THREE NEW SYNONYMIES WITHIN THE CTENIDIA-BEARING BIRD LICE
(MALLOPHAGA: MENOPONIDAE)

In the course of my study of the ctenidia-bearing bird lice in the Menoponidae, I have recently become aware of three new synonymies that are hereewith reported.

_Epia ra dimorpha_ Carriker, 1954 (=Psittacobrosus chloropterae_ Price and Beer, 1968). Price and Beer (1968, Ann. Ent. Soc. Amer. 61:261–276) described _P. chloropterae_ from only ♀ ♀ from _Ara chloroptera_ G. R. Gray; the ♀ genitalia, as well as other features, are deceptively close to those of some species of _Psittacobrosus_ and gave little indication of an incorrect generic placement. Had ♀ ♀ been present in this series, this mistake would undoubtedly have been avoided since _Epia ra_ is easily distinguished by its unusual ♀ structure. The ♀ of _E. dimorpha_ from its type-host, _Ara militaris_ (Linnaeus), as well as from several other host species, typically has some very long marginal setae on most of abdominal tergites III–VIII; the ♀ of _P. chloropterae_ has uniformly short marginal setae on all abdominal tergites III–VIII. The conspecificity of these series became evident when Dr. Theresa Clay, British Museum (Natural History), sent me a quill from _A. chloroptera_, this quill containing 11 ♀ ♀ and 11 ♀ ♀ of _E. dimorpha_; the ♀ ♀ showed variation in numbers of these long marginal tergal setae from those of typical _E. dimorpha_ to being completely absent. I have found no other reliable means for separation of these series.

_Ardeiphil us vittatus_ (Rudow, 1866) (= _Cuculophil us mirzai_ Qadri, 1935). I know of no features for separating series composed of both sexes from the type-host for each of these—respectively, _Ardeola ralloides_ (Scopoli) and _A. grayii_ (Sykes)—and they should be considered as being conspecific.

_Osborniella crotophagae_ (Stafford, 1943) (= _Ardeiphil us incertus_ Carriker, 1964). Carriker (1964, Rev. Brasil. Biol. 24:95–108) described _A. incertus_ from a single ♀ supposedly from _Tigrisoma lineatum_ (Boddart). He admitted that it was considerably different from other _Ardeiphil us_, but believed it was closest to that genus. His illustrations appeared to me to be representative of _O. crotophagae_ and not those of an _Ardeiphil us_ species. Dr. K. C. Emerson, Arlington, Virgin'a, kindly examined the holotype of _A. incertus_ and concurred that it is actually _O. crotophagae_; he further told me that Carriker had added an extra label on this slide correcting the host to _Crotophaga ani_ Linnaeus—the type-host of _O. crotophagae_—but had not noted this change elsewhere.—Roger D. Price, Department of Entomology, Fisheries, and Wildlife, University of Minnesota, St. Paul, Minnesota 55101.