

Historical Society
OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA



December, 1935. Volume XVII, Number 4

Quarterly Publication

It is the aim of the Editorial Board to make of this *Quarterly* a publication of interest to all members of the Society, as well as a journal of lasting historical and scholarly import. If this end is to be attained the full support and cooperation of the members will be required. Accordingly, suggestions and criticisms will be welcomed, and members and other readers of this publication are invited to submit original articles, old letters, documents, maps and other material pertaining to the history of Southern California and neighboring regions, for consideration by the editors. Additional copies of this *Quarterly* may be purchased from the Society, the price to members being 75 cents per copy, and to non-members \$1.00 per copy.

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HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

Organized November 1, 1883
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HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

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EDITORIAL NOTE

WITH THIS ISSUE we conclude the first year of this Society's *Quarterly*. From the comments received from members, we believe that this experiment has proved its worth, although much improvement is possible, and will be attempted. The publication is of necessity a small one, and considering the Society's finances it must so continue. We should like to print an hundred pages in each issue, rather than our present limit of thirty-two, for the available material is as abundant as it is interesting. But we cannot do this unless some practicable means can be found for the financing of such a larger *Quarterly*.

In this issue we leave for a time the Butterfield Stage and turn back the pages to the year 1782 to examine the record of an exploration of this coast by Spanish mariners, brought to us through

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Henry M. Wagner's facile pen. A half century later an American naval officer was off our shores, and we rescue from oblivion Commodore Jones' account of his ceremonious visit to the Mexican Governor in the little village of Los Angeles in 1843. Three decades later Pio and Andres Pico "went to law" against their brother-in-law John Forster over the princely Santa Margarita Rancho, and from the dusty files of this case Terry E. Stephenson, dean of Orange County historians, draws the material for a worth-while picture of early days and men. An innovation is the publication of the celebrated Ord Map of Los Angeles. This reproduction has been made direct from the original map itself, and 100 extra copies, on heavy paper, have been printed in format suitable for framing. These will be sold to members at \$1.00, and to non-members at \$1.50 per copy. J. Gregg Layne's brief account of Ord and his career presents the quaint background of the making of this historic map. We hope to be able to reproduce at least one other early local map in each forthcoming *Quarterly*.

We again enclose a membership application blank and ask each member to exert sufficient effort to obtain at least one new member and if possible a dozen. Such memberships will take effect on January 1, 1936, and will entitle the applicant to the *Quarterly* during that year, as well as to all the usual privileges of membership. Only by effective effort on the part of all members to maintain and to increase the Society's membership can we be enabled to go forward with many important projects. The Board of Directors, therefore, urges and expects your cooperation. A roster of members of the Society will be published in the March issue of this *Quarterly*.

CARL I. WHEAT.