

At Agassiz, British Columbia, is an excellent station of the Dominion Government properly equipped and well manned. The work done is of great value to the agriculturist and while we have no desire to complain yet at the same time we should like to hear a little more about the poultry department. The experiments to be of any real value should be given publicity. Our British Columbia ranchers must know what has been done and what definite results were arrived at in order to be benefited. Now Mr. Sharp can't you help us? The FANCIER gladly offers the space if you will tell the story.

This is the time of year when poultry interests languish so far as public notice is concerned. Not so however with the fancier he is right in the midst of his breeding operations and his fall and winter success depends in no small measure upon his work now. The young chicks must receive the most careful attention and every effort made to push them to maturity as fast as possible. To neglect anything now means failure later on. "A word to the wise," etc.

FRESH EGGS.

There is no good reason why every family should not possess a few fowls and thus insure a constant supply of fresh eggs for home use. There is always a difficulty in procuring such from the grocer. His intention may be good but the eggs are often bad, a fact soon made evident when they are served up for breakfast. All of this can be avoided by keeping a few hens of your own. The back yard furnishes the needed room and a small house will be all that is

required. Select some good laying variety and be sure that your birds are young, otherwise you will not find them profitable. Spend a little time in finding out what fowls require to keep them in health and laying and your success is all but assured. The cost will be small as the amount of food you will have to buy will not be large as the house scraps will go a long way toward feeding the birds. If there are children about the house the work necessary can be done by them thus relieving the older people and at the same time helping to train the younger ones in habits of economy and thrift. If gone at in the right way the whole thing is simple and adds considerable to the pleasure and profit of the household. Try it and see.

BUFF WYANDOTTES.

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WRITTEN FOR B. C. FANCIER.

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One of the prettiest as well as most useful varieties of the Wyandotte family that has recently bounded into public favor is the Buffs. In style, shape and general make-up, they are like their sisters, the Silver Laced Wyandottes, which have always pleased those who have an eye for the true fancy.

The Buffs are, in color, about the same as a good Buff Cochin, and with their nice rose combs, blocky build and clean yellow legs they make a picture that no one can help but admire.

The Buff Wyandottes were admitted to the list of distinct breeds by the American Poultry Association at their meeting in Chicago in 1893, and in two short years their popularity has been phenomenal. They have become famous all over the

world and breeders have not been able to meet the demand for eggs and birds.

As layers this breed leads everything on my place, not excepting the Leghorns, of which I flatter myself I have some good ones.

They are, in size, the same as the Silver Laced, cocks weighing 8½ lbs., cockerels 7½ lbs., hens 6½ lbs., pullets 5½ lbs. Although they are one pound lighter than the Plymouth Rocks they make up the difference in early maturity. They are capable of being brought to higher perfection than the Silvers and much easier to breed true to feather. They have not reached very high in the nineties yet, but by judicious breeding it will not be very long before they can take their place with any of the parti-colored breeds. I have one pullet scored 92 points by H. S. Ball at Tacoma in January of this year, giving her the highest score for this variety of any bird in America as far as I know.

I might say something here in regard to the Puget Sound climate. It never gets so hot as to fade the Buff varieties and it has been demonstrated that better Buff Leghorns, Plymouth Rocks and Wyandottes can be produced here than anywhere else on earth. Our California brethren are kicking on the clause in the Standard in regard to yellow legs. What they had better do is to come up here and breed birds with yellow legs, and let those who are forced to live in California breed chicks with black or slate colored legs.

H. A. DURR,

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