1920 FIRST CHOW NATIONAL

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



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CHOW CHOWS



By JOHN JAY ADAMS

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 fivepoint 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 Pekingese 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.

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