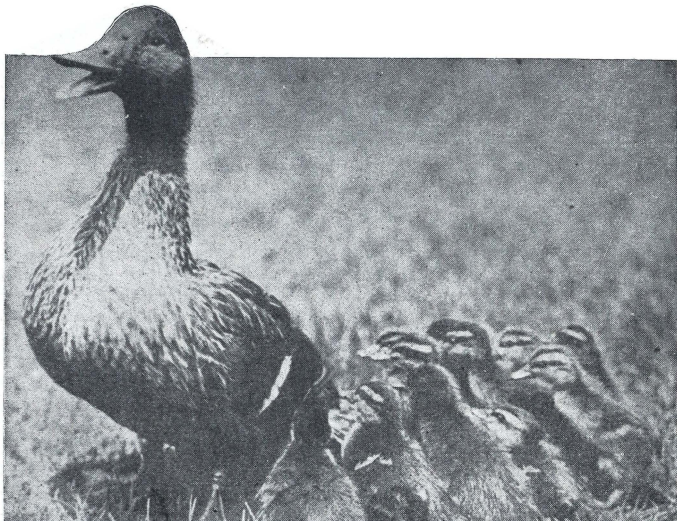


MOTHER DUCK AND HER BABIES



THIS MOTHER is a barnyard duck. Her babies are called ducklings. As soon as the baby ducks come out of the shells, Mother Duck leads them to the water. She does not have to teach them to swim and dive. They seem to know how. Their webbed feet are made for swimming. They are like paddles.

A mother duck makes her nest on the ground. She pulls down and feathers from her own breast to make the nest soft. When she leaves the nest, she covers it with dry grass and feathers. She will not leave it when it is time for the eggs to hatch.

Father Duck is called a drake.

Mother Duck and Father Duck both say "Quack! Quack!"

A roasted duck makes a very good dinner, and a roasted half-grown duckling is delicious.

There are many kinds of wild ducks, too. Some are found in the Philippines. Hunters like to shoot them and carry them home for food.

Have you ever seen duck eggs? They are larger than the eggs of a hen.

Mother Duck makes a nice pet. She will learn to know her master and will follow him about for food.

Have you seen Mother Duck and her babies swim all together on the water?