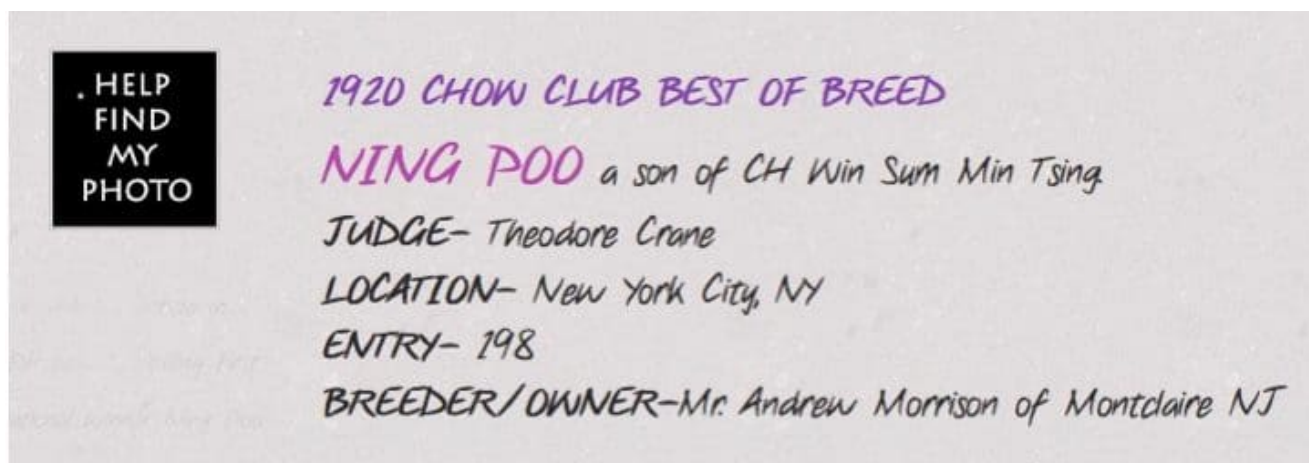


1920 First Chow Club of America Specialty Show



NING POO WAS BEST OF BREED WINNER AT THE FIRST CHOW NATIONAL IN 1920....PHOTO IS HARD TO LOCATE

Below you will find 2 incredible articles from 1920. One is an indepth report of the first Chow Club of America's National Specialty in 1920. Held in conjunction with the Westminster Kennel Club the show drew a total of 245 total entries(double and triple entering classes was very popular in the day) The other article is an announcement of the show, one month before it took place. Both provide an insight into the popularity of this quickly developing breed in America. I hope to add photos of some of the dogs and people mentioned in the articles to illustrate better the vibe of the show.

[PDF VERSION OF FIRST ARTICLE](#) [1920 FIRST CHOW NATIONAL](#)



1920 FIRST CHOW NATIONAL

A VERY RARE FIND DOCUMENTING THE
EVENTS OF THIS HISTORIC SHOW .

SOURCE: DOGDOM MONTHLY MARCH 1920



	<h2>CHOW CHOWS</h2> <p><i>By JOHN JAY ADAMS</i></p>	
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On Tuesday, February 10, at the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel in New York City, the Chow Chow Club of America held its first specialty show with the record showing two hundred forty-five entries and one hundred thirty-one dogs. The show was held in the midst of a severe blizzard, which



BENJAMIN F. EARL'S CHOW, MOEY SING

caused a tie-up of most of the transportation lines, but over forty-five of the sixty exhibitors braved the storm and managed to bring nearly one hundred chows, making the show a big success in every way. Theodore Crane was the judge and he was most ably assisted by Dr. E. H. Berendsohn, who, with his assistants, kept the classes rotating perfectly. The bench show committee, through whose untiring efforts the show was made such a record breaker, included the following well known ladies and gentlemen: Mrs. E. C. Waller, Mr. Waller, Dr. Henry Jarrett, John Z. Adams and John E. R. Mudgett. George F. Foley was the superintendent.

The classes were all well filled, and some of them were very large, notably the limit dogs, with 17 entries, and the American-bred bitches, with 21, or almost a five-point show in one class. Among the winners worthy of special mention were Mrs. A. A. Koswick's handsome six months' cream puppy, Silver Lion, which captured the blue in a class of ten, under nine months. Then came MacMonnies and Gomez' Maxown Punch, whose win caused some discussion on account of a very slight brownish tinge on the nose, which the writer does not believe should be severely penalized, and that the dog was rightly placed by Mr. Crane. (This decision was, however, reversed the following day at the Westminster show by another judge.) Another exceptional puppy in this class was Mrs. David S. Ward's Wu Fang II., with his wonderful head and heavy bone, which improves every time he is shown.

American-bred for reds brought out the winning dog in Andrew Morison's deep red Ming Poo. Although not in the best of coat he won easily, shown perfectly with the best of front legs and rare cat-like feet, short body, small dark eyes, attractive general appearance, wonderfully handled and trained, he captured the blue from John Richardson's Lu Cheng, a grand red youngster, with a better head but lacking the charm of the older dog.

Mrs. E. C. Waller's Hok-Lo-Foo added to his laurels by defeating Tarnedge Kennels' exceptional black importation, Pecknall Ah Lo, which looked very much alive, although I erroneously reported this same dog as dead by mistake in last month's DOGDOM. The largest class in the male division was the limit, with seventeen entries, first again going to Ning Poo, which found stiff competition in Mrs. H. B. Torrey's Doiran, whose grand head and abundant coat were not sufficient with this judge to offset the perfect legs, body, color and ring manners of the winner.

Open red was a repeat in first and second, but gave some of Ch. Yuey's admirers a feeling of regret when he dropped to third; his age at last has told on his soundness. The winning dog and best chow was Ning Poo, with Doiran reserve, while best chow, bred by exhibitor, was won by Champion Yuey. In the junior class for dogs Lu Cheng showed his class and demonstrated why he was the runner-up to Ning Poo and Doiran in some of the big classes.

The bitch classes were very large and most difficult to adjudicate, but it seemed to the writer that the winning bitch, Ch. Windholme Wanlung, ran away with the winners' rosette with a lot to spare, and that Alansten Ah Wing might have been given reserve winners over Sky Hy. However, with probably the largest entry a chow judge was ever called upon to face, Mr. Crane handled his difficult task with the greatest care and skill, and I am sure he has gained the full confidence of the chow world.

Mrs. Monterio Gomes, of Sound Beach, Conn., entered five dogs in the specialty show in sixteen different classes, making twenty-seven entries, a record for liberality that will be hard to beat. The average exhibitor enters his dogs in one or two classes and lets it go at that. We venture to predict Mrs. Gomes will not have to write the show superintendents for premium lists for quite sometime.

Last month's chow news contained the announcement of the purchase by Mr. Andrew Morison of that sterling black Pecknall Ah Lo, adding that he had died soon after changing ownership, but happily this is a mistake; the dog Mr. Morison purchased was another black. The above statement was given me by a reliable person in good faith, but as Ah Lo was the runner up in his color at the specialty show, it goes to show that everybody makes mistakes at times.

Moey Sing, shown this month, is the property of his breeder, Benjamin F. Earl, of Boston. He is a fine red of good coat and quality. Sired by Wah Hang, he is out of San Toy, and reflects great credit on his breeder. Mr. Earl refused an offer of \$800.00 for him at the late Boston show.

Four unusually good pups are the result of the first venture in chow breeding, of Mrs. Harrison M. Pridham, of Asbury Park, N. J. They are by Ch. Lord Cholmondeley II and out of Ko Ko of Kildysart, a Ch. Joss and Sun Nee bred bitch. All the pups are dark red, with very heavy bone and coat. Mrs. Pridham has been a breeder of Pekinese for a number of years, but has at last succumbed to the fascination of the other Chinese dog, the chow.

To show how strong the breed is coming in the New York section, there were nearly twenty novice exhibitors at the Chow Chow Club's show and over four times as many as the average Westminster show for the past five years, and while the storm kept down the attendance somewhat, it was very satisfactory. The Chow Chow club of America has now the largest membership in its history and has prospered greatly during the past year.

The mail of the Adamston Kennels, which is quite large, has of late shown an increasing demand for bitch puppies in the ratio of over three females wanted to every male, most of these letters coming from the middle west.

Mr. John Richardson's splendid red male, Lu Cheng, won nearly \$200.00 worth of silver cups and special cash prizes, etc., including the special Chinese Chum memorial prize, given by Mr. Charles E. Proctor, Mrs. James Speyer's \$60.00 silver cup, Mr. Morison's silver cup, and the Adamston Kennels' special gold prize, and others.

The largest exhibitor was the Southwood Kennels, owned by the club's new president, Mrs. Edward L. Clarkson, who showed twelve. A close second was Mrs. E. C. Waller's eleven, and Tarnedge Kennels third, with eight. The exhibitor making the most entries, regardless of the number of dogs, was Mrs. A. V. Montiero Gomes, who had her five blues and creams in the record number of twenty-seven classes! Other large entrants were the Blue Dragon Kennels, five; Adamston Kennels, five; Bainbridge Kennels, four; Coassock Kennels, four; Mr. and Mrs. T. W. Downs, four; Miss Claire A. Knapp, five; Mrs. John Richardson, five; Mrs. M. J. Sexton, four; and John J. Greene, three. The exhibitor coming the greatest distance to show was Mr. Charles H. Breman, of Detroit, Michigan.

MARCH, 1920

PRICE 20 CENTS

DOGDOM

ARTICLE BELOW IS BEFORE THE SHOW- JANUARY 1920

Chow Chow Show Proves Quick Popularity of Dog

Exhibition Will Be Held in Big Hotel Here Next Month

By J. S. Mitchel

The Chow Chow, or what was once known as the "edible dog of the East," is slated for extra recognition by the end of next month, for the Chow Chow Club of America has decided to hold a special show in one of the big hotels here. Although the breed has enjoyed official recognition from the Westminster Kennel Club for the last fifteen years there has never been a special exhibit, and the fanciers thought it was about time some definite move was made toward gathering a little more popularity for this attractive and companionable dog.

Prior to 1903 very little was known of the Chow, and what was shown as specimens of the breed figured chiefly in miscellaneous classes, and was regarded as more or less of a curiosity, for the general run of fanciers and others were led to believe that the dog was raised in China principally to supply chow steaks and chops for the table, and that only the ultra-wealthy in the Mongolian empire enjoyed these table dainties.

Whether or not this reputed feature of Chow existence is true has never been established, and neither has it been very emphatically contradicted, but the idea has gradually diminished among the general followers of the canine race. In the Westminster Kennel Club catalogue of 1901 a Chow or two of what was supposed to be pure specimens of the dog were entered, but they were afterward found to be unworthy of the title, although they did happen to be brought from China.

Proctor First to Show Chow

To Charles E. Proctor belongs the credit of showing the first real Chow in America, in 1903. He was followed by John Z. Adams, who has for years been the foremost fancier of the breed on this side of the water. At the last show in Madison Square Garden Mrs. John Z. Adams showed Champion Lord Cholmondeley II, a dog with an unbeaten record up to that time, and even then he gave Champion Yuey a close rub in the winner's class for dogs.

After a long study of the points of these two dogs John Richardson, the judge, gave the rosette to Yuey, Lord Cholmondeley II, whose picture is shown here, getting the reserve. A young dog which attracted a lot of attention in the novice class was Nippon, owned by Mrs. William Fitzgerald.

It is nearly thirty-five years since the first specimens of this dog began to appear in England, and they were all imported from China. The formation of the Chow-Chow Club did a lot toward the standardization of the breed, which, after only a few years, took its class beside the poodle as a popular companion. It has the one trait which always recommends it to the woman fancier above all other pets, and that is it knows only one mistress.

It will grow attached to one mistress, or master for that matter, and will not divide its affection, giving attention now to one and afterward to some one else. It remains the most constant slave of whoever happens to gain its favor, and no amount of coaxing by others will succeed in diminishing its devotion. To the general observer the Chow is a "stand offish" sort of dog, but such conduct is far from the genial instinct of the representative from China.

No foreign dog ever imported into England or America has thrived better than the Chow. On the whole, they are hardy and capable of undergoing a great amount of hardship. One thing peculiar about the Chow is that it is easy enough to discern the specimens produced in England or the United States from the ones imported direct from China. As a general rule, those seen here and on the other side of the Atlantic are a solid red, while the importations show a sort of grayish-white breeching on the inside of the legs.

Forty-Pound Dogs Best Formed

It is largely a matter of fancy what size a Chow might be, but it has been found that dogs weighing between forty and fifty pounds as a general rule show the best conformation as to coat, head marking, body, legs and other points.

When the Chow began to earn notice at the Old World shows the color of the coat came in for a lot of criticism, and as to what might be accepted as the most fashionable caused unlimited concern among the connoisseurs. Many were of the opinion that the red should be accepted as the standard, but not a few favored the yellow, fawn, black and white, while, of course, the real dyed-in-the-wool students had it that the blue was the most beautiful and should be given precedence above all others.

As a sort of extra point of beauty in the blue Chows, it was said the really correct shade should show that the backs of the thighs should be a lighter hue, and that the under side of the tail should be the same shade as the thighs. A dog correctly marked according to these points at the present time is as rare as the dodo, although it has been claimed by some breeders on the other side that they have produced dogs marked on these lines.

One point of the Chow which the modern judge of the bench show looks into most critically is the coat, and, irrespective of all other markings, a good coat will go a long way toward securing the winning ribbon. There are two kinds of coats—the rough and smooth—the former being the most popular.

Rough Coat Should Be Dense

When of the right texture the rough coat should be dense, straight and rather coarse to the touch, and with a soft woolly undercoat. Toward the neck it should be prolonged into a frill, and to induce these features the coat should always be brushed the wrong way, or against the grain. In the smooth variety the Chow's coat should be perfectly flat, and smooth.

Next to the coat the head is the important point of the Chow, and to conform to orthodox lines it should be broad and flat with a broad muzzle, a tendency to narrowness in the latter point being a defect. The muzzle should be blunt and the nostrils broad. The neck should be rather short, with the tail well curled over the back.

Disqualifying points in a Chow are red nostrils, red tongue and drooping ears. What is styled as the cat-foot is accepted as the correct thing in the feet of the Chow, and the legs should be of a fair length and perfectly straight. Above all, the hock should be straight, for this has always been regarded as one of the characteristic points of the breed.
