

"Ducks are so profitable," says Mrs. Saint-Maur, "that I cannot understand why so few keep them, unless it is the mistaken idea that they must have a stream or pond in which to swim. It is true that the old-fashioned puddle duck did seem a miserable creature out of the water, but the improved strains are almost as much land birds as chickens are. My stock started with two ducks and a drake which cost me seven dollars. The first season I raised fifty-eight, sold forty-six, and kept twelve to stock. They were ready for market when eleven weeks old, and the lowest price was eighteen cents a pound."

**POULTRY DROPPINGS GOOD FERTILIZER.**  
Poultry dropping is a very rich and valuable fertilizer, worth from \$25. to \$50. a ton. It pays to save every pound of them to use on flower beds, the garden and truck patches. By sprinkling them daily in the hen house with coal ashes their value may be almost doubled. Coal ashes absorb the ammonia, the rich nitrogeous part of the fertilizer. Also, the droppings, being very rich or strong, may be safely used in connection with coal ashes for dilution.—*Rocky Mountain Husbandman.*

The chicks now have the call—keep the youngsters growing.

The laying hens must be kept from the garden, especially the neighbor's garden. The two do not mix well. But see that they have the food and care necessary for egg production. This means grain, scraps, green grass fresh water and shade, the dust bath, ground bone or a meat ration often, and cleanliness in surroundings. It pays to keep the biddies comfortable and contented.

It is still time to order the eggs for hatching. What breed do you like? Look over the advertising columns of this paper before deciding, and when you find out what you want get a square deal by sending in an order with the statement that you saw the ad in the GEM STATE RURAL. That will bring the goods, and we believe will satisfy you.

Begin right now to think about the poultry shows next winter and the prize winners and make up your mind to have a hand in the business. There should be a lot of fine birds the coming year, more of them than ever before. Idaho can produce them never doubt that. But prepare now for the contest and let us all boost for the bird shows.

#### PROOF OF THE CRITERION INCUBATOR CO'S. ADVERTISED STATEMENTS.

*Alaska-Yukon-Pacific Exposition, Seattle 1909. Commission of the State of Washington, Harry H. Collier, Commissioner of Poultry.*

Tacoma, Wash, April 16, '09.  
G. W. Grebe, President Criterion Incubator Co., Boise, Idaho,

Dear Sir:—I have just taken off the best hatch that I ever got out of an Incubator.

The Criterion Incubator beats any machine I ever handled. A man who could not hatch with it could not hatch with hens.

The beauty of the Criterion chicken is the fact that they come out so strong. The chicks are out of the egg and on their feet in a few minutes.

Yours truly,  
HARRY H. COLLIER.

#### PAYETTE POULTRY ASSOCIATION.

At the recent annual meeting of the Payette Poultry and Pet Stock Association, the following officers were elected:

T. H. McComsey, President.  
T. J. Brown, Vice President.

J. H. Elston, Caldwell, 2nd Vice.

#### President.

C. R. Smith, Treasurer.

C. E. Dibble, Secretary.

H. Gregory, Superintendent.

We have secured the services of Mr. Frank W. Breed, College Place, Washington, as judge at our next show to be held Jan. 24 to 27, 1910.

All well pleased with success of last show and are all working for better poultry and more of it.

C. E. DIBBLE,  
Secretary.

#### Personal.

Mr. Vorse, of Rexburg wants to put in a car load of honey bees on his farm at Sunny Dell. Last year he had 63 stands of bees that did well.

The GEM STATE RURAL was favored with a pleasant call from Mrs. Hayes who is a member and secretary of the Board of Regents of the State University. Mrs. Hayes is an intelligent and interesting woman and is giving the State good service in the important position she occupies.

Dr George Noble has been re-appointed State Veterinarian. The doctor's official career has not been free from friction, but he is not a quitter and therefore will be around when the laws need to be enforced.

J. R. Field was re-appointed State Horticultural Inspector. Mr. Field is becoming quite an extensive orchardist and is certainly interested in seeing that our horticultural laws are enforced and that good methods are adopted everywhere. This he will no doubt endeavor to bring about.

The editor of the GEM STATE RURAL received a most welcome call a few days since from Messrs. Levi and John Hulbert, father and son, and W. G. Ballock, all old time Racine county, Wisconsin, friends. They were pioneers of that great state and were personal friends and neighbors of the editor's father for many years. They have made some investments in Idaho farm lands and contemplate becoming permanent residents of this state. Idaho has room and abundant opportunities for such people.

#### FOOD FOR THOUGHT.

What do I know? Poor little me,

I need a microscope to see

What I do know;

The overflow

Of nature's riches, all aglow

And sparkling with the stars and dew,

I only know beyond the blue

I cannot see.

Poor little me.

What do I know? I know but this:—

I know my ignorance is bliss

Most wisely planned.

I understand

The towering pines and mountains grand

Are dear and beautiful to me;

Beyond their peaks I cannot see,

But God is there,

And everywhere,

And this is good enough for me.

—"Capt. Jack" Crawford.

Self control makes life worth while. It frees you from the danger of remorse, the wasted time of self-reproach. It sees opportunities as they come, saves you from damaging temptation. It is as important to a brain as is physical equilibrium to a work of masonry.

A man without self-control, a building out of plumb cannot endure.

## S. C. BUFF LEGHORNS

THE BEAUTIFUL HEAVY LAYERS

## S. C. WHITE LEGHORNS

HEAVIEST LAYING STRAIN IN THE WORLD

We won 25 First Prizes at the Idaho State Fair 1908 on all of our breeds. Send for our free mating list, which tells you all about our birds.

Eggs, \$2.00 per 15; \$5.00 per 50; \$8.00 per 100

## Inter-Mountain Poultry Farm

BOX 253 BOISE, IDAHO

## WINNERS and LAYERS

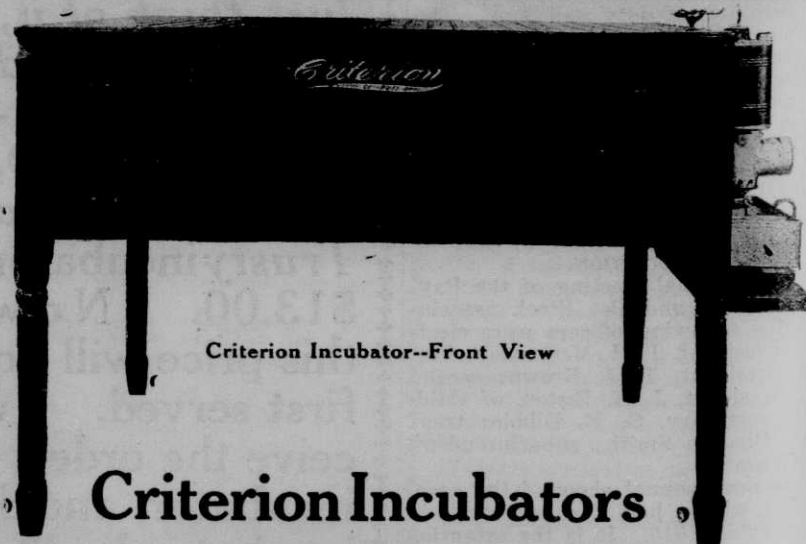
### While you are getting, get the Best

At the Payette Poultry Show in December, 1908, my S. C. W. Leghorns won 4 Firsts, 3 Seconds and 4 Special Prizes; also the American Poultry Association's Grand Prize, a silver medal, for Highest Scoring Cockerel, and the special for the Highest Scoring Pen. At the same Show, my White Plymouth Rocks won 4 Firsts, 3 Seconds and 2 Special Prizes.

## EGGS FOR HATCHING

\$1.50 for 15, \$8.00 per 100. Special Mating \$3 per 15

The J. H. Elston Poultry Farm  
Caldwell, Idaho



Criterion Incubator--Front View

Criterion Incubators  
Criterion Fireless Brooder  
Criterion Poultry Supplies  
-- Address --

CRITERION INCUBATOR CO.

BOISE,

IDAHO