# 1918 ARTICLE & RARE PHOTOS ABOUT THE CHOW & NATIONAL

# Chow Chow Show Proves Quick Popularity of Dog

This article below was in such incredible condition and easy to read after I took the yellow out that I decided to post it in it's entirety for everyone to enjoy. It quickly breaks down the breed's brief history in the USA (at 1918) and covers some nuances of the standard which have I have not seen before in all the research I have done. The icing on the cake are the 3 rare pictures of some of history's most perfect chows. A delightful read for those in other breeds as well.

~Sandra Miller CHOWTALES curator



TOP-Mrs W.L. Fitzgerald's Nippon

LEFT-Mrs John Z Adams Lord Cholmondeley II

# 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 band figured chiefly miscellaneous classes, and was regarded as more or tess 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 reserve 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.

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 As a general rule, those from China. seen here and on the other side of the Atlantic are a solid red, while the importations show a sort of grayishwhite 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 brunt 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.