

only that the species is in size, strongness of bill and feet, color and pattern quite as *Cuculus canorus*. The wing length is given as varying between 190 and 214 mm. The species was said to inhabit Java, Sumatra, Borneo, Timor and probably most of the islands between, and Malacca and Cochinchina.

Schlegel in his Catalogue (Muséum d'Histoire Naturelle des Pays-Bas, Monographie 25: Cuculi, pp. 7-11) enumerated 5 type specimens of *canoroïdes* sub nomine *Cuculus striatus*. Afterwards Finsch (Notes from the Leyden Museum, 23: 101, 1901) stated that the type specimens of *canoroïdes* are undoubtedly specimens of *Cuculus canorus*. Consequently Hartert (Vögel palaärkt. Fauna, Bd. 2, 1912, p. 948) placed the name in the synonymy of *Cuculus canorus telephonus* with the remark that it had to be considered a nomen nudum because the description gave no characters to differentiate it from *canorus*. Müller's notes, bad as they are, certainly qualify as a description, and with the type specimens at hand it is not possible to consider Müller's name a nomen nudum.

A reëxamination of the material shows that Finsch's statement is wrong, and that all the type specimens of *canoroïdes* are representatives of *Cuculus saturatus*. The latter name is older having been first published in 1843. The specimens have the white (carpal) wing edge unbarred. There are fewer, broader, and more sharply defined bars on the underparts than normally found in skins of *Cuculus canorus* from East Asia. The specimens of *canoroïdes* which have a uniform blue upperside are slightly darker than specimens of *canorus*.

In the collections of the Leiden Museum there are no specimens of *Cuculus canorus* from the Indo-Australian Archipelago, nor are there any in the extensive Bartels Collection from Java. *Canorus* must be a very rare migrant in this region.

The name *Cuculus canoroïdes* is older than *Cuculus horsfieldi*, which now is the name of the large northern race of *Cuculus saturatus*, and therefore threatens the stability of the nomenclature of these cuckoos. The range of variation in the wing measurements of the type specimens of *Cuculus canoroïdes*, remeasured by me, is 185 to 215 mm.

As lectotype of *Cuculus canoroïdes*, I select an immature bird in the red phase, with a wing measurement of 187 mm., collected by Müller during August, 1836, on G. Doesoën, Poeloe Maja, off the west coast of Borneo (Schlegel catalogue s.n. *Cuculus striatus* no. 34). By this action the name *canoroïdes* sinks into the synonymy of *Cuculus saturatus saturatus*, which has a maximum wing measurement of about 194 mm. (cf. Junge, Temminckia 2: 199-200, 1937), the smallest specimens of *horsfieldi* measuring 192 mm.

For the loan of East Asian skins of *Cuculus canorus*, I am indebted to the authorities of the Museum of Comparative Zoology, Cambridge, U. S. A.—G. C. A. JUNGE, Rijksmuseum van Natuurlijke Historie, Leiden, Netherlands.

Height of a Flock of Migrating Ducks.—On October 15, 1952, at 4:00 P.M., while flying over Garvin County, Oklahoma, at an altitude of 5,700 feet, the pilot called my attention to a flock of about 30 ducks approaching the airplane in a line almost parallel with and approximately 100 feet lower than our line of flight, and less than 60 yards to our left. Although we were flying north at about 150 miles per hour and the ducks were flying south, we could see them clearly and identify them as one of the scaups, *Aythya*. The land elevation at this point is approximately 950 feet; the ducks were flying about 4,750 feet above the ground. A very light south wind was blowing.—CARL D. RIGGS, University of Oklahoma, Norman, Oklahoma.