

1913 – A Question of Shaded Chows – Blue Joss

CIRCA 1913 - A QUESTION OF SHADED CHOWS

WHAT WILL AMERICANS DO?

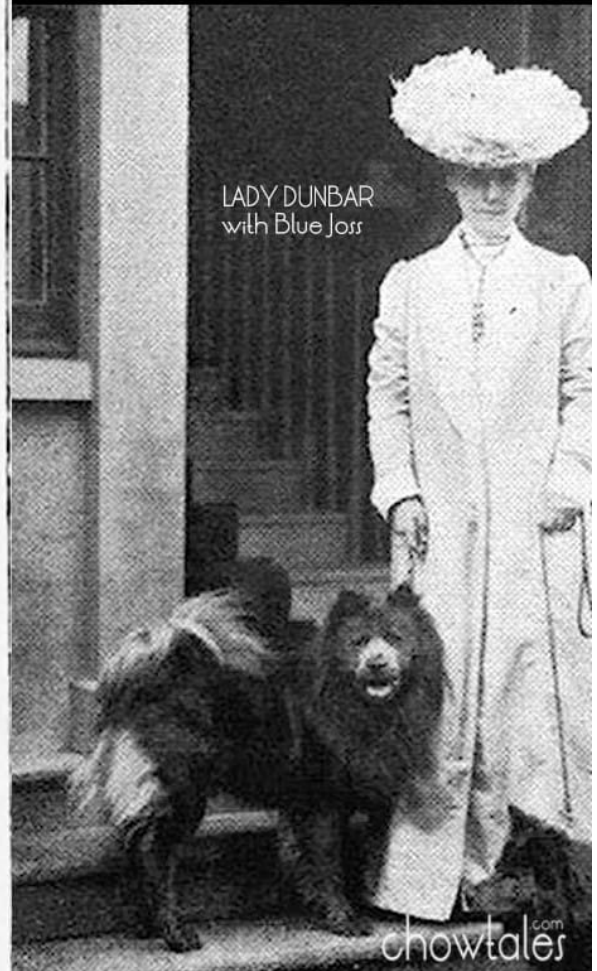
England Sets Precedent in Shaded Chows, Making Them Eligible.

The news from England that classes will be made for shaded Chow Chows should be gratifying to those who own typical specimens which are shaded in color. At almost every show one can see really good specimens of this truly Chinese breed beaten on account of light shadings in the mane and breechin'.

A test case was made recently in England by Sir William Dunbar, who protested against the action of Walter H. Reeves, who, it will be remembered, judged at the Philadelphia, Chicago and Boston shows, in putting Lady Dunbar's noted winner, Blue Joss, out of the class at the Chow Club show in London. The dog was entered in the "white shaded class," Mr. Reeves giving it the gate because of its light shadings, stating that the dog was not eligible. The club found that shaded exhibits of any color were eligible to compete.

It will be interesting to know what the American Chow Club will do on the question of shaded specimens. As it stands at the present moment a dog with any decided shadings is severely handicapped.

100 years ago, shaded chows would have been "given the gate" by judges. Today this is the most common coloring in chows



It is interesting to read how the trends in chow coloration have changed over the years. The original imports from China were chosen for their deep rich "self" or solid red or black coats, so when some of the shadings started to appear in the ring, they were penalized. Shadings (gradual transition of color with no defined patches) were always in our breed even

in pre importing from China. Once the shadings became fashionable, the self red has become very difficult to find.

It makes me think of what the Chinese in the 1800's described the common chow being.... pale and washed out, with the solid reds being highly prized. Today, most colors in our breed with "shadings", seem to be a very dominate coloration

[1906 CHOW STANDARD](#) in America states on coat color:

COLOR – Whole-coloured, black, red, yellow, blue, white etc. not in patches. (The under part of tail and back of thighs frequently of a lighter colour)

[1925 CHOW STANDARD](#) in America changes wording to "shadings"

COLOR – Any clear color, solid throughout, or, with lighter shadings on ruff, tail and breeching.

[1941 CHOW STANDARD](#) in America is amended further to include coat texture description

COAT – Abundant, dense, straight, and off-standing: rather coarse in texture with a soft , woolly undercoat. It may be any clear color, solid throughout, with lighter shadings on ruff, tail and breechings.

[1986 CHOW STANDARD](#) in America is rewritten from ground up and includes further clarification of the 5 acceptable colors. This standard is what we use today.

COLOR

Clear colored, solid or solid with lighter shadings in the ruff, tail and featherings. There are five colors in the Chow: red (light golden to deep mahogany), black, blue, cinnamon (light fawn to deep cinnamon) and cream. Acceptable colors to be judged on an equal basis.
