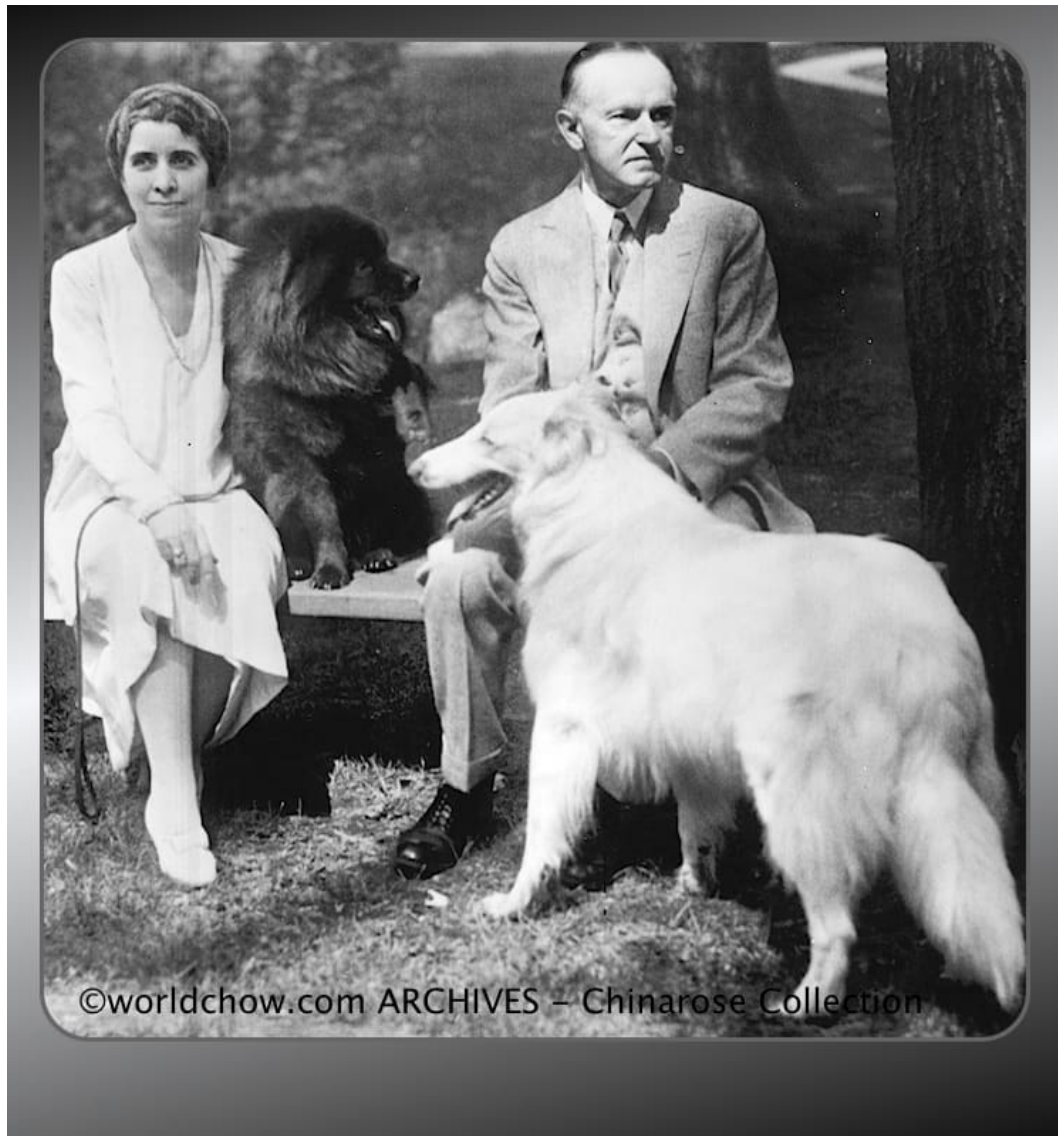


THEY PUT THE 'COOL' IN COOLIDGE



This historic and stunning image of Grace and Calvin Coolidge with their chow 'Blackberry' and white collie 'Rob Roy' was an incredible find and the original 8x10 photo is in our private collection. The love this family had for it's companion animals was unsurpassed.

"Any man who does not like dogs and want them about, does not deserve to be in the White House."

'Calvin and Grace Coolidge certainly lived up to those words—and more. Before, during, and after their White House years, the Coolidges kept a dizzying array of pets. From cats and dogs, canaries and mockingbirds, to wombats and raccoons, the Coolidges surrounded themselves with four- footed or feathered creatures.'

~from [Wombats and Such by David Pietrusza](#)



ABOVE IS GRACE COOLIDGE AND POSSIBLY THE RED DOG 'TINY TIM' AS A PUPPY

Source The Calvin Coolidge Presidential Foundation:

"Tiny Tim the chow – Mr. Coolidge and I shared the same birthday- the 4th of July! I was a red chow-chow, and another favorite of Mrs. Coolidge. Mr. Coolidge and I did not get along, and I quickly became known as Terrible Tim."



1920's Grace Coolidge with Tiny Tim



1920's Grace Coolidge with Tiny Tim



President Calvin Coolidge in front of his fathers cheese factory in Vermont, with first lady Grace and their chow Blackberry. Still in existence this factory is called Plymouth Artisan Cheese.

And how COOL is this photo of The Coolidges with Blackberry in front of the Cheese Factory/General store



The Calvin and Grace Coolidge with their chow, Blackberry on the steps of the General Store in Plymouth Notch, summer 1931.

Courtesy of the Yankee Publishing Collection.

This photo was taken in the same location as the previous one and judging by what the Coolidges were wearing , also at the same time.




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This is another gem in our personal collection taken during Calvin Coolidges' campaign of 1924. In my research I discovered the family spent a lot of time in The Black Hills of South Dakota on campaign and took their dogs with them

Source: The Calvin Coolidge Presidential Foundation

Blackberry the Chow – "Although the Coolidges had Tiny Tim and Calamity Jane, I entered the Coolidge's life during the family

trip to the Black Hills. I was a beautiful, well-bred black chow-chow. Even my mouth was black! I did not end up stay long with Mr. and Mrs. Coolidge, as I became a gift from John Coolidge to his "Certain Young Lady".



Focusing on Grace Coolidge's well publicized love for her animals, including Rob Roy the white collie, these letters, written to the breeder who sold Blackberry to Grace Coolidge, offer a fine glimpse into the heart of an animal lover and her devotion to her pets. I would have loved to have known this fascinating woman in person! These letters were sold at auction for an unknown sum.

I HAVE ADDED PHOTOS FROM THE WORLDCHOW ARCHIVE AS WELL AS MY OWN PERSONAL COLLECTION TO THESE LETTERS SHOWING GRACE AND BLACKBERRY TOGETHER.



Description of correspondence from photo above

GRACE COOLIDGE [1879-1957).

First Lady of the United States.


1.) Typed Letter Signed, Grace Coolidge," on gold embossed The White House Washington letterhead bearing an embossed U.S. Seal. One page, 5" x 8 1/8". Superior, Wisconsin. August 23, 1928.

Accompanied by original The White House, Washington envelope. With black, circular Superior, Wis." postal cancellation and two cent stamp.

**Coolidge writes to Mr. Lester Heinsheimer,
Sioux Fall, South Dakota,**

" in part: I thank you for you kind letter. It is very difficult for me to say ~No' to you offer of one of your beautiful Chow puppies. However I felt that I ought not to add to my dog family just now as we are so soon to leave Washington and I do not know what the plans for the future may be.

I might not be situated so that I could take care of many dogs and I could never bring myself to part with another ~Blackberry'. Mrs. Turnbull wrote me a short time ago that she was well and happy. She has lost her puppy hair and now has a shiny black coat. She is down in Maine with the family, having a good time. When at home in Plainville, she accompanies the Governor on a two mile walk, every morning rain or shine.



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Not for reprint



CALVIN COOLIDGE AND BLACKBERRY

Grace and son John smuggled Blackberry, a black chow, along on the summer 1927 presidential trip to the Black Hills. Blackberry eventually became the property of John's fiancé

2) Autograph Letter Signed, Grace Coolidge," on gold embossed The White House Washington letterhead bearing an embossed U.S. Seal. Three pages, 5 3/8" x 8 1/8". Washington, D.C. April 22, 1928. Accompanied by original The White House, Washington envelope. With black, circular Washington, D.C" postal cancellation and two cent stamp.

**Coolidge writes to Mr. Lester Heinsheimer,
The Home Furniture Co., Sioux Fall, South
Dakota,"**

in part: She [Mrs. Turnbull] and her mother certainly do like ~Blackberry." She has taken possession of the house and fits into the picture in an amazing way. Miss Trumbull has a sport Packard roadster, black and orange, nicknamed "The Black Horse" and Miss Blackberry with an orange bow on her harness is quite stunning seated therein. Thanking you for your kindness and assuring you of my appreciation of your offer to send me another dog, of which I may avail myself when more permanently located



CALVIN COOLIDGE AND TINY TIM

Tiny Tim was the president's birthday gift. He was sometimes called "Terrible Tim" as he and Mr. Coolidge never did see eye to eye

3) Autograph Letter Signed, Grace Coolidge," on gold embossed The White House Washington letterhead bearing an embossed U.S. Seal. Three pages, 5 3/8" x 8 1/8". Washington, D.C.

December 12, 1927. Accompanied by original envelope. Black, circular Washington, D.C." postal cancellation and two cent stamp present, but cut from envelope. Remainder of upper portion of envelope not present.

**Coolidge writes to Mr. Lester Heinsheimer,
The Home Furniture Company, Sioux Fall,
South Dakota,"**

in part: You first letter enclosing the application blank for registration of the black Chow Chow puppy which you have me came but I delayed acknowledging it as I had the impression that I should hear from you again You will be happy to know that ~Blackberry' is developing satisfactorily.

She weights [sic] twenty pounds and is strong and full of life and energy. I think she rather rules the family including Rob Roy" with whom she is great friends. He is as gentle with her as can be. I must have some pictures taken of the puppy in order that you may see how she looks after three months.

On the journey from the Black Hills ~Blackberry' shared my room and she was as good as good could be and not a bit of trouble. She has plenty of exercise in the south grounds and seems happy and contented.



PRIZE WINNING BEAUTIES—These four Chow puppies look a trifle ennuied. They are, perhaps, tired of stellar honors, for they come of a family of prize winners raised by Lester Heinsheimer, of Sioux Falls, S. D. Each won a first prize at the last National Dog Show.

chowtales.com

The
Coolidges
with
Blackberry

These puppies were bred and owned by Lester Heinsheimer who was the breeder that gifted the famous chow "Blackberry" to President & Grace Coolidge.

I have searched for a long time trying to find more information about this South Dakota breeder. This photo above is a rare one.





CALVIN COOLIDGE WITH BLACKBERRY

Grace and son John smuggled Blackberry, a black chow, along on the summer 1927 presidential trip to the Black Hills. Blackberry eventually became the property of John's fiancé **came the property of John's fiancé**



Mr. Howard and Mrs. Matilda Coffin of Sapelo Island, Georgia, meeting the President and First Lady at the Sea Island Yacht Club in December 1928 -courtesy The Mary Counihan Collection

.BY MRS. CALVIN COOLIDGE



Mrs. Coolidge With Tiny Tim and Ebenezer, the Democratic Donkey

Circa 1930 – Mrs Calvin Coolidge with the Chow puppy
Tiny Tim

MRS. COOLIDGE GIVES WHITE HOUSE CHOW TO JOHN'S GIRL FLORENCE TRUMBULL

Northampton, Mass., March 30.—
(AP)—The White house has lost a
pet and Miss Florence Trumbull,
daughter of the governor of Con-
necticut, and friend of John Cool-
idge, son the present, has acquired
one.

Blackberry, a black chow, was
presented to the president and Mrs.
Coolidge in South Dakota last sum-
mer. Mrs. Coolidge brought it here
with her early in the week when
she came on to visit her mother,
Mrs. Lemira Goodhue, who is ill.

Yesterday, she gave the dog to
Miss Trumbull, who had greatly ad-
mired it, and last night when the
Connecticut governor's daughter
drove off for Hartford in her sport
roadster, she took Blackberry with
her.

4) Autograph Letter Signed, Grace Coolidge," on gold embossed The White House Washington letterhead bearing an embossed U.S. Seal. Three pages, 5 3/8" x 8 1/8". Washington, D.C. April 14, 1928. Accompanied by original The White House, Washington envelope. With black, circular Washington, D.C" postal cancellation and two cent stamp.

Coolidge writes to Mr. Lester Heinsheimer, The Chow Farm., Sioux Fall, South Dakota,"

in part: Miss Trumbull told me that she had received a letter from you in which you told her that you would send her the transfer papers for ~Blackberry' it occurs to me that it may be to you to have the original papers in the transaction and I am herewith sending them.

My son has been very anxious that I should send Miss Blackberry to Miss Trumbull from the first and while I was sorry to part with her I took him up with me to Northampton and told Miss Trumbull I wanted her back if she decided she didn't want her [rather hoping she wouldn't) I have lost the dog however, for the entire family are already devoted to her. She is a beautiful dog

AND LAST BUT NOT LEAST...INCREDIBLE AND EXTREMELY RARE FOOTAGE

OF THE COOLIDGES WITH TWO CHOWS

TINY TIM (the dark red dog) AND A YOUNG CHOW PUPPY IN OUTTAKES
FROM A 20TH CENTURY FOX NEWSREEL



These 2 amazing photos below I found in the New York Public Library. They coincide with the time frame of the video above after Calvin Coolidge and Grace moved from the Whitehouse , into their private home in Northampton, MA. The chow is most likely the deep red dog Tiny Tim as Blackberry was given to the Coolidge son's fiance in 1928.



June 1930 Ex President and Mrs. Coolidge at new home in Northampton, MA



chowtales.com

June 1930 Ex President and Mrs. Coolidge at new home in Northampton, MA



2635X500 "S" COOLIDGE.

MRS. COOLIDGE AND HER NEW BLACK HILL
PETS.

Chicago, Aug. 2-27:- Diana, the new white Collie, given to Mrs. Coolidge, after the death of Prudence Prim, Tiny Tim, the Chow, and the Democratic Donkey, Ebenezer, present a varied trio as they are pictured with the First Lady on the grounds of the State Game Lodge, where the President and Mrs. Coolidge are vacationing in the Black Hills of South Dakota.

Circa 1927 Original
Press Photo of
Mrs Coolidge with
the presidential
Chow named
"Tiny Tim"



In the private collection
and restored by
Sandra Miller 2020

Circa 1930 - President and Grace Coolidge relaxing at their home with their chow "Tiny Tim" in the presidents' retirement in Northampton



Circa 1931 - President and Grace Coolidge with their red chow "Tiny Tim" who was the favorite of all the Whitehouse pets, and truly loved by the Coolidges.



Circa 1930 - President and Grace Coolidge posing with their chow Tim and Prudence Prim the Scotch collie at their new home following his time at the Whitehouse.



Original press photo in the private collection of Sandra Miller