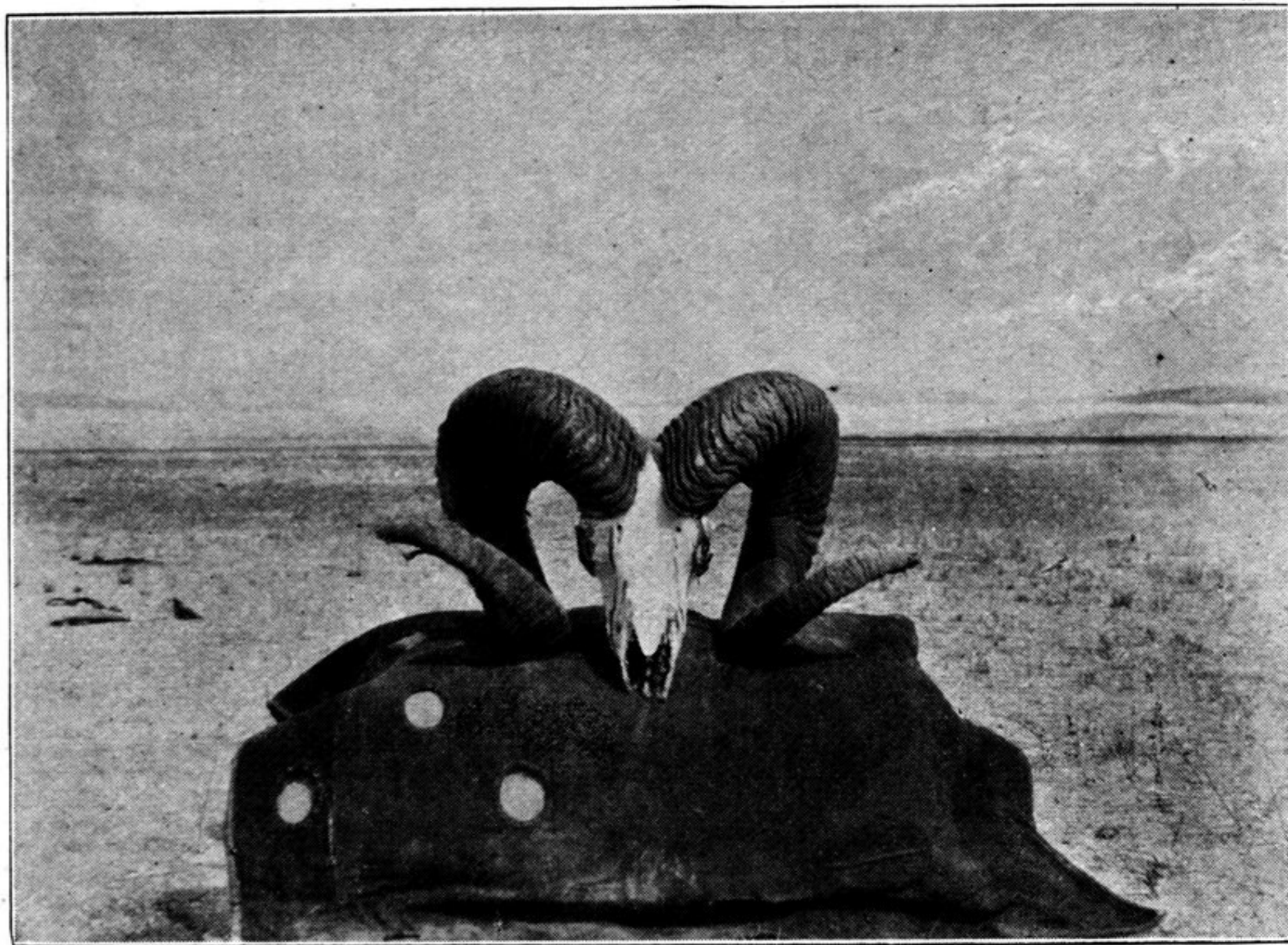


We had not gone far when it became clear that we were to be led by a lengthy route, an arrangement which suited me admirably, as it provided an opportunity for the survey of a wide tract of country. To make sure that this course would be adhered to, I at once vigorously protested against it, and insisted on being taken the shortest way. Being told that, by the short route, the passes were lofty and difficult, I acquiesced, with a bad grace, in the escort's



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arrangement. By the easier route the passes were of sufficient height to tax our energies, one of them, apparently not regarded as formidable, being 16,700 feet. The large escort rather hampered our movements, and, in the survey work, we had to take precautions against exciting suspicion. Leno, attended by two caravan men who carried the plane-table and stand, invariably lagged behind, and contrived to elude the attention of the