NEWS REVIEW SECTION

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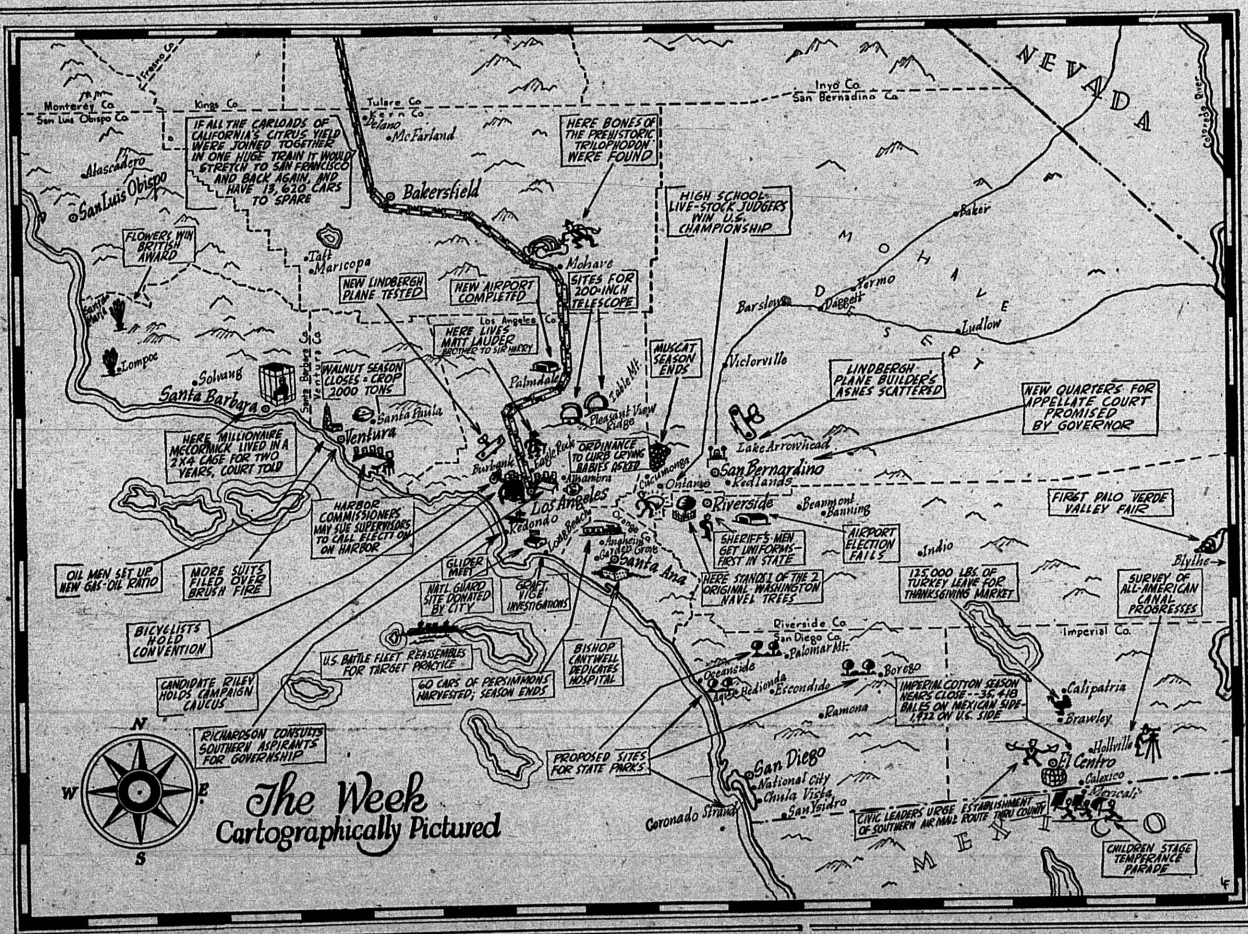

State Affairs

The Governor

Young's Week

Governor Young and the State Board of Equalization have wide and divergent views on State taxation of banks. Governor Young maintains that the new 4 per cent income tax is a success; the Board of Equalization stoutly maintains that it is a failure. The Governor, therefore, saw no reason last week to allow the board's secretary, Dixwell L. Pierce, to represent the State at Chicago where the Association of States on Bank Taxation was in session. To Secretary Pierce's request to attend, the Governor said No. Although miffed and irritated by what he reasoned was an attempt to embroil him prematurely in a campaign issue, Governor Young remained steadfast; apparently ignored Secretary Pierce's letter of rebuke (see The Government).

The Press & Mooney. Staunch advocates of pardon for Thomas Mooney and Warreh Billings are the San Francisco Call-Bulletin (Hearst) and the San Francisco News (Scripps-Howard). Fortnight ago they clamored loudly for a gubernatorial investigation of the death-bed confession of one Louis J. Smith, of Cleveland, O., who purportedly revealed that he, not Mooney and Billings, had perpetrated the San Frencisco Preparedness Day Parade bombing outrage; that he had been hired by German agents.

Said the Governor: "I would like to believe there is truth in the purported confession, but so far I have no authentication of the statements in it."

Then, last week, Hearstlings and San Francisco Newsmen moved in upon the Governor; demanded news of the Mooney case. He told them he had written Chief Justice Waste, before whose tribunal the Billings clemency appeal is pending (News Review, Nov. 11-17), that he hoped the Supreme Court calendar would permit reasonably prompt action inasmuch as he considered the cases of the two alleged dynamiters closely allied.

When reporters had returned to their city rooms, had pounded out their stories, these were the headlines they carried: "MOONEY PARDON ASSURED" and "GOVERNOR TELLS SUPREME COURT TO HURRY BILLINGS DECISION." The Governor was badgered, displeased; resolved to be more careful in his interviews.

Later in the week, however, the Governor, cautious, wary, made the following announcement: "In my efforts to arrive at the true facts in the Mooney case I have interviewed several witnesses, not under oath, and have encountered the difficulty of having one or two refuse to give any information or even to see me." Therefore he announced that since he, lacking power, could not unearth the evidence, make the witnesses talk by persuasion, the Advisory Pardon Board, headed by Licutenant-Governor Carnahan, would, by law.

Nelson vs. Carnahan. Senator H. C. (Skipper) Nelson, of Eureka, is the administration's whip in the upper house of the Legislature. In the 1929 session he led the tax fight for the administration, and won the reputation of being one of two or three men who know something of the subject. He was, therefore, quite put out, when, by the turn of a political wheel, Assembly Speaker Edgar C. Levey was made chairman of the Legislative Tax Investigating Committee. Reasoned Skipper Nelson: Lieutenant-Governor Carnahan could and should have given me the chairmanship.

Last week Administrative Whip Nelson sought recompense, broke with the Young administration; announced his candidacy for the lieutenant-governorship.

Heron & King. When Rumor last week shouted loudly and confidently that Finance Director Alexander Heron would resign shortly to become affiliated with either "one of the largest" banking institutions in the West or the Sun Maid Raisin Growers Association, political eyes turned toward Lyman M. King. Formerly a State Senator from San Bernardino, publisher of the Redlands Daily Facts, onetime Senator King was Chief of the Division of Service and Supplies (ranking second in command under Director Heron) until early last September when he resigned (News Review, Sept. 9-15). Investigations last week, however, disclosed that Governor Young had never accepted Division Chief King's resignation; that he was still on the State's payroll.

Political gossip bruiters last week said Chief King's appointment was "just about settled;" others said he would not consider the position.

Secretary Carlin. A Virginian, son of a Southern Congressman, formerly a Democrat is Keith Carlin. Shortly after Governor Young took office he appointed Former Democrat Carlin as his executive secretary. Last September he made him his private secretary. Last month Secretary Carlin was mentioned as a candidate for Corporation Commissioner. But the Governor appointed instead Fred

DIXWELL L. PIERCE

The Governor said NO.

G. Athearn, of San Francisco.

Last Sunday Secretary and Mrs. Carlin departed for Virginia where they will remain until after Christmas. In departing, Secretary Carlin confirmed rumors of his resignation; said he would retire to private law practice in Los Angeles.

Rumored: The appointment by Governor Young of Secretary Carlin as attorney for the newly formed Department of Professional and Vocational Standards, at Los Angeles.

Rumored: The appointment of Vincent Kennedy, now executive secretary, to private secretary.

Thanksgiving. Urged by Governor Young in his annual Thanksgiving Day proclamation, issued on Friday of last week, was prayer for the continuance of the "blessings which have so righly attended us."

Said he: ". . . . beautiful custom . . . . eminently fitting that we should devote one day of each year. . . . to a rendering of thanks. . . . for the continuance of our material welfare. . . . for the privilege which is ours of living in a land of peace, freedom, and equality of opportunity."

Big Game. On Saturday morning Governor Young's office in the State Capitol was in charge of a lone, but quite efficient stenographer, Miss Mary Getty. Having departed from Sacramento on Wednesday, the Governor spent Wednesday night at Oakland as guest of honor at the Ninth Annual Pacific Slope Dairy Show (see Agriculture); Thursday and Friday at the executive offices in San Francisco, where he caucused politically; and on Saturday was at Palo Alto where he saw his alma mater (University of California) drubbed by eleven powerful and rejuvenated Stanford footballers.

The Government

Tempest, Teapot

The State Board of Equalization is an elective body composed of four district representatives, an ex officio member (Controller Ray L. Riley), and a secretary (Dixwell L. Pierce). The board's chief duty is to act as an equalizer between the State and its citizens in taxation matters. The board conducts hear-