

Tanksi, and then under the name of Schejok continues north, piercing through the granite in a glen which we shall learn something more about presently. The range in which the Tschang-la is situated separates the Indus from its tributary the Schejok, and it too consists for the most part of granite. The country thereabouts is colourless — grey — grey, nothing but stone, and only in part covered with snow, and even then only thinly.

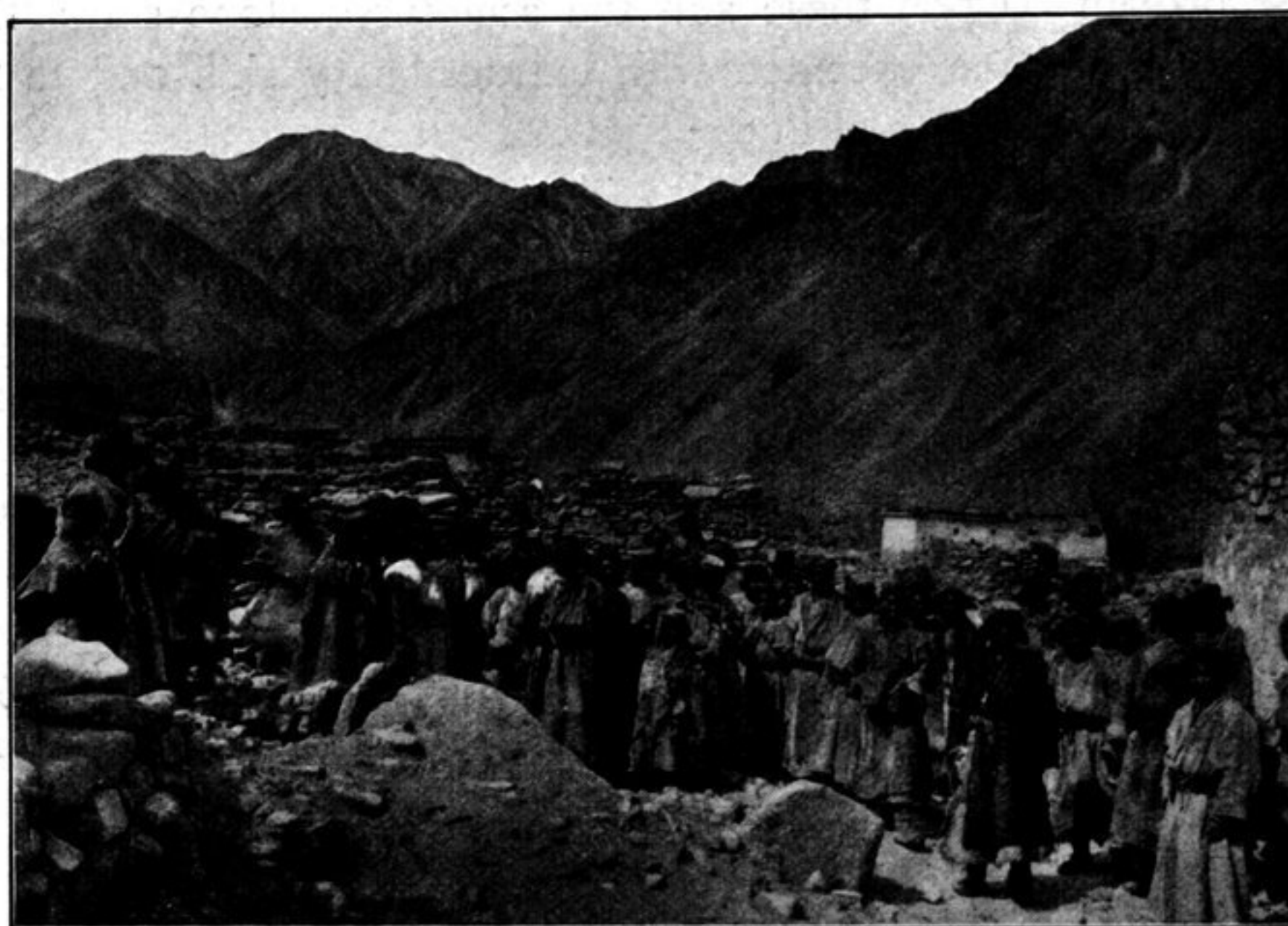


Fig. 274. INHABITANTS OF DRUGUB.

The road ran next along the foot of the slopes on the left-hand side of the valley, keeping on the top of the eroded scarp, generally at no great height above the bottom of the glen; indeed we repeatedly came into contact with the ice-sheet that filled the watercourse. Just below Tschag-nagbo, an expansion of the glen with a couple of stone huts, we crossed over a swelling on its right flank. At this place again there are springs, and they had formed long ice-sheets. After a long climb up the terraces on the left side of the glen, we at length reached an obo in the district known as Tsoitag. The superficial configuration here gave rise to an illusion; for when we thought we had only a short distance left to the pass, it turned out that we had still a good long way to go, and that the pass was hidden behind the mountain-masses which rose on our left. So up, up we still continued to climb; but though the way was long, it was easy, sometimes almost horizontal. In the locality of Mocar the glen widens out into a broad, relatively flat gathering-basin, upon which the eroded watercourses of all the surrounding mountains converge. Several of these, especially on our right (*i. e.* the left-hand side of the glen) are remarkably large. On the same side the summits of the mountains were capped with snow. The mountains on our left (right side of glen) were however nearer to us, and we had a good view of their bold and picturesque sculpturing. We were then travelling west-south-west. In two or three places we passed immense sheets