

- 041 Q: What is your name?
 043 A: Szeto Wan-oi
 045 Q: Is your other name "Mary Chan"?
 047 A: My name in school was Mary Chan, I took it when I came here to study.
 051 Q: Where were you born?
 052 A: In San Francisco.
 053 Q: In what year were you born?
 054 A: In 1889.
 055 Q: Then you're over 90 years old?
 056 A: That's right, over 90 years old.
 056 Q: 94 years old.
 057 A: Have some tea first, it's getting cold.
 060 Q: Mary Chan, you say you were born in San Francisco, California, and you're 94 years old this year. How long did you live in San Francisco?
 065 A: I lived there for many years, and went back to Hong Kong to study.
 067 Q: You went back to Hong Kong to study Chinese? How long did you stay there?
 3 068 A: I don't remember.
 071 Q: Did you get married in Hong Kong and then return to the U.S.?
 072 A: That's right.
 074 Q: Where did your father come from?
 075 A: My father came from Sze-yup. He was the first one not to have a pigtail, the first Chinese not to have a pigtail. Everyone was pulling his pigtail, so he cut it off and threw it away.
 082 Q: Back then when your father had a pigtail in San Francisco, did he ever go anywhere where people wanted him to cut it off?
 083 A: Everyone on the street would pull his pigtail at will, so he cut it off.
 086 Q: Were the people who pulled his pigtail whites?
 087 A: Yes, they were whites. Whites pulled his pigtail and made fun of him. He cut off his pigtail, so he was no longer afraid of people making fun of him.
 090 Q: What did your father use to do?
 092 A: I don't remember what he did.
 (Comment from Mary's eldest daughter) He used to be in shipping. If anyone wanted to come to the U.S., they could do so as soon as he signed the papers.
 095 Q: Was it a Chinese-owned shipping company?
 A: The ships belonged to whites. However, what he said counted.
 (Eldest daughter) Later on he ate " " for a long time before dying.
 A: My father ate " ."
 100 Q: So your father used to work as an interpreter for a San Francisco shipping firm and take care of Chinese who were coming to the U.S.
 104 A: He was the first Chinese not to have a pigtail.
 105 Q: Where was your mother from?
 106 A: My mother came together. She had bound feet, but later she unbound them.
 108 Q: Where did she unbind her feet?

- 4 110 A: In San Francisco. I had four mothers. My father wanted a son. He married a woman who bore him a daughter, married another who had another daughter, and had over ten daughters without a son.
- 116 Q: Were all four of your mothers in San Francisco?
- 117 A: No.
- 118 Q: Only your mother was in San Francisco?
- 119 A: That's right.
- 120 Q: When did he marry his wives?
- 121 A: He went back to Hong Kong to marry them. He didn't marry any over here.
- 123 Q: Did your father ever have a son?
- 125 A: There was one son, but he's dead now. He had so many daughters. (Daughter: Fourth Wife had a son in Hong Kong.)
- 132 Q: You studied Chinese books in China until you got married, and then you returned to the U.S.?
- 135 A: Yes.
- 137 Q: When you got married in China, how did you get to know your husband?
(Daughter: it the old days it was always through the word of a matchmaker and by command of your parents.)
- A: Everything was taken care of by my parents. They wanted wealth to match wealth, and a good family to match a good family. Things were very bad in the old days.
- 145 Q: You used to come from such a good family, you must have been matched up with a very good family!
- 5 146 A: Yes.
- 147 Q: Did you have an old-fashioned Chinese wedding at home?
- 148 A: Yes.
- 150 Q: When did you come back to the U.S. after your marriage?
- 151 A: I can't remember.
- 153 Q: About when?
- 154 A: After about four or five years.
- 156 Q: After returning to the U.S., what did your husband do?
- 157 A: He taught school.
- 158 Q: Chinese or English?
- 159 A: He taught Chinese, in (?) Saint Mary's.
- 160 Q: Oh, so he taught Chinese at this (?) Saint Mary's in San Francisco. What did you do yourself?
- 163 A: I studied a bit and went to church.
- 164 Q: Did you have any children?
- 165 A: (looking at her daughter) She hadn't been born yet.
- 168 Q: After you had children, you stayed home and took care of household affairs, right?
- 170 A: Right, I took care of things at school, the St. Mary's School.
- 173 Q: After you came to the U.S., did you think a lot about China?
- 175 A: I thought about China, and about the U.S. It was the same.
- 176 Q: You've been in the U.S. for many decades now. Did you associate mainly with Chinese, or with blacks?
- 178 A: I know all sorts of people, it makes no difference. But there were somewhat more Chinese.
- 180 Q: Do you feel that you're more Chinese or American?
- 182 A: It makes no difference, anything is fine.
- 6 188 Q: Do you feel ashamed to be Chinese?

- 189 A: No. It doesn't matter, I don't know about those things.
Everything is equal.
- 196 Q: If someone in your family got sick, did they usually take
Western or Chinese medicines?
- 199 A: I don't remember, there were any illnesses or pains.
- 200 Q: What about yourself, over the last few decades?
- 201 A: I've taken Western medicines. I'm in very good health.
- 204 Q: Did you ever cook foods with Chinese herbs at home, such as
pig's feet?
- 207 A: Very seldom.
- 208 Q: Did you ever stew danggui 當歸 with beef?
- 209 A: I eat everything, it doesn't matter.
- 212 Q: When did you come to L.A.?
- 214 A: I can't remember.
- 215 (Daughter) About fifty-odd years ago.
- 220 Q: During these fifty years, what types of recreation did you have
at home? Did you play mahjong?
- 221 A: Yes, I played mahjong and went to church. I did things with two
or three friends.
- 223 Q: Did you go to a Catholic church?
- 225 A: I went to a Catholic church, St. Mary's.
- 226 Q: Did you like to go to the movies?
- 227 A: Yes, it perks up the spirits.
- 228 Q: After returning to the U.S., did you ever go back to Hong Kong?
Did you write to friends in China?
- 7 230 A: We didn't write because I didn't know English.
(Daughter) There were letters, two or three a year.
- 235 Q: You wrote two or three letters a year back home?
- 236 A: I wrote more than that to my siblings. My mother was in Hong
Kong, and wrote in Chinese.
- 238 Q: When your father returned to the U.S., did your mother come
along with him?
- 240 A: Yes, she came with him. My mother had bound feet. My father
wanted a son, so he had four wives.
- 241 Q: Did he go back to marry his second wife?
- 244 A: Yes. He wanted a son, but they were all daughters. I was the
sixth.
- 245 Q: During these past fifty-odd years, have you always lived near
Chinatown?
- 246 A: Yes.
- 248 Q: Did your husband come with you to Los Angeles?
- 249 A: Yes. He died a long time ago.
(Daughter) He died in 1962.
- 254 Q: How many daughters do you have?
- 255 A: Three.
- 256 Q: Where are these three daughters now?
- 257 A: This is the eldest, that's Number Two (possibly pointing to
photograph).
(Daughter) I was born in China. These two were born in the
U.S.
- 260 Q: Oh, so your eldest daughter was born in China, and Numbers Two
and Three were born in the U.S. Are all your daughters married?
- 262 A: Very good families, those men are very well-bred.

- 266 Q: You've been in L.A. for several decades now. Which Chinese here do you consider to be very famous? Which have done many things in society?
- 269 Q: I don't remember their names, I have a very bad memory. Chow Tsung is dead now.
- 274 Q: Chow Tsung was in San Francisco. I'm talking about L.A.
- 280 Q: Several decades ago, what kinds of jobs did most of the Chinese in L.A. have?
- 288 A: They did business with other Chinese, they were in restaurants.
- 291 Q: Did they make a lot of money or little money in restaurants?
- 293 A: I don't know. Some did good business, others didn't do such good business.
- 296 Q: Before the Second World War, were wages high or low?
- 298 A: I can't remember.
(Daughter) They were low.
- 301 Q: If wages were low, were they enough for living expenses?
- 302 A: They were very thrifty.
- 305 Q: People saved money to send home to support their families, but were there any people who gambled away all their money and lost everything?
- 306 A: There were. There were all kinds of people.
- 307 Q: Were there any people who put their money in banks?
- 308 A: There were.
(Daughter) Some people were swindled because they had very little education. Many capitalists hired them to build railroads and dig mines, that is, selling "piggies." They sold their labor, and capitalists bought labor cheap.
- 316 Q: Did you know any people who were very active in China politics?
- 319 A: No, I didn't know any.
(Daughter) Yes, Mr. Sun Yat-sen.
- 320 Q: Did you know Mr. Sun Yat-sen well?
- 321 A: Who?
(Daughter) Mr. Sun, Mr. Sun Yat-sen.
- 323 A: Oh, yes.
- 324 Q: How did you come to know Mr. Sun Yat-sen?
- 325 A: We were in the same neighborhood, and I got to know him when I was walking around the area. I knew which building he lived in.
(Daughter) Good destiny.
- 326 Q: Are you also from Heung Shan?
- 327 A: We're not from Heung Shan. Everyone looked up to him.
- 328 (Daughter) In doing his work, he was very warm to people, and people looked up to him. He was very caring about everyone.
- 329 A: He was polite.
(Daughter) He was in such difficulty and risking his life, yet he managed to overthrow the Qing government, so everyone loved him and he loved the people.
- 334 Q: Mary Chan, for a period of time you were Mr. Sun Yat-sen's neighbor, so you came to know him?
(Daughter) They lived in the same neighborhood.
- 337 Q: Who else was there?
- 338 A: I can't remember.
- 339 Q: Where were you when Mr. Sun passed away?
A: In the U.S.
- 340 Q: What were your feelings when he passed away?

341 A: He was a good man.

(Note: The preceding was transcribed with a Sanyo tape recorder, while the following section was done with a Sony BM-45A transcriber; therefore the counter numbers do not match up.)

226 A: Of course, some people didn't like him. Some people like one person, some people like another, that's the way the world is. There's never been anything that was liked by everyone. Mr. Sun Yat-sen was a good man. Although I'm not from Heung Shan, I say this just the same.

(Daughter) He worked for the Chinese people. He couldn't work with just one village or one city. He worked for us Chinese people, we're all Chinese.

7 235 Q: In addition to your nodding acquaintance, did you give him any political assistance?

A: Yes. Whenever he was out doing things, we would go listen and watch at all celebrations.

238 Q: Did you ever listen to Mr. Sun make any speeches?

A: Yes, I listened to him often. I'd heard him before. As I got older, because I knew some Chinese, so I went to listen to him.

242 Q: Did the Chinese living in L.A. all feel that they were concerned about China and about their family members?

A: Maybe other people were, but it made no difference to me.

246 Q: You haven't had any family over there for several decades now.

248 Q: During the '30's, that is, during the Great Depression, were any of the the Chinese here affected?

257 A: I don't remember.

259 Q: Did you ever feel that whites discriminated against us in various ways?

A: Yes. Things got better gradually.

263 Q: Why do you say there used to be discrimination?

A: Back then, whenever they looked, they'd turn away. You hated me and I hated you. It's not like that anymore, there's less and less of it.

269 Q: You've been in L.A. for several decades. After your children were grown up, did you get a job?

A: I worked in movies for a long time. I don't go anymore now.

8 275 Q: When you were in the movies, did you know Hop Sing? His stage name was Hop Sing, he was a cook in "Bonanza"?

A: Was that Park Sing Ng Sing?

Q: Perhaps you don't know him. What roles did you play in the movies?

A: (Mary sings lyrics)

(Daughter) She acted by special invitation, she was called a special-invitation actress.

Q: What was your name when you were in the movies?

A: Mary Chan. I did a lot of acting.

295 Q: Do you remember roughly what year this happened?

A: I don't remember. I've stopped in the last two or three years. It's hard to take the bus by myself.

Q: About how many years did you do this?

- (Daughter) I wouldn't know about her doing this before, but it's been for several decades. Even since I came here she's done it two or three times.
- 301 A: I've done a lot of movies, from China all the way to here.
Q: Do you like working in the movies?
- 306 A: It doesn't matter. It makes me matter. I, make a nice narcissus, oh wow! a lot of people watch, and this makes me very happy.
- 312 Q: You've been doing this for several decades, that is on part-time?
A: Part-time. I haven't had any illnesses, so I just kept right on all this time.
Q: That's good. Were wages good at that time?
A: Not bad. They tipped you several dollars.
- 317 Q: About how much money did you make each hour?
A: It wasn't an hourly wage. It was a question of how many people acted in this scene, how much money there was altogether and how many dollars would go to each person.
Q: Only a few dollars?
A: It was all done just for fun.
(Daughter) She was considered a regular. Besides movies, she never did anything else.
- 322 Q: I know. Other people could make \$40 a day just being extras.
A: Those were special. Our movies were made for ordinary people, and we didn't go officially to soundstages to film them. We made them in churches.
- 331 Q: Did you have to join a union?
A: I joined twice, once we had to work, the other time we didn't paid.
Q: Did you act on stage or in the movies? Or both?
A: I acted both on stage and in the movies. Sometimes an entire company would be (?) brought over to do a show, and when they came out they would make a movie. Both stage and movies, it was a lot of fun.
(Daughter) She was in "The King and I." Would you care for some tea?
Q: That was a Chinese show and not a Western show?
(Daughter) It wasn't a Western show. "The King and I" was very famous.
- 344 Q: So you had a part in "The King and I?"
A: Yes.
Q: What role did you have?
A: I jumped around and danced, mostly dancing.
Q: Did you dance and sing songs in most of your roles?
A: I sang some songs. For example I would embroider and clap once..
(Daughter) Parts like those where she would follow the prince around in a palace.
- 352 Q: So you've been in movies all along until you stopped these last few years? Is that correct?
A: I stopped these past few years. These few years I've had trouble getting around, it such an embarrassment.
Q: You're really very capable.

- 357 Q: Do you remember what Chinatown was like several decades ago? What were the buildings like? The people? What sort of people were out on the streets?
A: I don't remember.
(Daughter) There were very few people on the streets. For seven years after I got here, there were only a few more people on Fridays and Saturdays.
- A: Things were busier in San Francisco. L.A. wasn't so busy.
(Daughter) Now there are people everywhere.
- 368 Q: Do you feel that things are getting better gradually for the Chinese in L.A.?
A: Yes, they're all making money, and they're all very capable.
(Daughter) But new immigrants encounter many hardships when they get here because of their low wages. One man by himself can hardly make enough to support a family.
- 380 Q: How are they in terms of language when they first arrive?
(Daughter) They're very isolated.
Q: They're very isolated because they don't know English and therefore have trouble finding jobs?
- 383 Q: Why did you come to live in L.A.?
A: I'm American-born.
Q: I know, but you lived in San Francisco for such a long time.
A: It was to act in movies.
Q: You like being in movies because you had some experience before in Hong Kong, so you came down here. After you came down, was it very hard to find work?
A: It wasn't hard. I made more money than most other people working in the movies. *The King, Bill, and Dance.*
- 10 394 Q: When you first came to L.A., where did you go to look for work?
A: My husband brought me here.
Q: Your husband was here and brought you to the studios to look for work?
A: I didn't have to look. They looked for me. They knew who to look for, they wrote down the names.
Q: When you first came to L.A., how did you find work?
A: I can't remember.
- 408 Q: When you looked for work in the movies, were you afraid of discrimination from whites?
A: There was none, it was fine.
Q: Did you feel that movies in the past mostly portrayed Chinese as very bad and very ugly?
A: No.
(Daughter) Yes. All movies that had a Chinese in them would depict him with a pigtail.
A: People haven't had pigtails in a long while. In the past, they bullied people with pigtails. Now there isn't any more of that.
- 426 Q: Do you know if many of the Chinese who were here in the old days went back to China to get married? The men, I mean.
A: They all went back to China to get married.
Q: Why?
A: They said they were afraid American-born Chinese women would want divorces.
Q: Were there any other reasons?

- 8
- (Daughter) They had different lifestyles. People might lead different lives, so they were afraid they might not get along. Chinese people have a cultured civilization.
- 442 Q: Did all those Chinese prefer having sons to having daughters?
A: In the old times that was so, but now it isn't anymore.
Q: Why?
A: They said, "Daughters are married off to other people. Sons marry daughters-in-law."
(Daughter) They want to carry on the family line.
Q: So if you have a son you can continue the family?
A: That's right.
- 11 451 Q: How do you feel about Chinese marrying non-Chinese?
A: I think it's not very suitable.
Q: Not suitable in what way?
A: Their temperaments are not suited to each other. Whites get a divorce as soon as they don't get along. We Chinese aren't like that. Once we get married it's for life, until we die, there won't be a second one.
Q: So we Chinese are better at "putting up" with each other?
A: That's right, at all times we can "put up." But to behave all the way as if nothing happened when your husband mistreats you, this is no good.
- 464 Q: Do you know of any people who've married non-Chinese?
A: Yes, many.
Q: Are there any who didn't get divorced after they were married?
A: I can't remember.
(Daughter) Nowadays there are quite a lot who've been married 8 or 10 years with getting divorced.
A: I can't remember anything anymore.

Side B

015 Q: So you feel that now there are married marriages between whites and Chinese that have lasted 8 or 10 years without divorce?

A: Yes, some even have children. Before there used to be racial bars, but now there aren't. Now things are better.

018 Q: Your two daughters were born here. Did you make them study Chinese?

A: They don't know any. They only studied a little bit, just two or three years and then they stopped.

Q: Why didn't they continue studying?

A: They didn't like it.

(Daughter) I don't even think we studied for three years. I can barely write my own name.

Q: Did you want them to study Chinese?

A: I wanted them to study Chinese. I studied a lot of Chinese.

024 Q: Did you study more Chinese than English?

A: I didn't study any English at all, I don't even know ABC's. When I made movies to make a few bucks, I only wanted to work.

026 Q: Now do you ever hope to one day go back to China?

A: If I went back to China there'd be nobody there, I don't have anyone in China.

029 Q: Then would you or wouldn't you want to go back?

A: I would, I'd like to go back for a visit.

Q: You'd like to go back to visit, but you wouldn't like to settle down there, is that right?

A: I wouldn't want to. My temperament has settled here.

(Daughter) She's already gotten accustomed to life in the U.S.

034 Q: Do your two daughters who were born in the U.S. feel that there's any point in Chinese wanting to go back to China?

A: They've all gone there.

(Daughter) They liked it very much. My second younger sister is in the process of buying a house in China. She knows that falling leaves return to their roots. We're Chinese. She went back to our home village and donated money to the school, and bought a big truck for the village association.

A: She gave it to the village association.

Q: So after these two daughters went back to China, they were very pleased at the way things are in China, so they donated money to the school, is that correct?

A: They did, and now it's a whole big...

(Daughter) A big truck, and they also gave money to their village school to build a small library.

044 Q: Where is your home village?

(Daughter) My younger sister's home village is Sun-wui.

A: It's the county seat of Sun-wui. They bought a large piece of land to build this place. My son-in-law seems to have great faith in China.

048 Q: Where was your son-in-law born?

A: In San Francisco.

Q: They're both native-born. Then they went to China. After they went to China, they were so enthusiastic?

A: Yes, they were very excited after they went back for a look.

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(Daughter) There's nothing that special about the achievements in China. They say they're just helping the people back home.

055 Q: What does your son-in-law do?

(Daughter) He's a lawyer, a commercial lawyer.

Q: Here, or in San Francisco?

A: Here.

Q: With which firm?

A: Edward Ng. His name is Ng. He's very capable, and many people know him.

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060 Q: That's very unusual. He was born here, but he also wants to go back?

(Daughter) He wanted to go back for a visit, and he went the year before last. He felt that his children and he himself didn't know anything about their hometown, and had never seen what their home village was like. He couldn't go when he was young, and when he grew up he couldn't go either. When he did go back he saw that the children in the village were particularly backward in educational matters, so he gave the village association some money to build a small library in the school back home. He wants those children to have more books to read, more to read outside class. At the same time, he asked the village association what they lacked, and they said they lacked a truck for transporting things. He said, OK, I'll donate one. So, last year he bought a truck.

Q: This was in Sun-wui?

(Daughter) Yes. He went the year before last and ordered a house in Guangzhou too. But I don't know when it'll be built.

083 Q: Mary Chan, your son-in-law is buying land and buying a house over there. Would you like to go back someday to visit?

A: I'm so old, I won't go.

(Daughter) When the house is ready, I'll go over with her for a visit, that'll make her very happy. We Chinese have a sort of tradition -- no matter what, when the Chinese came here before, although they might be in railroads, or gold-mining, or mining, or perhaps they might have been sold here as "piggies," and they endured so many hardships, they saved their money to go back, so that their family members could live comfortably. They also bought some land, so that by the time they went home they had something to live on in their old age. That's why we Chinese could never leave our home villages. This is our second home here, but the first home is even more important.

095 Q: Living here in L.A., what sort of people are your neighbors?

A: I have an Italian landlady.

(Daughter) Most of the neighbors on both sides are Chinese on this street of ours.

A: These two households are white.

101 Q: Do you feel the neighbors here are good neighbors?

A: Good, they get along very well with us. I very seldom go out, and don't see much of anyone.

(Daughter) But those new people came over as refugees. At the same time everyone's living habits are not so... there's very little contact.

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106 Q: (to daughter) Do you think that there's anything else your mother wants to tell us about? About her life?

(Daughter) She's living with us now. It's different from the life of our elderly Chinese. Our elderly Chinese, if they have a bit of money they live very frugally and save it for their children, or else do something with it. She's a . She says, money, I used to make some, and now the government is paying me a pension, so I'll feel free to enjoy it, so that I can so justice to myself. He has no worries.

118 Q: She's in very good health, 94 years old and in extremely good health.

(Daughter) But the most unfortunate thing is her mind, she can't remember anything. After we finish talking here, if you were to leave and then come back, she wouldn't recognize you. There are times when she almost can't even recognize her daughters. She eats sparingly but has many meals. If she eats a piece of cake and drinks a cup of coffee, she'll say she's too full, but after an hour she'll be looking for something to eat.

127 Q: Do her three daughters now come to see her from time to time?

(Daughter) My second younger sister is here. She often phones, and whenever she has time she has tea with her. Sometimes she drives us over to her place to have some fun. Her children are all married, and sometimes they take us to their places. Whenever there's a party they're sure to bring us over.

133 Q: Where does your younger sister live? *my sister lives in "New York" (?)*

(Daughter) *my sister lives in "New York" (?)*
In Hollywood. One of her children is in , that's near the fountain, *near MGM*.
Two of her children live near Hollywood. Whenever there's a party or anything going on, we see each other. The old lady is very happy.

5 141 Q: Mary Chan, was your name in the movies "Mary Chan?"

(Daughter) That's right. When she was a girl her name was Szeto Wan-oi .

Q: Under what name does she receive Social Security?

(Daughter) Mary Chan.

Q: Since she was in the movies for such a long time, does she still keep up contact with people in the movie business?

A: From time to time. For example, we invite each other on our birthdays, but ordinarily we see very little of each other because I don't have time.

157 Q: If a white were to invite Mary Chan to a birthday party, would you have to find someone to give her a ride?

(Daughter) Yes. I don't know how to drive, and I also have to work, so I have to wait till my younger sister has time.

Q: Do you still have any contact now with whites who were in the movies?

A: No.

Q: Do you ever call them?

A: Very seldom.

(Daughter) Very seldom in the last two years. In the first few years, the Chinese in the movies still kept up over the phone.

Q: Do you know the name of the Chinese in the movie business who recruits people? Is it ? It's a Chinese woman.

(Daughter) There was one who retired a few years ago whom she knows very well. I don't know those people because I came late.

172 Q: Did you know Anna May Wong?

- A: How could I not know her? I knew her very well.
Q: That Anna May Wong passed away a long time ago.
A: That's right.
Q: Do you know anything about her family?
A: She had a lot of brothers and sisters.
Q: Is her family still here?
A: I have no contact with them, I wouldn't know.
- 179 Q: It would be nice if we could find her family and interview them like this, ask them what Anna May's life was like.
(Daughter) She passed away long ago.
- 184 Q: Victor Lau Yung, I remember now -- do you know him? He's a man in his 60's.
A: I know him.
Q: He's the cook in "Bonanza," he's called "Hop Sing."
A: Oh, that's right.
(Daughter) His pigtail is still here.
Q: Did you know Victor well?
A: We had a lot of fun together. *We played together.*
- 199 Q: There's a Keye Luke, do you know him?
A: No, I don't.
Q: (?) Benson Fong?
A: (?) worked with me in the movies, we were all in the same group. Now we're old and have nothing.
Q: Benson Fong runs a restaurant.
A: Yes.
Q: I hear that Keye Luke has married a very rich non-Chinese. He's much older than her.
A: Lots of money, lots of houses, lots of businesses.
Q: But much older than her. I hear he doesn't need to act in movies at all any longer. I saw him about 10 years ago, the woman was rather plump.
A: They're all my old friends, we were in the movies. We've been together for a long time.
(Daughter) Now whites like to marry us Chinese. Why? They say we Chinese love our husbands and our families.
Q: Are whites like that, divorce-prone?
(Daughter) We Chinese are thrifty and (?), that's good.
Q: We East Asians are pretty good in everything, but there are also some very bad ones, so it's hard to say.
(Daughter) But now I wonder if the world has changed.
- 218 Q: You've made so many movies in the past, do you like to watch movies now?
A: Yes.
Q: Here?
A: Just next door.
(Daughter) She's sees them at least five times a week, over and over.
- 224 Q: So for recreation you like to go see movies at the cinema. What kind of movies do they show? Chinese films?
A: Some are.
Q: Oh, so it's just a quick walk away. Do you get bored seeing movies every day?
A: There's nowhere to go, so I can only take walks and see movies.
- 7 234 Q: Do you play mahjong?

A: Yes, a little bit.

Q: How many times do you play each week?

A: It's not definite, if there are enough people we'll keep on playing here.

(Daughter) Because she's old, she and her friends don't go to the association, and there are fewer friends. Sometimes some friends will say, "We'll come over to your place to play some mahjong," so they'll get two or three people together and come play, once or twice a month.

A: They used to come every day.

244 Q: Besides playing mahjong and seeing movies, do you have any other hobbies?

A: I like to go to Las Vegas.

Q: You like to go?

A: To Las Vegas. I've won, too.

Q: When was the last time you were there?

(Daughter) Two months ago.

A: It took longer this time, because nobody went.

Q: We just went there. We went with someone (?), and only came back Sunday.

A: I really like to go, I never do badly there.

(Daughter) You go there to be the "Quartermaster," sending all the money to the casinos!

255 Q: Do you have to get someone to go with you?

A: Yes.

(Daughter) Because my temperament is not like hers.

A: She's not of a gambling temperament, she saves her money.

(Daughter) I've only been here a short while, and I don't make much money at my job. I only make one or two hundred dollars a month, and I don't have much money. After paying rent and other daily expenses, I don't have a penny (?) left.

262 Q: Do you live here?

(Daughter) I live with my mother, and we both pay the rent, each pays half. Out of my two hundred dollars I pay seventy or eighty in rent. Daily expenses, friends, clothing, incidentals, everything comes out of that. I'm getting on in years too.

Q: It doesn't matter, as long as you have enough for your needs.

(Daughter) I feel it's really not worth it. You pay twenty-odd dollars busfare, and you still have to spend the night on the bus, mistreating your own spirits, so I always (?) Sometimes my younger sister drives out over there to see a show. After the show, we have a big meal. Then I go. If you told me to go to the casinos, how could I spend the night there? When you go, you already have to have a plan, how much money you're bringing, how much you'll lose before you quit, and sometimes I can't afford it. As for her, it goes without saying.

280 Q: Now, Mary, I see you keep exercising...

(End)