

**1914- 8 Chinese import chows
– Judge William P. James –
1st west coast chow kennel**

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How Would You Like to Own One of These?



Real Chinese.

A KENNEL OF CHOW CHOWS.

JUDGE JAMES HAS EIGHT FINE SPECIMENS.

Dogs Are Pure Chinese, Four of Them Having Been Imported Recently, and the Judge Hopes to Win Some Prizes With the Puppies.

BY WILLIAM M. HENRY.

Judge William P. James of the Court of Appeals is, among other things, a good judge of dogs.

At his home in South Pasadena the judge has a regular young menagerie with pheasants, peafowl, fifty-seven varieties of ducks and various other rare birds including the rarest of them all, the egg-laying hen, but his chief delight is in the kennel of Chinese Chow-Chow dogs, the only one of its kind on the Coast.

The Chow Chow dog is a very well-named animal. It is easily recognizable as a dog and is also recognizable as a Chinese variety of canine because of the fact that it carries a pig-tail, its caudal appendage appearing that of the slightly pork in twist and general contour though carried in the air in a more jaunty manner.

Judge James secured the first of these dogs, Craze of China, called "Crazy" for short, in Chicago, where she was bred to a champion Chow



Judge James' Chow Chow dogs.

Above at the left is "Jet," just over from China. "Jet" is very wary of the camera and looks it. On the right is "Wang" a six months' old puppy that looks like a coming prize winner. Below is William James with the two four weeks old pups "Dignity" and "Impudence."

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This 1914 article from the Los Angeles times is really interesting in the number of imports the Judge brought from China during a time when the chow was rarely seen on the west coast, in fact the article states the judge had the ONLY kennel of chows on the west coast. Most chows in these early years of the breed in America were located on the east coast in New York , Rhode Island...a couple in Pennsylvania.

After a bit or research I discovered that Judge James ended up 9 years following this article, serving on the Southern California district court. (details below the article)

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Judge James secured the first of these dogs, Craze of China, called "Crazy" for short, in Chicago, where she was bred to a champion Chow named Ching, winner of over fifty prizes. Craze has three pups, six months old, all of them a beautiful tawny color, with fur as soft as that of a fox.

In addition to "Craze" and the pups, Judge James has four new Chows brought straight from China. Two of them "Jet" and "Li," are jet black and are about a year old, while "Li" has two little puppies only a few weeks old, named "Dignity" and "Impudence" because of their temperaments.

"Jet," the big black from China, has not yet become accustomed to his new surroundings, and, though perfectly amiable and quiet once his master's hands are on him, is still a little wild and runs around with the pre-occupied air of a stranger in a strange land.

"Wang," a six-months-old puppy with beautiful yellow fur, as soft as any ermine muff, is the especial pride of Judge James. He has just reached his full growth, weighing about forty pounds, and the judge hopes to capture some prizes with him at the next dog show.

He has all the characteristics of the thoroughbred Chow. Long muscular legs, as straight as those of a cat, heavy shoulders covered with a magnificent, tawny mane, sharp ears, sticking straight up, black tongue and curled-up tail.

One of the peculiarities of the Chow is his method of fighting. The Chow is ordinarily a very peaceable animal, but when angered or frightened is a terror, being perfectly equipped by nature for defending himself. Two Chows when fighting rear upon their hind legs somewhat after the manner of lions and while clawing at each other with their fore-paws, make for the throat with their teeth.

A queer thing about the Chow dog is that, in spite of its size, it is a very light eater and also a very careful one. The digesting apparatus of the Chow is exceedingly temperamental and delicate and the owner is forced to be careful in feeding it. The ordinary dog is able to eat and digest almost anything, including pieces of bone, but the Chow's delicate constitution demands something more easily masticated than a bone, as many a Chow owner has found to his sorrow.

SOURCE :WIKIPEDIA

William P. James (January 10, 1870 – July 28, 1940) was a United States federal judge.

Born in Buffalo, New York, James began his career in private practice in Los Angeles, California. He was a judge on the Superior Court of Los Angeles County, California from 1905 to 1910, and on the California Court of Appeals from 1910 to 1923.

On March 2, 1923, James was nominated by President Warren G. Harding to a new seat on the United States District Court for the Southern District of California created by 42 Stat. 837. He was confirmed by the United States Senate on March 3, 1923, and received his commission the same day. James served in that capacity until his death, in 1940.