

therefore of double origin, partly descended from the endemic fauna and partly from Steppe forms which had adapted themselves to forest life, while the present Steppe fauna is similarly explained. The isolation in past times has resulted in the presence of closely related subspecies in widely separated regions.—W. S.

Thomson on the Migration of the European Woodcock.—This paper¹ deals mainly with the movements of the bird in Great Britain and Ireland and is based upon banding returns. It is found that a majority of the individuals are resident but that possibly one-third are more or less migratory. There is a well-marked autumn movement from Scotland and the north of England to Ireland, while some individuals pass on to the continent. Curiously enough, however, there is no evidence of a return to the place of origin.

It is admitted that various artificial factors enter into the record, especially the shooting on the home estate, so that the data cannot be treated statistically. Ninety-five per cent of the recoveries relate to the first four years of the birds' lives but certain individuals are found to live to eight, eleven, twelve and even twelve and a half years.—W. S.

Recent Papers by Austin Roberts.—Several papers on African birds by Austin Roberts have appeared within the past few years. One² consists of corrections to his 'Synoptic Check-list,' with descriptions of several new forms and two new genera; *Criniferoides* (p. 218) for *Chizaerhis leucogaster* and *Caloardea* (p. 219) for *Ardea leuconotus*. A second paper³ contains descriptions of eggs of a number of African species while a third⁴ is a report on a collection of birds and mammals from southwestern Africa, obtained by M. R. D. Bradfield. In this a new genus, *Chapinortyx* (p. 291), is proposed for *Francolinus harlaubi* and seven new subspecies are proposed belonging to the genera: *Chapinortyx*, *Psammaoetus*, *Melignothes*, *Sabota*, *Fringillaria* and *Ortygornis*.

A fourth⁵ paper contains new forms of *Pternistes*, *Chaetopus*, *Epicypselus* *Hyphantornis*, *Ortygospiza* and *Apalis*.—W. S.

Tugarinow on the Birds of North Mongolia.—This is an account⁶

¹ The Migrations of British and Irish Woodcock: Results of the Marking Method. By A. Landsborough Thomson. British Birds XXIII, No. 4. September 2, 1929, pp. 74-92.

² Some Changes in Nomenclature, New Records of Migrants and New Forms of South African Birds. By Austin Roberts. Ann. Transvaal Mus., XI, Part IV, 1926, pp. 217-226.

³ Descriptions of Some S. African Birds' Eggs. By Austin Roberts. Ibid, pp. 226-244.

⁴ Birds and Mammals from Southwest Africa. By Austin Roberts. Ibid, XII, Part IV, 1928, pp. 289-329.

⁵ New Forms of African Birds. By Austin Roberts. Ibid, XIII, Part II, pp. 71-81. 1929.

⁶ North Mongolia and its Birds. By A. J. Tugarinow. Acad. of Sciences of the Union of Soviet Republics. "Materiaux" Vol. 2 (?) 1929 (?) pp. 145-236. [In Russian with an English Resumé.]