

between the 11th and 24th degrees of latitude, to the west of the Cordillera of Los Frailes, has a mean altitude of 13,123 feet (or about $2\frac{1}{2}$ miles), and has no outlet for the waters that accumulate in it. Locally it is called the "puna," and in some parts there occur immense saline plains (*pampas salinas*), while in others are vast deserts with-

Peru and Bolivia.

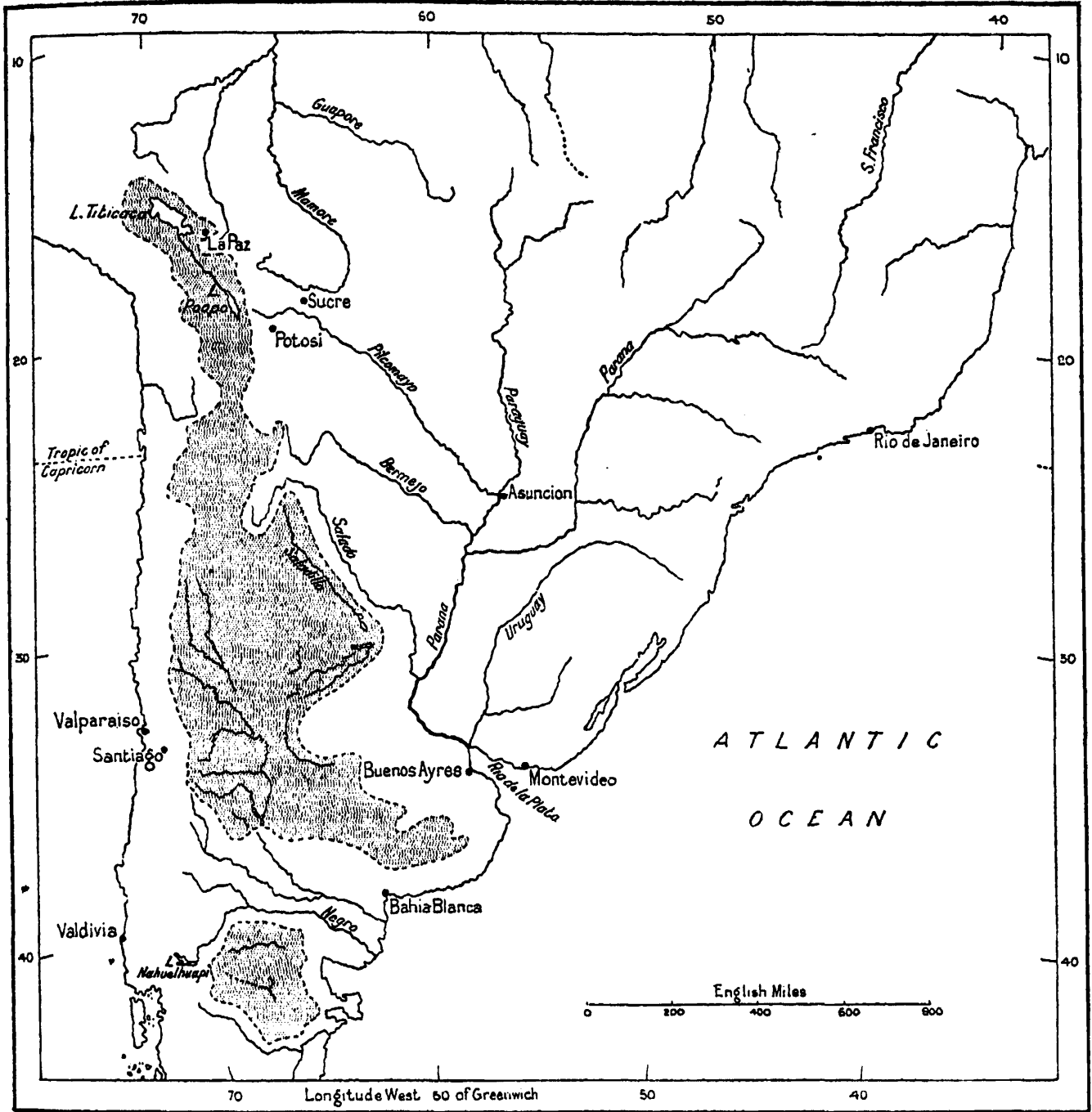


FIG. 69.—Inland drainage areas of South America.
[The inland drainage areas are stippled.]

out trace of vegetation. Not a single tree is found throughout the whole region, though in some parts plants of the cactus tribe are sparsely distributed. The drainage accumulates in the two lakes Titicaca and Poopo; but while the former is deep, contains fresh water, and is surrounded by lofty mountains, Lake Poopo is a great shallow lagoon containing salt water. The two are connected by the Desaguadero, which flows from Titicaca into Poopo. Lemaire