

chicks should be fed often, but given little at a time. After a few days crushed wheat or cracked corn could be given. Milk is preferable to water, and food or drink must always be supplied in scrupulously clean vessels. Place the coop with the brood on fresh ground, in a place sheltered from wind, keeping the hen confined for about ten days before allowing her to wander off with her chicks. If she be allowed her liberty earlier, the strength of the chicks will be overtaxed, and they are likely to be exposed to wet, and the danger from hawks is increased. Keep on hand several coops for the use of the broods as you take them from the nest. A very generous quantity of food must be given from the time they leave the nest until the tail and wing feathers are grown, as feathering is a great drain upon the system, and it requires plenty of food to sustain it. After the chicks have got their feathers, see that they are well supplied with plenty of grain. A soft feed, composed of bran, shorts, oat chop, or wheat meal, should be given

once a day, and twice a day at the grain they will eat up clean. Change the diet often, however. When kept in confinement, give the fowls an abundance of green vegetable food of some kind; cabbage leaves are a first-class article, and relished by them.

Buckwheat is an excellent grain for laying hens, and those who take an interest in poultry would do well to lay in a quantity of it. Care must be taken, however, not to give too great a quantity at a time.

Wyandottes.

By JOHN J. LENTON, Biltmore, N.C.

This handsome and useful breed is receiving much praise from those who are breeding them, as they have intrinsic merits of high order, are a valuable acquisition to our standard fowls, and promise even better results in the future, both in utility and beauty. They have a plumage that is plastic, and will readily yield to improvement.



White Wyandotte Cockerel (Score 95½)
1st, Port Hope, 1894. Owned and bred by Chrs. Massie,
Port Hope, Ont.

About a score of years ago the breed was in a crude state, and known to a few under the name of American Sebrights, or Sebright-Cochins. Since then their improvement has been rapid and satisfactory. Many objectionable features have been bred out, suitable features bred in, the faults of the Cochin, the white lobe of the Hamburg, the pea-comb and feathered legs of the Dark Brahma eliminated, though, even now, the single comb comes as an occasional heirloom. But nearly all those objectionable features have been bred out, and,

if one or other does occasionally "crop out," it is accidental, and may be traced to atavic transmission, over which the breeder has no control.

In the make-up of the Wyandottes we see several elements combined. Short-sighted, indeed, must be the breeder or judge who cannot see its composite nature, and trace the leading features of both Dark Brahma and Hamburg in the breed. The head is Asiatic modified, particularly in formation and