

dates of its stay in Kathmandu, but I drew Dr. Robert Fleming's attention to its presence here, and he was delighted to have a new record.

The Great Crested Grebe was recorded by Rand and Fleming in December and February at Pokhara in 1957 (Biswas, *J. Bombay nat. Hist. Soc.* 57: 282). So this was the first spring record.

C/o U.N.D.P.,  
P. O. Box 107,  
KATHMANDU,  
NEPAL.

R. G. M. WILLAN

September 23, 1966.

### 3. THE PURPLE WOOD PIGEON (*COLUMBA PUNICEA*, BLYTH) AND THE HIMALAYAN TREE PIE (*DENDROCITTA FORMOSAE* SWINHOE) IN ORISSA

Ripley's (1961) SYNOPSIS gives the range for the Purple Wood Pigeon as follows: "Assam and Pakistan, a rare vagrant to Ceylon...". Biswas (1960) extended the range to S. E. Bihar and southern W. Bengal. Mooney (1934) noted it through the "forest tracts of Orissa, southwards to the borders of the Madras (Presidency)". Sálím Ali (*in litt.*) has observed them in the Simlipal Hills of Mayurbhanj between 2000 and 3000 ft. altitude, and collected a specimen from Bailadilla in Bastar District. I have recorded it nine times since 1963 now between 14 October and 24 February in the Chandka Game Sanctuary about 8 kilometres from Bhubaneswar at less than 200 ft. altitude in a clearing between paddy fields and teak forests. They were seen in flocks of up to 15 birds.

Ripley (1961) states that the Himalayan Tree Pie occurs in the "Eastern Ghats of Northern Andhra, Southern Orissa in Visakhapatnam and Koraput (Jeypore) at c. 3000 ft.". Sálím Ali has seen it round Berbera (Puri district) between 200 and 1000 ft. I have seen it on over 40 occasions now in the Chandka Game Sanctuary at under 200 ft. altitude, either solitary, in pairs or groups of up to 10 individuals.

I am grateful to Dr. Sálím Ali and Mr. Humayun Abdulali for contributing their observations and literature.

GENETICS AND BIOMETRY LABORATORY,  
GOVERNMENT OF ORISSA,  
BHUBANESWAR—3,  
ORISSA, INDIA.

S. D. JAYAKAR

November 16, 1966.

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