

Young Lawyer Who Studied in China Is Only Chinese Attorney in Texas

U. S. Judge Who Aided Wellington Y. Chew
13 Years Ago Okays Him for Federal Court

By MARSHALL HAIL

Wellington Y. Chew a studious looking young man who has studied in China and fought for his adopted America in Europe, is the only "Chinese" lawyer in Texas.

At least he so believes. "My sister went to the University of Texas law school, but she is not a citizen and has never practiced," Mr. Chew said. "There was a boy of Chinese extraction who graduated from Baylor in law, but he did not practice either."

A Happy Event

Recently Attorney Chew was admitted to practice in U. S. District Court, being sworn in by Federal Judge R. E. Thomason. It was a happy event for the young lawyer, for more reasons than one.

"In the first place I feel it is an honor," he said. "I had been admitted to the state courts in 1951, but it takes a year's practice and acceptance by the local bar before you can practice in Federal Court."

Another reason has to do with an experience Mr. Chew had 13 years ago when he and a group of El Paso High School fans went to Mexico City for a football game.

Was Barred From U. S.

He couldn't get back into the U. S. The Immigration Service barred him because he was not a U. S. citizen.

El Paso's congressman at the time, Representative Thomason, came to the rescue. He took the matter up with the U. S. attorney general, who ordered young Chew admitted.

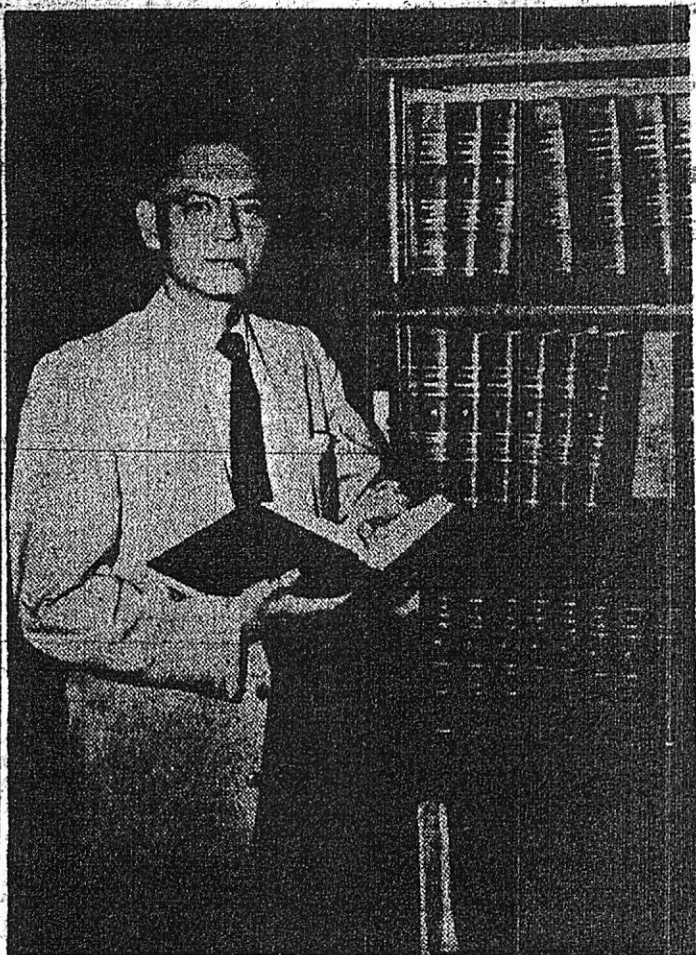
Although living in El Paso with his parents, he was not a U. S. citizen because of the Chinese Exclusion Act, later repealed.

"I feel it was a special honor to have Judge Thomason swear me in when I was admitted to Federal practice," Mr. Chew said.

Was Born in Juarez

He was born in Juarez and came to El Paso with his parents in 1922. His father, Antonio Chew, was born in Canton, China. His mother, Herlinda Chew, was born in Guadalajara, Mexico, though her father was Chinese.

Both the elder Chews, who owned



Wellington Yee Chew

the New China grocery and Western Wholesale grocery, were prominent in El Paso business life and Mrs. Chew was especially active in civic affairs. Both died in 1938.

Young Chew went to grade school in El Paso and graduated from El Paso High. He attended Texas A. and M. College before World War II, then served with the 4th Infantry Division in France, Belgium, Germany and England.

After the war he attended Texas Western College, and then got his law degree at Southern Methodist University in 1951. He was naturalized during the war.

He has made three trips to China to study the Chinese language —

once in 1929, again in 1934, and again in 1936. He had learned to speak the language from his parents, but learned to read it at Ling Nam U. in China.

Mr. Chew was named for a noted Chinese diplomat, Wellington Koo, a member of the Soong family and an acquaintance of his mother.

"My mother always wanted me to be a lawyer," he said. "I'm happy that I could make the grade here in the United States."

Mr. Chew resides with his wife, the former Patricia Howe, and their two children at 3720 Sheppard street.

He and his law partner, Joseph Calamia, have offices in the Caples building.

3000 Shriners Due At E. P. Convention

More than 3000 Shriners and their wives will attend the 17th annual Texas State Shriners convention to be held in El Paso May 22 and 23. This will be the first time the convention has been held in El Paso.

Imperial Potentate Harvey A. Beffa of St. Louis and his wife, will be on hand to greet Texas Shriners from the state's 11 Shrine Temples.

Also here will be Galloway Calhoun of Tyler, past imperial potentate and chairman of the board of directors of the Shriners' Hospitals for Crippled Children.

Other imperial officers who will attend the convention include: George M. Saunders of Chicago, recorder; Remmie L. Arnold of Petersburg, Va., deputy imperial potentate; Frank S. Land of Kansas City, imperial rabban and organizer of the Order of De Molay; Walter C. Guy of Little Rock, Ark., assistant rabban; George E. Springfellow of West Orange, N. J., first ceremonial master; Dr. Clayton F. Andrews of Lincoln, Neb., second ceremonial master; George A. Mattison Jr. of Birmingham, Ala., marshal, and George M. Klepper of Memphis, Tenn., outer guard.

Jaycees Hear Talk On El Paso Boys Club

Need for the rejuvenation of the El Paso Boys' Club was the topic of a talk by F. V. (Tommy) Thomson at the luncheon meeting of the El Paso Junior Chamber of Commerce today in the Hilton Hotel.

Mr. Thomson, formerly regional director of the National Boys' Club of America, is now living in El Paso and is taking an active part in the \$75,000 rebuilding fund campaign of the South El Paso boys' center.

Deans Mary Margaret Jameson, C. A. Puckett and Eugene M. Thomas, and members of Chenrizig.

Mrs. W. H. Eldins and Mrs. J. F. Williams will preside at the coffee

Lumbermen Give Dinner

A dinner will be given by members of the El Paso Lumbermen's Assn., at 7 p. m. today in the Pilgrim Room of Del Camino. H. M. Jones, secretary, will report on plans for the group's spring dance, set for May 30 in Hotel Cortez, and H. C. Rogers, vice president, will be in charge of program. Jim Ryan

Wac Officer Assigned

Wac 1st Lieut. Jewel L. Allen, of 3130 Pero street, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Richard M. Allen of the same address, has been assigned Officer-in-Charge of the Correspondence and Special Orders Section of the Replacement Battalion, Camp Stoneman, Calif., the Army's largest United States personnel processing center.

Trains at Lackland

Airman Raul Barcena, son of Mr. and Mrs. J. Barcena of 1118 East San Antonio street, is completing his basic Air Force training at Lackland Air Force Base in San Antonio.

BICYCLE STOLEN

Tony Reyes of 2425 East Missouri street told police someone stole his red and white bicycle parked at 1318 Arizona street.