

PREFACE

THESE essays are based upon a course of lectures given at Cambridge in 1924. In their preparation I have drawn freely upon the work of others to knit together my own scattered observations and impressions; and where the source of such assistance is not already indicated in the text, I should like to make full acknowledgment here. I am much indebted to Mrs Elizabeth Hewitt for permission to reproduce the curves on pages 25 and 27 from *The Conservation of the Wild Life of Canada*, by the late Dr C. Gordon Hewitt; and to Mr W. G. Kendrew for permission to extract statistics from his book, *The Climates of the Continents*, for the temperature and rainfall curves on pages 38, 120, and 198. I am obliged to Messrs George Phillips for the use of their outline map of Asia, but for the details of distribution, etc., in the latter, I alone am responsible. The quotation on p. 156 is by courtesy of Messrs Mills and Boon.

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