purpose.

The act says that "it shall be the duty of every Chinese person within the limits of the State within one year after the passage of this act to apply for a certificate of residence to the Commissioner of the Labor Bureau" and to have it recorded by the County Clerk of the county in which he resides," and says further that a refusal to comply with the provisions of the act shall subject the offending person to a trial by a court, and gives a long list of penalties which may be imposed on the culprit. Besides this, every Chinese applying for a certificate is required to pay \$5 for the privilege of being registered and must furnish a photograph of himself.

Labor Commissioner Walts, in pursuance of this act, has for a week past been extremely busy preparing to carry it into effect. A number of deputies have

been appointed but their names will not be made public until the Governor approves of their appointment.

A certificate printed on parchment, ten and a half by six inches in size, and neatly bound in red morocco, has been designed and blanks have been forwarded to all the deputies. The accompanying cut, which is a reduced fac-simile of the certificate, shows what a work of art it is and how well worth \$5 of any Chinese person's money, especially after it has the official seal and the Commissioner's valuable autograph attached.

The local office at 220 Sutter street is also ready to register any Mongolian who may apply for one of the \$5 privileges, and the San Francisco Chinese will, if they hurry up, have the additional honor of being registered by the Labor Commissioner in person, for so far he has not appointed any deputies for this city. He says he does not need them as yet. The fact is, not a single applicant has put in an appearance up to date and it looks very much as if there will be no call made at all for any of these handsome parchment documents on the part of the Chinese.

Every official who has had dealings with the Mongolian population knows how hard it is to compel them to do anything which requires exertion on their

part or costs them any money, but in this case there is a particular cause for their indifference, which was explained in unmistakable language by Chinese Consul Bee to a CHRONICLE reporter, who asked him what action would be taken by the Chinese in reference to the required registration.

"What is going to be done about it?" asked the Colonel. "Why, nothing at all. I have simply advised all Chinese persons to pay no attention to this law until somebody tries to enforce it, and when that time comes we will fight it."

"There is not a single lawyer, no matter how limited his experience may be, who will not at once pronounce that law unconstitutional in every section," continued the Consul. "They may as well try to make the Germans, Irish, French or other nations residing here do what they are asking the Chinese to do in this preposterous act."

"Mark you, young man," the Consul concluded, "I am not angry at all. Don't say that I was mad when you quote me. I am as cool as a cucumber, but every cent the State expends on this registration business is money thrown away."

And this is the reason why the anticipated rush for the beautifully engraved certificates did not take place in the Labor Commissioner's office.