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Antelope Valley—Magic Land at L.A. Back Door

Area Virtually Unknown to Southland-Where Desert Blooms, Industry Booms

BY FRED BECK

to most residents of South is the biggest with 29,000. ern California.

Just beyond the mountains The motels are first rate, But the undertone of excitement, evident throughout the area, is caused by expectations of a dynamic future.

35,000 Square Miles

Antelope Valley is an area of land extending from the L.A. County line on the east to Ventura County on the west—from the San Gabriel range on the south to the Tehachapi Mountains on the north — a spread of 3,500 square miles that invites the motorist to travel down The Road of Discovery

From Pasadena and thereabouts the motorist would take the scenic Angeles Crest Highway acros the mountains, or Foothill Blvd. north, to where it terminates in junction with U.S. 6, thence through Mint Canyon. As we enter the canyon, on a course that soon will be the Antelope Valley Freeway, quite sud-denly the valley opens up as a vast vista of sunny open plains shimmering un-der a sky usually so blue that it looks like theatrical

So clear is the air that the scene spreads for miles, the distance fading off in a background of picturesque

Picks Up U.S. 6

From Los Angeles the route would be San Fernando Road or across the San Fernando Valley on Sepulveda, picking up U.S. 6, from which point we travel through Mint Canyon. we could take the turn into Newhall and Saugus, from there through Bouquet Canyon which leads into the quaint community of Quartz Hill where thousands of almond trees will soon be in blossom.

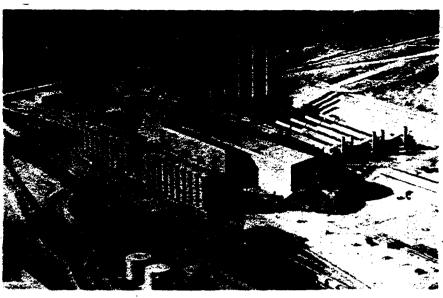
If in doubt locate Lancaster or Palmdale on your map, go there and you'll be in the Antelope Valley.

All the towns of the valley

presently claim a combined At Los Angeles' back population of 100,000. That doorstep there lies a Land of means that the Valley has Magic—a vast new emerging just about three people to empire already bustling the square mile. The future, with activity of portent fast closing in. is a picture
And yet this amazing painted in far different hues. area, the Greater Antelope Of the 20 towns (some mere Valley, is virtually unknown gas-and-oil stops) Lancaster

Motels First Rate

to the north, a 90-minute they have swimming pools drive from Los Angeles and feature "gourmet cuimeasured from Figueroa and sine" and if you happen



CALIFORNIA Portland Cement \$22 million Mojave plant in Antelope Valley.

Adams from which point the upon The Caravan Inn on "chic" enough for Beverly Those men at the bar may men may be discussing the fornia computes distances, the right or wrong day depending on your attitude, the rapidly expanding Antepending on your attitude, there may be a fashion show tertainment and dancing in keys are to the Valley what One, roasted, fulfills the lounge on more attitude, going on. Everything is the lounge.

Those men at the bar may men may be discussing the well be talking turkey. Turpracticality of 54-lb. toms, there may be a fashion show tertainment and dancing in keys are to the Valley what One, roasted, fulfills the dates are to Indio, and the Please Turn to Pg. 21, Col. 1 trially and agriculturally.

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ANTELOPE VALLEY

need of the total passengers area. on a big jet.

Other agricultural points of pride in the area are poultry, field crops and alfalfa production. All these translated into money, chalks up an annual \$30 million. In the southerly part around Pearblossom and Littlerock we have peaches and pears.

Great Sheep Herds

fornia City grows larger.

As the towns of the area with the accent on recrea-ground. tion. A golf course lighted for ing the valley.

Fine Recreation

stretches of the Antelope barbecues. Valley, recreation includes

and duck clubs. Must-see attractions are the Tropico Mine a few miles west of U.S. 6 out of Rosamondand the Indian Museum near Lancaster. And the open-pit mine at Boron.

This is the true "high desert" region. It boasts the enchantment of four mild-near future. Other estabweather seasons; average lished industrial firms in the Almonds grow at Quartz rainfall is 9.12 inches annual-AV include United Carbon, Hill and on the fringe of ly. Mean daily temperature California City the great M. is a moderate 76 high and a & R. Ranch, rich in water low of 46.4. Relative humid-Great Lakes Carbon and wells, run great herds of ity averaging 30% during many more, sheep and raises cotton as the summer and 40% during. In the no well. But the ranch grows the winter is just about the lies Mojave, a town that smaller as contiguous Cali-oriest climate in California.

Free From Smog

A climate characteristic with Lancaster and derives from the invigoratand a population of over 600 is free of smog and fog and into the San Joaquin Valley. and the fastest rate of gain, forever shall remain so-or Potentially important indus- so they say-because there trially, it is presently a town is no inversion layer to glue tablished itself near Mojave,

the principle surprises en they sleep better and feel commodates anything that countered by families tour better than they did "down flies. below." The summer nights Elsewhere in the broad fun around the pools and as Mojave Industrial Action

golf, fishing, hunting, riding al industries such as poultry ing reconverted to an Indusbowling, water skiing, hik packing plants and so on trial Park. R. A. Byers, the ing, camping and rock hunt Antelope Valley has taken "flywheel" of MIAC. firmly The rockhounds are forward strides in step with believes that the Mojave everywhere and the pickin's the space age. This dates area of the Antelope Valley are rich. Active gold and sil back only to the days of will emerge as the new ver mining continues in the World War II. At Edwards "American Ruhr."

AF Base and Edwards Plant. 42. Palmdale, blue chip firms such as North American. Continued from Third Page Rands burg-Johannesburg Douglas, Lockheed, Northrop, GE, Westinghouse. Ben-There are country clubs dix and others employ 14,000 military personnel and civilians. The annual payroll figure is given as \$63 million.

Big Future Expected

While the figure is impressive, it is small as compared with expectancies for the Chemical &

In the north of the area

came upon the map mainly because both the Santa Fe and the Union Pacific have Palmdale leading in popula- ing altitude which ranges yards there. The lines cotion, California City, not yet from 2,300 to 4,000 feet above mingle and share trackage in four years old, has 175 homes sea level, and the entire area the lift over the Tehachapis

noted for "richer living" industrial wastes to the and then moved out, leaving behind an impressive instal-The year-round moderate lation that has been taken night play and a man-made weather is conducive to good over by Kern County Airlake for boating are two of health. Valley folks insist port No. 7. The runway ac-

The U.S. Marine Corps es-

Industrial Park

With drive supplied by are notably balmy, which With drive supplied by makes for outdoor evening Mojave boosters organized Committee the former Ma-Aside from the agricultur-rine base is in process of be-