

referable to that form. Several other individuals assignable to *cismontanus* have since been seen at Powdermill; one was banded by the writer and A. C. Lloyd on 11 December 1966. Although *hyemalis* and *cismontanus* vary greatly in color in the fall, one character serves very well to identify females of *cismontanus* such as that collected at Powdermill. In *hyemalis* the gray of the breast continues (even if mixed with brownish) onto the flanks, giving a concave or horsehoe-shaped outline to the pigmented portion. In *cismontanus* the edge of the gray breast is convex, with pinkish-buff (sometimes mixed with gray) flanks contrasting abruptly with the edge of the gray breast area. There is usually more brown on the dorsal areas of adult females of *cismontanus* than of *hyemalis*, and it tends to contrast with adjacent gray areas rather than to blend with them. An excellent color photograph by Karl Maslowski of a junco showing *cismontanus* characters was published in the magazine *National Wildlife* (vol. 5, no. 1, December-January 1966-1967, p. 14).

Preservation of the specimens described above was made possible through the alertness and assistance of Robert C. Leberman, Albert C. Lloyd, Mary A. Heimerdinger, and Beulah Frey. The warbler and the grosbeak were prepared as study skins by Otto Epping, the towhee and the junco by the writer.—KENNETH C. PARKES, *Carnegie Museum, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, 16 January 1967.*

Two female Mallards incubating on one nest.—On 1 June 1956, I flushed two Mallard hens (*Anas platyrhynchos*) simultaneously from one nest site on an island in Unit 320 of the Lower Souris National Wildlife Refuge near Upham, McHenry County, North Dakota. At this time, I suspected that both hens may have been sharing a single nest. Upon investigation of the nearby nesting cover, I discovered a well formed nest containing 20 mallard eggs.

Additional confirming observations were made on 8 June and 12 June, and on the latter visit the nest contained only 17 eggs. On 17 June, I returned to the island and crawled within 6 feet of the nest enabling me to see both females sitting side by side in incubation before they flushed. The nest contained 5 hatched ducklings and 3 pipped eggs; the other 9 eggs were intact. Within 5 minutes after this visit, both hens returned to the nest.

The final fate of this nest was determined on 24 June: 9 eggs remained in the nest, five with 18-20 day embryos, three with undeveloped embryos and one with a full term embryo. Apparently when one clutch of eggs hatched, both hens departed with the brood leaving one clutch of eggs in the nest. During the next week, I observed a brood of 8 mallard ducklings near the island with two hens in attendance.

Factors leading to the expression of this unusual reproductive behavior are unknown. The dual nest occupancy may have originated from parasitic egg laying by one hen with mutual tolerance developing in incubation. Remarkable cooperation was required for these two hens to complete the many complex behavioral rhythms involved in egg laying and incubation on one nest.—HAROLD F. DUEBBERT, *U. S. Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife, Northern Prairie Wildlife Research Center, Jamestown, North Dakota 58401, 21 December 1966.*

A Swallow-tailed Kite in trans-Pecos Texas.—Due to rapid decline in numbers and decrease in range of the Swallow-tailed Kite (*Elanoides forficatus*) in recent years (Austin, 1961. "Birds of the world." p. 76; and Oberholser, 1938. "The bird life of Louisiana." La. Dept. of Conserv. Bull. No. 28:156) the following record is noteworthy. On 26 August 1966, we observed a Swallow-tailed Kite slowly cruising over downtown