

For Release  
March 30, 1939

By Maj. A. H. Thiessen  
Science Service Meteorologist

Bird migration and weather! While some hold that birds migrate with the seasonal change of food supply, others believe that birds migrate toward the region of greatest light. There seem to be objections to both theories. It is probable that it takes more than one factor to explain why birds migrate, the real basis being many original causes which have grown through their entire evolution into an instinct which includes not only the season for migrating but also the routes of travel. While migrating, most birds fly between the surface and the 3,000-foot level; some barely missing the crests of the waves, while a few have been seen as high as 12,000 feet.

---