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DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

PUBLICATIONS OF THE
DIVISION OF WATER RESOURCES
EDWARD HYATT, State Engineer

BULLETIN No. 43
SOUTH COASTAL BASIN INVESTIGATION

VALUE AND COST OF WATER
FOR IRRIGATION
IN
COASTAL PLAIN OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

Prepared under cooperative agreement between the College
of Agriculture, University of California, and the Division
of Water Resources, State Department of Public Works.

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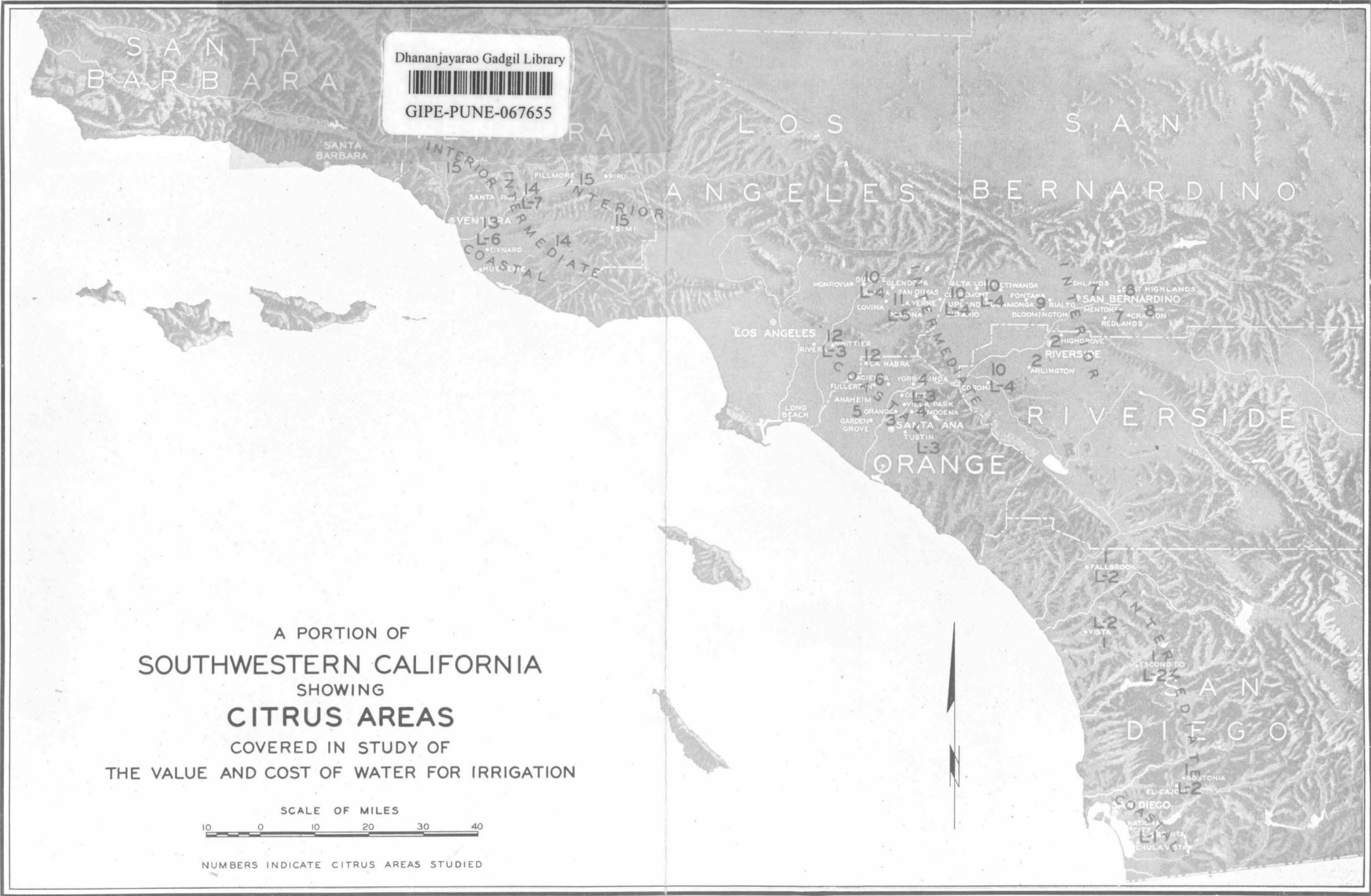
LOS ANGELES
RIVERSIDE
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A PORTION OF
SOUTHWESTERN CALIFORNIA
SHOWING
CITRUS AREAS

COVERED IN STUDY OF
THE VALUE AND COST OF WATER FOR IRRIGATION



NUMBERS INDICATE CITRUS AREAS STUDIED



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LETTER OF TRANSMITTAL

MR. EDWARD HYATT,
State Engineer,
Sacramento, California.

Dear Sir:

There is transmitted herewith a report entitled "The Value and Cost of Water for Irrigation in the Coastal Plain of Southern California," by Frank Adams and Martin R. Huberty of the Division of Irrigation Investigations and Practice of the University of California.

This report has been prepared with the financial assistance and the close cooperation of the Division of Water Resources, and is therefore available for publication by you as a cooperative report, if you so desire.

In transmitting this report, it is desired to recall that the questions which enter into the value of water for irrigation are exceedingly complicated. They involve not only some of the fundamental principles of economics, but also the practical application of those principles to varied physical and economic situations in the field.

Because of the limited time available for the investigation leading up to this report, the authors have chosen to confine themselves very largely to the assembling of data, to acquiring an intimate understanding of the physical situations in the southern coastal plain as they are related to its agriculture, and to the presentation of the information assembled in such manner as to make it most useful to those concerned with particular problems in which the value and cost of water are factors. It has seemed best to the authors to discuss the principles involved only to the extent necessary to make clear their procedure.

Very sincerely yours,



Dean, College of Agriculture.

Berkeley, California
June 1, 1933.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT

In the preparation of this report the authors have had the very helpful counsel of the following advisory committee appointed by Dean Hutchison: Dr. L. D. Batchelor, Director of the Branch of the College of Agriculture in Southern California; R. L. Adams, Professor of Farm Management; M. R. Benedict, Professor of Agricultural Economics; Professor L. B. Smith, Assistant State Leader, Agricultural Extension Service; Warren R. Schoonover, Extension Specialist in Citriculture; and L. W. Fluharty, Specialist in Agricultural Extension. A preliminary draft of the report was submitted by the writers to a group of growers and others interested at Los Angeles on April 28, 1933, and many valuable suggestions were obtained from them. This preliminary draft has also been read, and helpful suggestions for improvement submitted by Professor R. W. Hodgson, Assistant Director, and S. H. Beckett, Professor of Irrigation Investigations and Practice, in the Branch of the College of Agriculture in Southern California, and by David Weeks, Associate Professor of Agricultural Economics, Berkeley. The Irrigation Division of the Bureau of Agricultural Engineering, United States Department of Agriculture, furnished field headquarters at Pomona for the investigation, and Paul A. Ewing, Wells A. Hutchins, Harry F. Blaney, and Colin A. Taylor of that division read the preliminary draft and gave helpful suggestions regarding it. Acknowledgment of assistance by others is made in the text.

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was conducted under the supervision of

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South Coastal Basin Investigation

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FOREWORD

This report is one of a series of bulletins on the South Coastal Basin Investigation which is in most of its phases confined to the coastal areas of Los Angeles, Riverside, San Bernardino and Orange counties, designated South Coastal Basin. The scope of the present study has been enlarged to encompass Ventura and San Diego counties as well. Most of the field and office work for this bulletin has been on the citrus industry, and there is no line of economic demarcation between South Coastal Basin as above defined and the other two counties.

The report has been prepared by the authors, representing the College of Agriculture, University of California, at the request of the State Engineer and the Los Angeles Chamber of Commerce. It is printed with the consent of Dean C. B. Hutchison of the College of Agriculture.