

*In the year of 1882,*

*Kekaha, Kauai I.L. June 1, 1924*

Due to the hard times and difficulties that existed in their home village Oo Syak, Canton, China, Chang Kee, age 16 and Chang Batt, age 18, two brothers took an adventuresome trip to Hawaii. They left their Oo Syak Village of China in 1882 for Hong Kong and boarded a clipper sailing vessel, which carried cargos ply between Hong Kong, China and U. S. West Coast ports via Honolulu. The vessel, they boarded first sailed directly to San Francisco, California. Then on the return trip it called in Hawaiian ports. Finally, they arrived in Honolulu sometime in July of 1882. It was about a hundred days journey.

Chang Kee and Chan Batt came to Hawaii with a Visitor's Visa and not as the Sugar Planter Association or the Rice Planter Contracted Laborers. After their arrival, Chng Kee went to Hilo to work for C.Y. Aiona Store in Hawaii. A year later Chng Kee came back to Honolulu to enter the employment of Kwong Hip Lung Company engaged in the import and export business.

The elder brother, Chang Batt operated a small shoe and leather manufacturing store in Honolulu. Sometime in 1890, Chang Batt made a visit to China and married Lau Shee in Oo Syak, Canton. He returned to Honolulu in the same year and his wife came to Honolulu to join him in 1892. They raised three children, all born in Honolulu. A son, Dan Fong; Daughters, Akam, Samtow. In 1902 Chang Batt and his family went to China. He returned to Honolulu in 1903. Chang Batt retired from business here in 1906. He passed away in Oo Syak, Canton, China in 1910.

In 1893 Chan Kee obtained his Hawaiian Citizenship and became an United States Citizen after the United States annexed the Hawaiian Islands as its territory. In the same year Chang Kee made a trip to China to visit relatives, friends and got married to Chung Shee there. He had traveled with his United States Passports and returned to Honolulu. After the tour, he continued his business interest with Kwong Hip Lung Store. In 1897 Kwong Hip Lung Company sent Chang Kee to Koloa, Kauai to liquidate and close it's branch store called C. Poi Kee Store. After the liquidation of that business was completed, Chang Kee traveled around Kauai for business ventures. Finally, he came to the Waimea District where he saw the opportunity to open a general merchandise store due to lots of people working for the Sugar and Rice plantations there. Therefore, he obtained a lease from the Knudsen Estate to build a business store in Kekaha. After the store opened for business, it was very prosperous and Chang Kee became a successful businessman there in 1900. His wife Chung Shee arrived in Honolulu to join him. She bore a son called Ah Young. Chung Shee passed away here in 1901. In 1907 Chang Kee made his second trip to China to visit relatives and toured mainland China. In the meantime, he married Tong Shee in Oo Syak village. In February, 1908 Chang Kee returned to Hawaii and continued to manage his business. In his return trip, he came with his wife, Tong Shee, son, Ah Young and nephew, Dan Fong. All accompanied him to take up residence in Kekaha where Ah Young and Dan Fong had attended Government School in Kekaha. Chang Kee and Tong Shee raised five children to their family namely sons, Sing, Clarence Chin, Alvin Yuk Hung and daughters Clara Lo and Dorothy Lee.

Besides being a prominent businessman, Chang Kee had done plenty charitable works and always made contributions to the needed causes. He and his brother Chang Batt were among the organizers of the Oo Syak Gee Lu Society in 1897, a Chinese eleemosynary Society of Honolulu, of which their sons, Sing Chang and Dan Fong Chang were the

past Presidents. Chang Kee had also founded and built the Waimea Chinese Cemetary in Kekaha, Kauai in the year of 1910. *This cemetery named Waimea Ch. was built by Chang Kee and his wife Tong.*

In June 1924, Chang Kee retired from his Kekaha business and sold his general store business to his nephew, Dan Fong Chang and returned to Hong Kong, China with his wife Tong Shee and five children. In Hong Kong, Chang Kee continued to engage in leather manufacturing business. He managed the Leatherman company in Kowloon, Hong Kong in which he was the principle shareholder.

Chang Kee passed away in Kowloon, Hong Kong in 1925. All of his Hong Kong children; sons, Sing, Clarence Chin, Alvin Yuk Hung and daughter, Clara Lo, Dorothy Lee returned to Honolulu in May 1927 to continue their school and college education here.

Dan Fong Chang continued to operate the Chang Kee Store with his wife Kam Hin. She came here from Hong Kong in October 1920. They managed the business 18 years. They also raised seven children in Kekaha, namely sons, William, Walter, and Alexander; daughters, Jennie, Laura, Margaret and Shirley. All sons and daughters had received their education from Hawaii Government Schools and U. S. Mainland Universities. Most of them were University graduates and obtained useful occupations and continued with good growth with many grand children added to their family.

Sometime in October 1942, Dan Fong Chang retired from his Kekaha business and moved to Honolulu. *In Honolulu Dan Fong Chang in the general merchandise and restaurant business. He managed the Shu Fat Shop Inc. for couple years and retired in August 1945*