July 25, 1933

*This Date in Missouri Senate History*

On *This Date in Missouri Senate History*, the date was July 25, 1933, the date the Missouri Department of Agriculture was created by the Missouri General Assembly.

Nineteen thirty-three was a landmark year, in terms of government reorganization, not just in Missouri, but throughout the country. Most of it came about as a result of dozens of new programs set in place by Congress and then-Pres. Franklin Roosevelt.

Since 1865, Missouri had a State Board of Agriculture. This would be changed, along with many other aspects of state government. The Missouri Department of Conservation was also created in 1933.

Under the direction of newly elected Gov. Guy Park, the Missouri General Assembly put forth legislation to restructure state government. Senate Bill 42 put into place all of the details necessary to transfer positions and duties from the Agricultural *Board* to the new department. This included setting the salary for the new Commissioner of Agriculture, now Director, at $3,000 per year — plus travel expenses.

And, it all started on July 25, 1933, the date marking creation of the Missouri Department of Agriculture, on *This Date in Missouri Senate History*.

(Sources: Missouri Department of Agriculture; secretary of state archives; *Journal of the Missouri Senate, 57th Session*)