never lined and was not used. At least one singing male was found in the same area as late as June 14, and on the next day a female was seen near their cabin. The coniferous trees in the Moose Mountain Provincial Park have all been introduced; although the area has a northern aspect because of its altitude, there are no native conifers, the major tree species being Aspen. In this same season, E. Manley Callin reports a sporadically singing male Myrtle Warbler was noted in the planted evergreens on the Fort San grounds (in the Qu'Appelle River valley) up to June 27. He suspects that it was nesting, inasmuch as this is the area in which he reported finding a nest on June 17, 1956, and the area in which he believed a pair to have nested in 1955 (*Blue Jay*, 14:88). Miss Joyce Gunn reported, in the same brief note, a pair of Myrtle Warblers nesting in an introduced spruce tree at Spirit Lake; two young warblers and a cowbird nest-mate still being present on July 20, 1956. Fort San is 45 miles east-northeast of Regina, Spirit Lake, about 125 miles northeast of Regina. These extralimital breeding records are of considerable interest, showing a tendency for this species to nest occasionally in appropriate habitat where available outside of the usual geographic limits of its range.

ASSOCIATION OF A PINTAIL DRAKE AND A MALLARD PAIR

by **W. Harvey Beck**, Regina

A male Pintail *(Anas acuta)* was observed by me on four occasions in close association with a pair of Mallards *(Anas platyrhynchos)*, on Morgan Creek, approximately eight miles southwest of Killdeer, Saskatchewan. The first observation was made at 8:00 p.m. on May 15, 1965 when the trio was flushed. The three birds flew up together, circled, and landed as a group a short distance upstream. The following morning, May 16, between 6:25 a.m. and 6:35 a.m., the birds were observed feeding on the creek in the same location. No aggressive behaviour was noted between the males of the two species, and the hen demonstrated no preference for either male. When the trio was flushed, they again flew up together with both males remaining close to the female, circled, and landed as a group 100 yards upstream. As I left the area, they returned to the spot from which they had been flushed, and resumed feeding. Later the same day (4:00 p.m. and 4:30 p.m.) the birds were flushed twice and repeated the morning's performance each time.

Sibley (1957) has pointed out that there are a number of isolating mechanisms which curtail or prevent interbreeding between species. In ducks, the time of pair formation, male plumage characters, and nuptial display or "courtship" serve as isolating mechanisms. Hybridization, however, is proof that interbreeding does occur. Interspecific hybrids among ducks are well known (see Cockrum, 1952; Childs, 1952; Sibley, 1957; Dzubin, 1959; Martz, 1964). A number of Mallard x Pintail hybrids have been reported. In addition, the Saskatchewan Museum of Natural History has two male Mallard x Pintail hybrids from Saskatchewan in its collection: SMNH 4161 was collected near Imperial, SMNH 6315 at Horizon. Dzubin (1959) reported an association between a drake Pintail and a Mallard pair, and Nero (1959) reported an association between a male Green-winged Teal and a Mallard pair. Both authors suggest that associations of this type may provide an explanation for the production of hybrids in the wild.

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