

Mr. H. H. Hore

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By Carl Whiteley



Mr. H. H. Hore with his famous blue roan cocker spaniel Chlorinda of Smeads. C.T. Photo

MR. H. H. HORE, of Holmsley Lodge, Burley, has been breeding dogs for over 50 years. It is part of his life and has brought him fame throughout the show world.

He has been a breeder of cocker spaniels for many years and it is through this breed that he has become well known for his many successes.

Chlorinda of Smeads, a blue roan cocker spaniel, is the present star of Mr. Hore's kennels. Only 11 months old she was first shown in August of this year at Poole and has since won 12 cups.

At the recent Christchurch show she won five cups and was second best in the show at Southampton where there were about 400 entries.

HIGHEST HONOUR

Larrikin of Smeads is another famous cocker spaniel Mr. Hore is proud to own. At the Christchurch and New Forest show last year Larrikin was awarded a diploma of merit in recognition of having won the highest honour obtainable at the show and received a similar diploma at Salisbury in May this year.

A retired farmer, Mr. Hore first took an interest in dogs as a school-boy when his father was a breeder of field spaniels. It soon became part of his life and now he would find it very difficult to exist without his dogs. "They occupy most of my time and I think about them from first thing in the morning until last thing at night," he said.

JOINED DISTILLERY

After leaving school he joined his father's distillery business in London but after a few years decided to join a distillery firm in Calcutta. He was in India for 12 years and during that time he devoted most of his leisure time to breeding Irish terriers. He changed to cocker spaniels in 1929 and has stuck to the breed ever since.

Returning home from India he decided to go into farming at Battle in Sussex. He was there for 20 years before moving to Halwill in Devonshire. Throughout this time he still continued dog breeding and when he retired to Freshwater, Isle of Wight over 12 years ago, he decided to devote most of his time to his very special hobby.

Mr. Hore moved to Holmsley Lodge just over five years ago.

MASS OF AWARDS

Proof of Mr. Hore's success as a famous dog breeder can be seen in his study. The space between the picture rail and ceiling is one mass of award certificates and he has a drawer full of first prize certificates which he finds impossible to display. Just how many awards he has received during his life-time of showing he is unable to say.

But among them is a certificate awarded by the Indian Kennel Association and another shows a prize taken at Crufts some years ago.

Mr. Hore has shown at all the leading shows in the country including Crufts, Bath, Cheltenham and Bournemouth.

"ALL DOGS HAVE FAULTS"

A judge for many years, Mr. Hore knows a winning dog when he sees one. "All dogs have faults," he said, "but with some you sense they are going to be champions from the start". He judged his first championship show in 1939 but was judging open shows for about 10 years previous.

Although his hobby takes up a good deal of his time, Mr. Hore still carries out public service. He has been a magistrate at Ringwood since coming to this district and was previously a J.P. in Devonshire and Sussex.