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Two bhural ewes above Har-ki-Doon.

—Photo: Hari Dang.



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## ANNOUNCEMENT

All articles on WILD LIFE published in "CHEETAL" and "Indian Forester" during a year, begining from 1969 will be eligible for award of "CHATURVEDI PRIZE", previously for articles in Indian Forester only.

Hony. Secretary.

### E.P. GEE

Edward Pritchard Gee died at the age of 64, on the 22nd of October, 1968. He was spry and fit when we last met him in August, having recovered fully from an operation of the prostate gland last year. He was found to be suffering from a brain tumour, was flown to England and died.

One of the earlier pioneers of the conservation movement in India, he was guided into very good work in the Cause by the late M.D. Chaturvedi, and was an active member of the Indian Board of Wild Life and served on its Executive. He was also a member of numerous conservation organisations, like our own and the BNHS, and served on the Survival Service Commission and other committees of the IUCN.

A tea planter in Assam till the late fifties, I first met him at the Golaghat Club near Jorhat. It was 'EP' who guided me like the late Chaturvedi had guided him, into conservationist channels, and our companionable visits to the Kaziranga Sanctuary stand out in mind as some of the happiest of my Assam holidays. He was full of the lore of wildlife which he later utilised in his book on The Wild Life of India.

I felt disheartened in my own tea planting days, and it was he who kept me there by his sage remark : "Life is Army; you have to stick in and make good". Of course he knew about the army, having served with credit on the Burma front; even if knowledge of life as an Indian on Scots-controlled tea gardens was not his forte, he more than made up for it by his own exemplary conduct.

The General Assembly of the IUCN due to be held in New Delhi in November, 1969 was largely his initiative, and he will be sorely missed, at this as at all other wild life conservation gatherings. Incessantly speaking or writing articles, he was often affectionately termed 'chatter-Gee' by friends, and for his other serious discovery, the actual photographing and description of the Golden Langur, *Presbytis geei*, he was made Corresponding Member of the Royal Zoological Society, in consequence of which his planter-friends called him E.P. Langur-Gee !

He was to join me and Dr. George Schaller and Sri R.K. Dang for a preliminary ecological survey of the high elevation Laya Sanctuary in Bhutan as part

of the activities of the Himalayan Wild Life Research Project, this October, but his death, and the floods, put an end to it this autumn.

His book *The Wild Life of India*, is a classic of its kind, and remains the best so far produced. In it he condensed the findings of a lifetime spent in the forests and the sanctuaries of India. Particularly interested in and expert at the rhinoceros of Kaziranga, he was an honorary forest officer of Assam.

His death will be a great loss to the wildlife effort in India, and his amusing and active personality will be missed by all his friends and many admirers.

H.K.D.

### Dr. DURGA PRASAD

On the 9th of July, 1968 died Dr. Durga Prasad leaving behind the citizens of Dehra Dun mourning the loss of a popular doctor of the rich and the poor. He was an active member of the Wild Life Preservation Society of India and Past Governor of the Rotary of which he was a founder Member. "D.P."—as he was affectionately called—and the Rotary in Dehra Dun were inseparable. He was an embodiment of the spirit of the Rotary. He was the first person from Garhwal to qualify as a doctor from Lucknow and started practising medicine in Dehra Dun in the twenties and by his personal qualities he endeared himself to one and all. He was a renowned physician, Grand Master of the Lodge of India, President of the All India Medical Association, a city father and above all one who served humanity with devotion. The student community from Garhwal in Dehra Dun will ever remember him with feelings of admiration and gratitude.

R.N.M.