

Sadly invaluable advice given by Mrs Parker in 'The Popular Pomeranian' published in 1929 regarding colour breeding was also severely edited in the 2nd edition of her book. Mrs Elsie Parker (1861 – 1930) was the first Secretary of the Midland Counties Pomeranian Club founded in 1908 leaving this post in 1910. She was the Secretary of The Pomeranian Club from 1920 to 1928 inclusive. Mrs Parker's book was revised after her death by Miss Wilson of Dara Pomeranians in 1937. Miss Wilson was the Secretary of the South of England Pomeranian Club from 1938 - 1942.

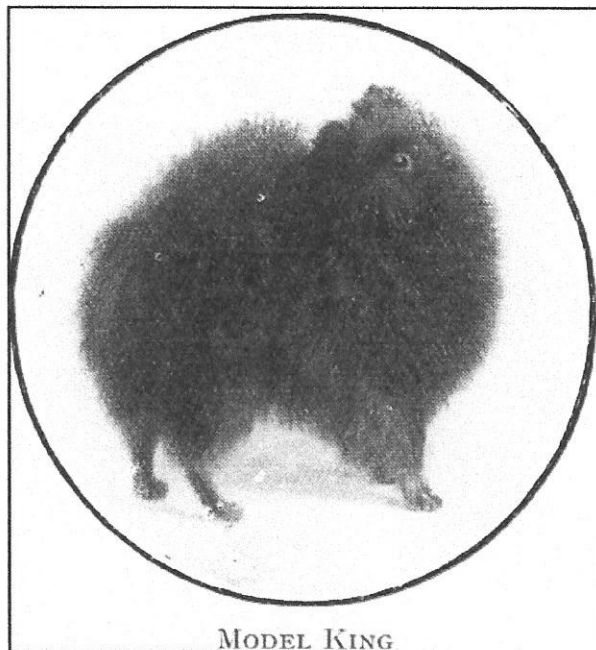
Mrs Parker wrote about the *invaluable contribution of black and tan Poms* in orange and shaded sable breeding programmes! Mrs Parker's Ch Mars was the pillar of the breed for the colour orange - so it is reasonable to assume she knew a thing or two about breeding good oranges. Mrs Parker was a *superstar* in a generation devoted to colour breeding - it is important to heed her advice and respect her viewpoints. Mrs Parker's views will be appear in full later on in this article.

## ..... And then there's the strange case of Model King

Miss Wilson of Dara Poms revised Mrs Parker's book 'The Popular Pomeranian' in 1937. Model King, born 1910, was registered as 'black and tan' in the 1913 Stud Book. He was shown in the same class as other black and tan Poms – 'any other colour' – and he was an important dog for Harold Young the son of the founder of Erimus Kennel. Mrs Parker considered Model King to be one of the original 14 pillars of the breed.

Miss Wilson referred to Model King on page 27 but did not mention his colour. Worse still a photograph appears of Model King on page 25 (right) and his markings have been darkened so that he appears to be a black Pom. As Dara Poms had Erimus ancestry - did Miss Wilson prefer this fact to be consigned to the attic?

Look at Model King's registration in the 1913 Stud Book stating he was 'black and tan' and compare this to the photograph of him in Mrs Parker's book.



MODEL KING



Mrs. Hooton's Miniature Pomeranians, Ch. Crimbles Duke and Bit of Class,

AT 28, CRIMBLES STREET, LEEDS.

CH. CRIMBLES DUKE in his prime had no equal amongst his own variety, having beaten all his competitors time and time again. We reproduce his photo. at eighteen months and at ten years of age. As will be noticed, he still retains his typical head, and bearing a little greyness of muzzle, he could hold his own with the present-day best. He is still strong, supple, and is quite vigorous.

BIT OF CLASS is a black and tan by Ch. Crimbles Duke, and is very stout in back, carries a large coat, and weighs 4 1/2 lbs. He is a big winner, and for light orange bitches he is the dog to produce orange sables. He is size of All Class, an orange sable, very rich in colour, and like his sire, stout in back, and carrying a very heavy coat. In three shows he won twelve first prizes.

Both these dogs are available for public stud. Particulars can be had by applying to owner.

Therefore, some black and tans were shown after the 1909 revision had called them 'decidedly objectionable' and in fact one breeder placed a rather large advert promoting one a full year later in December 1910. Mrs Hooton proudly extolled the virtues of her lovely 10 years old Ch Crimbles Duke in an Our Dogs advert. She also promoted his black and tan son 'Bit of Class' as a big winner (see left photo), available at stud and if bred to orange bitches he'd produce orange sables - his son 'All Class' had already won 12 first prizes at 3 shows.

MODEL KING 336S; H. Young; br. Mrs. Rollinson; wh. 11 Aug. 10; s. Young Nipper, Ch., 1535N, d. Queen Dinah 1489R; c. black and tan. Winner at Botanical Gardens, London (Pomeranian Club) [7], 2nd open; Crystal Palace (Kennel Club) [33], 3rd open.

## Lady Wentworth

This seems an appropriate point to introduce The Rt. Hon. Mrs Neville Lytton, Lady Wentworth into the equation. In 1911 she penned 'Toy Dogs and their Ancestors' and caused a sensation. Lady Wentworth was somewhat of a 'loose cannon' – she confessed to not belonging to any Breed Club 'so I owe no allegiance to anybody' and noted people who criticised the ways of the dog fancy 'are put into Coventry and good-bye to all hope of winning with their dogs'.

She has, however, left historians with an invaluable and enlightening insight into the Edwardian show scene otherwise rarely mentioned in literature of the day. The first observation of hers relevant to this study is this – 'the Club Standards appear sometimes to be framed merely on the fancy of their founders or to suit a prevalent type, being based on no historical evidence whatever – the historical evidence in some cases being diametrically opposed to the Club Standards'.

Lady Wentworth was against the removal of 'the stop' and here we find a hint of 'to suit the fancy of their founders' she spoke about. Miss Ives was President of The North of England Pomeranian Club ranked second to The Pomeranian Club – presided over by Miss Hamilton (Rozelle). There can be no doubt about it these ladies preferred the overall head points of the larger Poms – just look at Ch Boy Blue or Ch Rob of Rozelle.

So now it's worth considering later if the colour section and 'adding great weight against' a colour was motivated by personal taste or any other factor.

## ... first some information about the development of the Pomeranian Breed Standard

Black and tan was one of the original 'colours' in the first full Pomeranian Breed Standard of 1892. Here are some highlights from various Standards.

From 1892 to 1901 -The following colours are admissible. White, black, blue, brown, black and tan, fawn, sable, red and parti -colours.

In 1901 - The following colours are admissible – white, black, blue or grey, brown, sable or shaded sable (including red, orange or fawn) and parti-colours.

Black and tan, although omitted from colour list was still in the equation as it was referred to in the required nose pigment for the breed.