

valley between moderately high mountains; to the eye its bottom is perfectly level; to the left there is a pool, but no sign of watercourses or terraces. Only where a very little brook, flowing to the S.W., is seen, one understands that the extremely flat threshold has been crossed; a little above this point the height is 5 276 m, 5 m less than Takche, which was, however, a little farther up on the course of the Takche brook. The Tibetans call this threshold Surnge-lungpa and sometimes Surnge-la; I have preferred the latter appellation as showing that this is really a first-class water-parting pass.

Proceeding south-westwards the fall becomes steeper and the valley more and more developed. From the left enter the tributaries Donglung and Dajo-lungpa, from the right Panglung. Already at Camp 449 the height is only 4 917 m, giving a fall of 359 m from the threshold of Surnge. This is the most convenient passage from the peripheric land to the Tibetan plateau-land I have seen; but further inland one has to cross the high and difficult Ding-la, which comes like a revenge for the easy crossing of Surnge-la.

From Camp 449 a low peak, Gurla, with fresh snow, is seen to the N. 88° W., and to the S. 78° W. is Pundi-ri on the north side of Manasarovar. To the S.W. is seen the upper part of the valley Pachen; at the point where our road leaves it, it is broad and open, but soon becomes very narrow. The road goes southwards, crossing small tributaries to the Pachen and a little rock of granitic porphyry, after which it ascends to the pass Yübgö-la 5 242 m. On its southern side, where the rock is petrosilex, the road enters a narrow valley. To the west is seen a pyramidal peak, not very high, said to be called Poje-gurla; to the S.E. is the little peak Yültsa-chügmo. The valley itself is called Gelle-lungpa, where Camp 450 has a height of 5 027 m.

Lower down the valley opens up a little; the rock is petrosilex and gray-wacke. To the left is a peak Dongitse, from which a tributary comes joining the Gelle-lungpa; the joint river is then called Tolege-buk and flows south-westwards to the Samo-tsangpo. The road crosses a little threshold, Rigong-la, 4 972 m high, and then continues over rolling hills down to upper Tokchen, where the height is only 4 654 m.

After fine weather in June, the rainy season set in in the beginning of July, with sometimes rather heavy rain. July 9th hail and heavy snowfall occurred round Argok-tso, and in the Surnge valley the snow lay half a foot deep. Rainy days then become more and more frequent at Tokchen and down the upper Satlej.

Animal life was the same as usual. The open plains of Selipuk may be regarded as particularly rich in animals, kyangs, goa- and pantholops antelopes, hares and wolves. Along the Sumdang-tsangpo wild geese, ducks and gulls were numerous.

Nomads are more numerous on this line than on the previous one. Near Selipuk-gompa only 3 tents were seen and 3 at Rartse, but 60 tents in all are said to have to provide the lamas of the monastery with water and fuel and to take care