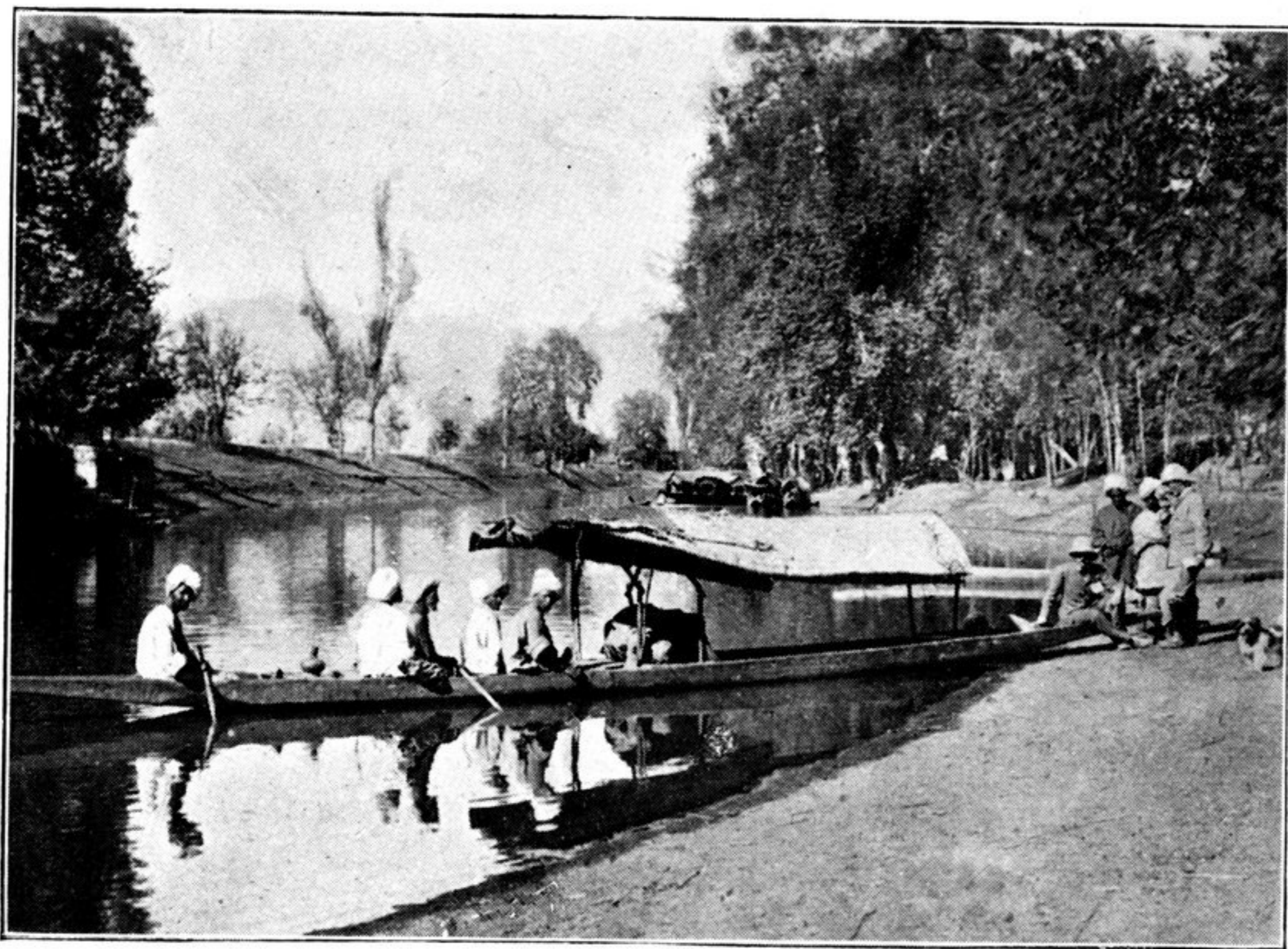


travellers. The only way by which I could confidently rely upon entering Tibet without opposition was *via* Ladak and the Lanak Pass.

At Srinagar, Pike and I were the guests of the hospitable Captain G. Chenevix-Trench, and our time was fully occupied with the necessary preparations. Here we were provided with travelling outfit for ourselves, for the sub-surveyor, and for two orderlies from the 1st Battalion of



THE START FROM SRINAGAR.

the 2nd Gurkha regiment. The Zoji La, a much-dreaded pass where the loads would have to be carried by the coolies, was not far ahead, and, in packing the Yak dans and making up the bundles, it was necessary to limit their weight. The maximum which a coolie would attempt to carry over the pass was 50 lbs., but we had a Berthon duplex collapsible boat, and also loads of ammunition, which could not be brought within this regulation maxi-