

noodles—and chop suey, were eaten by miners, the “after-theater” crowd, and prominent citizens alike. It always catered to non-Chinese clientele, many of whom in the early days were curious to get a glimpse of Chinatown. Over time, the noodle parlor came to incorporate a good complement of American food on its menu, while retaining its Chinese food specialties. Among the attractions were the narrow, beadboard booths which allowed semiprivate dining. A seating arrangement that is maintained to this day by Hum Yow’s nephew, Ding Tam, who is also known as Danny Wong.

While the restaurant business continued upstairs, items from previous establishments were stored below. This rare collection of artifacts, some dating as early as the 1910s, narrates the position of the Hum/Tam family in Butte and among Chinese communities in the western United States and China. Butte-Silver Bow Public Archives presents in the exhibit, *One Family-One Hundred Years*, a story of family commitment, rather than an emphasis on Chinese illegal drugs and prostitution. Displays provide insight into Chinese social organizations, gambling, herbal medicine, and the continuing Chinese influence in Butte, MT, by the Pekin Noodle Parlor.

The information follows:

A LOOK INSIDE THE EXHIBIT

The Tam family’s roots in Montana extend to the 1860s, almost 50 years before the opening of the Pekin Noodle Parlor. Although his name has been forgotten, the first family member to come to the U.S. delivered supplies to the Chinese camps and communities at various places in the American West. Butte was among those camps. By the late 1890s, his son came to Butte, where he and others ran a laundry on South Arizona Street for many years. The Quong Fong Laundry was a staple on Arizona well into the mid-1950s even after the Tam family member had returned to China.

The next generation of family immigrants gained considerable prominence in Chinatown and the community of Butte at large. Hum Yow and Tam Kwong Yee, close relatives from the same district near Canton, China, forged a successful alliance that spanned most of the first half of the twentieth century. After erecting a building at the east edge of Chinatown at 115/117/119 South Main, Hum Yow & Co. established a Chinese mercantile there, to at least the late 1910s. By 1914, a Sanborn map shows Hum Yow’s noodle parlor on the second floor, while Tam Kwong Yee managed a club room on the first floor facing onto China Alley.

The inhabitants of Butte’s Chinatown formed social clubs that were similar to other fraternal organizations of that time. The purpose of these organizations, according to their articles of incorporation, was to provide for “. . . mutual helpfulness, mental and moral improvement, mental recreation . . .” and so on. Artifacts from three known Chinese clubs were found in the basement of the Pekin. Along with the clubs’ signs, such items as membership rosters, instruments, maps and photos tell part of the story of these long-gone associations.

In the new country, where the Chinese population was predominantly single men who knew little English, gambling was not only a tradition that continued but also became a major form of recreation during social gath-

erings. As gambling drew in other ethnic groups to Chinatown, the gambling parlors eventually gained entrances on Main Street proper. On the face of the Pekin building, it was in the form of a “cigar store” called the London Company at 119 South Main. Hum’s Pekin Noodle Parlor and Tam’s London Company gambling hall were staples of Butte’s Chinatown until gambling was closed across Montana in 1952.

Unlike many of his countrymen in Butte, Hum Yow married while in the U.S. His wife, Sui (Bessie) Wong, was born and raised in San Francisco. Shortly after marrying in 1915, the Hums began their family, raising their three children in the Pekin building. Tam Kwong Yee, on the other hand, had left his wife and children behind in China but remained close to them, providing financially for both basic needs and advanced education.

As a model of his family values, Tam had been trained as an herbal doctor in China before emigrating to the U.S. It was many years, however, before he had the opportunity to practice his trade in Butte. There were several Chinese herbal doctors in Butte over the years. The most well-known of those from the early twentieth century was Huie Pock, who had his business in the next block of South Main from the Pekin. Several years after Huie’s death in 1927, Tam acquired his collection of Chinese herbs.

By 1942, Tam opened his business, “Joe Tom’s Herbs,” on the first floor of the Pekin Noodle Parlor building (at the 115 South Main address). The business name suggests that Tam specialized in dispensing herbs rather than diagnoses. His on-site advertising, however, promoted “free consultation” as well.

In 1947, Tam’s grandson, Ding Tam joined the older man in Butte. Just as thousands of Chinese immigrants before him, Ding came to the U.S. to make money to support his family back home. He quickly became known by the more Americanized name of Danny Wong, the last name taken from Bessie Wong’s family. Several years later he took over the Pekin Noodle Parlor while his grandfather continued working as a Chinese herbal doctor. Danny married Sharon Chu on August 9, 1963, and raised five children in Butte, passing down the Tam family’s appreciation for higher education, commitment to hard work, and business savvy.●

100TH ANNIVERSARY OF MARYLAND LEGAL AID

● Mr. CARDIN. Mr. President, today I wish to recognize the 100th anniversary of the Legal Aid Bureau in Baltimore, MD. Legal Aid was founded in 1911 in Baltimore to provide legal representation for the poor. In 1929, Baltimore attorneys H. Hamilton Hackney and John A. O’Shea took over leadership of Legal Aid. Mr. Hackney believed that justice should not be a matter of charity. He believed that people should be secure in the knowledge “that their poverty does not necessarily mean that they will be in a position of inequality before the law.” As a result of Hackney and O’Shea’s efforts, Legal Aid evolved from a charity organization to an independent, private, nonprofit corporation.

During the Great Depression, Legal Aid’s poverty practice mushroomed. By 1932, it was serving 3,200 clients a year. In 1941, the staff consisted of five lawyers. In 1949, the caseload had grown to 7,000 a year and Legal Aid helped its

100,000th client. In 1953, Baltimore City built its new People’s Court Building at Fallsway and Gay streets, with the third floor dedicated to Legal Aid’s use.

The 1960s were a period of change. In 1964, Congress passed the Economic Opportunities Act and launched the war on poverty, funneling funds for legal services to the Nation’s cities. In 1971, Legal Aid established three offices outside of Baltimore and later in the decade, across the State.

In 1974, one of President Nixon’s last acts in office was to sign into law the National Legal Services Corporation Act; the next year the Legal Services Corporation, LSC, was established, and legal services organizations across the country continued a rapid expansion. Starting in the late 1970s, Legal Aid began to champion the cause of migrant farm workers, sued the steel industry to eliminate practices that prevented women and minorities from getting higher paying jobs, and targeted the cause of mentally disabled people.

In the 1980s, President Reagan sought to eliminate LSC, submitting seven straight budgets without an appropriation for the corporation. While some of the funding was restored by a sympathetic Congress, Legal Aid lost \$1.2 million in funding in 1982, forcing staffing cuts in most offices. In response to the cuts, under my leadership, the Maryland General Assembly established the Maryland Legal Services Corporation and provided funding through the Interest on Lawyer Trust Accounts, IOLTA, Program to provide additional funding to Legal Aid and other legal services programs representing the poor.

Under the leadership of Wilhelm H. Joseph, Jr., who took the helm in 1996, Legal Aid has grown to be one of the Nation’s largest and most respected legal services organizations. Today, there are more than 250 staff members in 13 offices statewide. Last year, more than 60,000 people from across the State were served, including residents of subsidized and public housing, the elderly, migrant farm workers, and neglected and abused children.

I would ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Legal Aid for its outstanding achievements and service to the people of Maryland over the past 100 years, reminding us of the importance of the words inscribed over the entrance to the U.S. Supreme Court, “Equal Justice for All.”●

TRIBUTE TO WILLIAM A. HAWKINS

● Ms. KLOBUCHAR. Mr. President, today I honor and pay tribute to a true leader from my home state of Minnesota, William A. Hawkins. Bill most recently retired with distinction as the chairman and CEO of Medtronic, the world’s leading medical technology company. He is an individual whose life personifies the Medtronic Mission Statement.