

A collaboration between Chinese community leaders and the Baptist church in Cleveland in 1937, remarkable at that time, raised funds to build a boarding school to educate Chinese children who were denied admission to white schools by Mississippi law. Its educational goals were hampered as it had only two teachers, one for younger and one for older children, who had to teach a range of subject matter. School days were exhausting for students as they also received Chinese language instruction in the late afternoon. Although the school operated effectively for only a few years, it had a significant impact on the personal development of its students. The collected reminiscences in this book attest that the school instilled the value of education and forged many lasting bonds among students. Their narratives give rich details about their lives before, during and after attending the school. Almost all had immigrant parents who operated family-run grocery stores in which the children also worked. Later, most graduated from college and went on to engage in successful careers. By creating the Chinese Mission School, the Delta Chinese not only promoted education for their children, but increased their community participation and advanced their acceptance in the community.

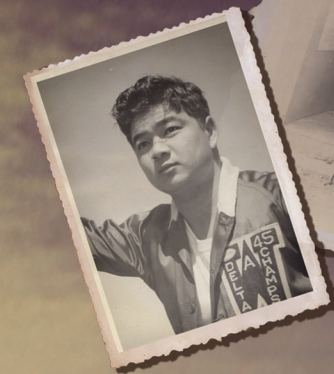
John Jung,
*Chopsticks in the Land of Cotton:
 Lives of Mississippi Delta Chinese Grocers*

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