

THE PET DOG SUPREME.

UNIQUE HISTORY OF THE PEKINGESE.

THEIR HOME IN NEW ZEALAND.

The Pekingese, that pet dog supreme, which securely holds the canine favour of England and America—mentioning two such progressive countries only—with its fascinating charm and winsome ways, is as yet little known to New Zealand. We feel sure these so quaint and highly intelligent pets will their so different characteristics will come rapidly to the front in the Dominion once their all-conquering appeal becomes known. They are of Chinese origin, having an interesting and unique history, dating back to the King Tynastie (A.D. 65) and even further. About this breed the Chinese themselves are silent and inscrutable. One thing is certain, they are closely wrapped up in the life of the well-to-do Chinese, and are greatly associated with the religious life of China. They are regarded as sacred and the symbols of faithfulness. Images of them are placed as guards in the Buddhist monasteries and in the ceremony of important temples they play an important part. In both ancient and modern Chinese art, executed with fantastic exaggeration and a total disregard to natural lines, so typical of celestial ornamentation, we find this sacred dog of China reproduced largely. These little creatures have always been most jealously guarded, and few have found their way into the outer world. They are kept under the care of special attendants, who are answerable for their safety. Most frightful consequences follow the loss of their charges.

Under these conditions it was impossible to secure one for love or money, but at the looting of the summer palace at Peking during the Boxer rising of 1860, five of these mites were forgotten in the hurried flight of the court. They were found in a garden, the private retreat of the Dowager Empress, who committed suicide on the approach of the troops. Lord John Hay and another naval officer each secured two and the fifth specimen was obtained by General Dunn, who presented it to Queen Victoria. It is now on view preserved at Kensington Museum. These five Pekingese were the foundation of the breed in England, and formed the original Goodwood strain, now world famous. They are irresistible. The fashionable, fascinating favourite of the twentieth century. Once a Peke, lover, always a Peke lover. The interest grows, never fails. Playful, faithful, quiet, affectionate, intelligent beyond belief and so pleasing to the eye, they possess the mystery, grotesqueness and quaintness of the Far East, so alluring to the white race. It is the call of the Orient which so largely attracts. A photograph of a quartette of these rare Pekingese pets, taken at the home of their breeder, Mrs. C. Neale, 160, Riddiford Street, Wellington, is reproduced herewith.

Although a newcomer to the ranks of fanciers, starting along the right lines by breeding to the best dogs in the Dominion, Mrs. C. Neale's Pekingese are bound to be heard of in the near future. The main strength of these "Tang Kennels" lies in its aggregation of brood bitches, bred from such champion strains as Goodwood, Alderbourne, Broadoak Beetle, etc. Each bitch is mated to requirements, not to one dog regardless of type. A "Tang" puppy won at the recent Kelburn Parade, also at the Wanganui Show in March, where the judge (Mr. Fraser Durward) gave high praise re his sterling qualities and great promise. This puppy has the flattest face yet shown, huge black mask, perfectly bowed front legs and turned out feet. "Tang" puppies grow good coats and heavy fringes on ears, feet, etc. A strong feature with them is large lustrous eyes and short faces. A rare parte colour sold to Mr. A. E. Wells, of Wellington, has the heaviest coat yet seen on a Peke puppy in New Zealand. A heavily-coated little bitch by Ch. Chin. T.T. of Ribblesdale (imp.) and Jangtze Kon Kon (imp.) is now nursing a healthy, cobby little family of four, consisting of two red sables and two parte colours. The sire of these is Miss W. R. Richardson's dog, the notable winner at Wanganui's recent show.

MESSRS. CRUICKSHANK, MILLER AND CO., LTD.

AUCKLAND'S LEADING HARDWARE MERCHANTS.

The firm of Messrs. Cruickshank, Miller and Co., Ltd., hardware, wholesale and retail ironmongers, Queen and Lorne Streets, Auckland, is one of the oldest established businesses in the city. The progress of the firm has made reconstruction necessary, and a visit paid to the retail department, Queen Street, cannot fail to result in those who avail themselves of this opportunity being much impressed with the up-to-date methods of the firm, and the quality and utility of the stocks displayed. Cruickshank, Miller and Co., Ltd., is a household word among builders and heads of families, for the stocks the firm carry are without exception the finest in Auckland. Builders' and household requisites of every description are to be obtained there, and those of our readers who contemplate setting up housekeeping would be well advised to purchase their requirements from this old-established and progressive firm of hardware merchants. The prices are exceedingly reasonable, while the selection of ironmongery is unsurpassed in the Dominion.

A special feature of this firm's business and one that is playing a very important part in the development of the establishment is the sporting goods department. Members of hockey, tennis, croquet, golf and football clubs should certainly pay a visit to Messrs. Cruickshank, Miller and Co., Ltd., with the object of inspecting one of the finest stocks of athletic requisites to be seen in the Dominion. The firm have just recently landed a large shipment of golf clubs, golf balls, footballs, hockey sticks, tennis racquets, etc., which they are now offering at exceedingly low rates. Bowlers also will be interested to know that the

firm hold large stocks of bowls of all makes. Mr. James Miller, one of the directors of the firm, is well known as a bowler, formerly occupying the position of president of the Mt. Eden Bowling Club. Mr. Miller's experience as a bowler should be a strong recommendation to bowlers that the greatest discrimination has been shown in regard to the selection of bowls stocked. A very fine building has recently been erected for Messrs. Cruickshank, Miller and Co., Ltd., in Lorne Street, next to the Y.M.C.A. This department is devoted to the wholesale ironmongery and builders' requisites. A splendid display is made in the show rooms, and a very fine range of builders' supplies, farming implements, ploughs, etc., is displayed. The firm also cater largely for cattle and dairy supplies, and farmers who intend visiting Auckland during conference week would do well to pay a visit to this progressive firm.

NORTH ISLAND CROQUET TOURNAMENT.

HELD AT PALMERSTON NORTH.

The successful North Island croquet tournament was recently brought to an end at Palmerston North, when the prizes were awarded by Mrs. Spooner, wife of the popular president of the club, who at inconvenience to himself, but to the great satisfaction of the players, managed the tournament from first to last. This entailed carrying through over 150 games, making the largest croquet tournament which has ever been held in the Dominion, and proving once more that the central situation of Palmerston North makes it a natural centre for competitions.

Croquet has been making headway steadily in the Dominion for some years, and very good games were played during the week. Probably those between Dr. Whitaker and Mr. H. P. Stratton for the championship of the North Island were as good as any that have been seen here under the new system of either-ball play, and at the request of followers of the game we append some particulars.

The final was played on a lawn arranged on the bowling green, kindly lent for the purpose, which made a good fast croquet lawn. Davidson hoops, well set in and gauged to 3 1/2 inches, allowed only one-eighth inch clearance to the balls. In the first game between Mr. Stratton and the

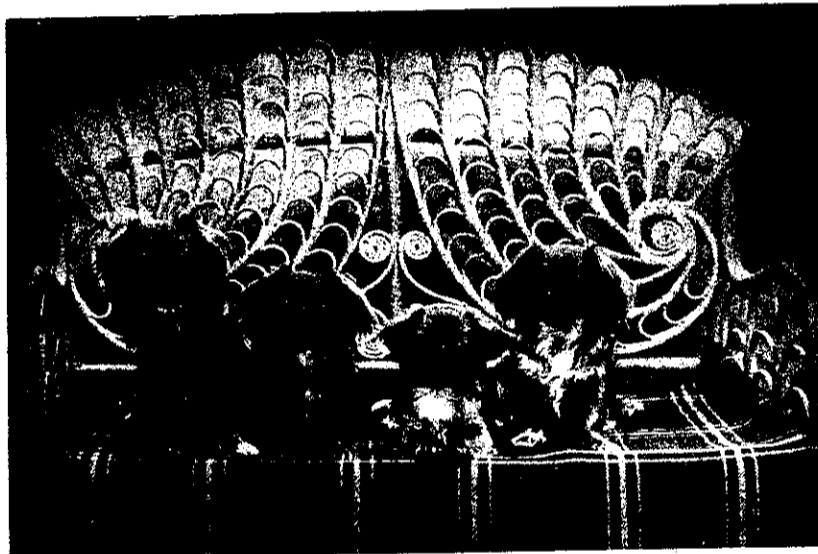
boundary nearby in case of a mistake, and so it continued relentlessly at each hoop until Mr. Stratton broke down and gave several opportunities, which, however, were not used to full advantage, the final innings of the pegged only carrying him to the sixth hoop, where he stuck. With more practice, it is fairly certain that in the four innings with a three-ball break each time (which Mr. Stratton allowed his opponent), the pegged-out ball would have won the game. But this does not detract from Mr. Stratton's performance, which was excellent croquet, showing him capable of standing on his own with the best in the Dominion. He was warmly congratulated by the numerous onlookers, and by none more so than by his opponent. These two players now stand as one victory each, Mr. Stratton having succumbed to the doctor on his own tournament grounds at Hastings in February.

The final of the doubles found four players of the local club in, viz., Mrs. McCrae and Dr. Whitaker against Mrs. Baxter and Miss Laurenson. As the competition was for the best pair from any club, the beautiful trophy given by Mr. J. A. Nash, M.P., was already in possession of Manawatu. The two former players, therefore, being engaged in other contests, conceded the game on level terms to Mrs. Baxter and Miss Laurenson, who, by sterling play throughout, well deserved the honour. Miss Laurenson has shown in this, her first tournament, the makings of a first-class exponent of the game.

The handicap singles was finished by Mr. Stratton conceding the final to his opponent, Mrs. McCrae. She has fought hard throughout the week and well earned the beautiful trophy given by Mrs. Aitchison. She also won, after a strenuous game and a close finish, the ladies' singles event, and captured the trophy, a cut-glass rose bowl, given by Mrs. L. Seifert. Mrs. Pegler, a Hastings crack, was the runner-up in this event. She is an attractive croquet player with a nice style.

Altogether the Manawatu tournament, for which all members worked hard from highest to lowest, was a real hearty success, and has probably done more in one week to educate players and onlookers than years of individual play. More lawns and more members are wanted next year to ensure the future success.

Mention has already been made of the loan of private lawns, without which the tournament could not have



Yangtze "Kou Kou" (imp.) on extreme right, and three Tang Pekingese, bred by Mrs. C. Neale, 160 Riddiford Street, Wellington. Continuing right to left are: Tang "Wing Kee" (aged 5 months), Tang "Yum Yum" (11 months) and Tang "Sue Kee" (11 months), all winners.

doctor, neither player was seen at his best in the preliminary stages, breaks being hard to pick up under the either-ball system, but very shortly Dr. Whitaker settled down to one of his rapid, interesting and easily-made breaks, the feature of his play, which carried his first ball to three-back. Mr. Stratton then obtained the innings, and with care and precision made a three-ball break to the penultimate. With his next turn but one he brought his second ball in an all-round break to the peg, and later missed the peg with the first ball in going out. This gave the doctor an opportunity of an innings, which, once obtained, was utilised to full effect in an all-round break to the peg (three clips now on the peg and one of Mr. Stratton's balls voluntarily pegged out), afterwards laying his balls in such a manner that an unsuccessful shot by his opponent at the open ball must give him an easy break to go out. Mr. Stratton shot and missed. With evident relief at what was now plain sailing, the doctor shot at the opponent ball only a yard off, and missed. Mr. Stratton had only to hit the ball next him and roll up to the peg and so out, winning by six points.

The second game of the rubber was played on the same lawn the next day in ideal croquet weather. It went quickly to the doctor by 20 points, Mr. Stratton not being given much opportunity and his opponent making no mistakes in his breaks.

The third game was very interesting croquet, particularly in the way of illustrating the possibilities of the pegged-out game. The doctor in his first break went all round to the peg. He had evidently meant to stop at the rover hoop, but a good rush close to that hoop proved too tempting to resist, and, after making it, the balls were laid with accuracy. In his next break he went only as far as the fourth hoop, when Mr. Stratton hit in, and with a really good three-ball break, with only one mistake at the penultimate which he survived, went to the peg also. In his next turn he managed, with a long take-off and an excellent long rush, to get his opponent-ball to the peg and put him out, then commencing the slow and somewhat racking process of bringing the back ball right round from the first hoop. As soon as he arrived at the third hoop he began to have trouble, as the doctor's ball was always waiting on the

been held, but a word of praise should be awarded to those beginners who did so well in the handicap games—Mrs. Bendall, Mrs. Cave, Mrs. Guthrie and Mesdames L. and H. Seifert being prominent and supporting well the promise they have given during the season.

LADIES' GOLF.

Auckland.

The third round in the competition by the Auckland Ladies' Golf Club for the Hope-Lewis rose bowl resulted as follows:—Mrs. Dargaville beat Miss N. Holmes, 3 up and 1 to play; Miss S. Payton beat Miss N. McCormick, 1 up; Miss M. Payton beat Miss M. Alison, 4 up and 3 to play; Miss G. Buddle beat Miss S. Henderson, 4 up and 3 to play. In the monthly medal tests, the best cards handed in for the senior grade were: Mrs. Dargaville, 94—11—83; Miss M. Upton, 99—11—88. B grade: Miss G. Buddle, 103—33—70; Miss N. Holmes, 106—24—82; Miss F. Wake, 120—35—85. C grade: Miss E. Buckleton, 83—35—49.

Maungakiekie.

The results of the monthly medal match played last Wednesday were: Miss Wilson, gross score 90, handicap 19, net score 71; Mrs. Rodger, 91—20—71; Miss Neill, 111—35—76; Miss Abbott, 107—30—77; Miss Yonge, 111—34—77; Mrs. Burton, 105—26—79.

Cambridge.

The course was in good order for the official opening of the Cambridge Club. Mixed foursomes were played, and Miss Cox and M. Wells (43) defeated Miss Willis and T. Banks (47). The scores were as follows:—Miss Cox and M. Wells, 43; Miss C. Willis and T. Banks, 47; Miss M. Cox and W. Vickers, 49; Miss Brooks and E.

R. Lee, 51; Mrs. Newton and B. Couper, 52; Mrs. N. Banks and J. C. Sawers, 52; Mrs. J. Stewart and G. Mair, 53; Miss Pickering and J. Grummett, 54; Miss Swayne and A. H. Nicoll, 54; Miss Wells and J. McLennon, 54; Mrs. Martyn and G. Middleton, 54.

Hamilton.

At the annual meeting of the Hamilton Ladies' Golf Club the following officers were elected for the ensuing year:—President, Mrs. H. T. Gillies; vice-presidents, Mesdames C. F. Bond, J. W. Ellis, A. Furze, E. B. Heywood, A. H. Hopkins, W. H. Hume; captain, Mrs. Douglas; vice-captain, Mrs. Hay; committee, Mesdames Cussen, Heywood, D. Mackay, Y. Provis, and Wilkinson; hon. treasurer, Miss Ring; hon. secretary, Miss Stevens. It was stated that as the result of the Red Cross Golf Day, £60 odd had been realised, and that during the year £1210 was realised from Red Cross medal matches.

"ASK LOASBY ABOUT IT."

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I sold out for the biggest goodwill ever paid in the Dominion for a chemist's business.

The Hospital Board, on January 6, wrote thanking me for the work I did during the Influenza Epidemic: "First in assisting to organise the campaign, then preparing various standard medicines in superlative quantities and later in giving your special professional knowledge in assisting members of the medical profession in visiting and prescribing for hundreds of sufferers."

Do you think the Hospital Board would send me a letter like the above if I had not proved I was competent to prescribe, and this when it was often a matter of life or death?

I treat all minor ailments such as Rheumatism, Sciatica, Lumbago, Stomach, Liver or Kidney Troubles, Indigestion, Fulness after Eating, Constipation, Poverty of the Blood, Nervousness, Low Spirits, Noises in the Head, Sore Legs, Varicose Ulceration, Skin Diseases, Coughs, Colds, Influenza, Catarrh—all the ailments that make life miserable yet do not confine you to bed.

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But my heart is big and true,
And my mistress says I am quite old enough
To leave my dear mother for you."

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