

## Review of Legislature

(Continued from page 1.)

sion which has operated in Multnomah county for the past two years.

Highway legislation, which in past sessions was one of the big issues, played a minor role in the session just closed. While there were a number of measures introduced affecting the road program very few of them were translated into laws.

### Gasoline Tax Increased.

The tax on gasoline was increased from 2 to 3 cents per gallon but all attempts to revise the motor vehicle fees were defeated.

One of the bills which was passed provides that fines for violations of the traffic laws, when made by the state traffic officers, shall go into the state treasury and be credited to the highway fund.

Formerly the engineering office of the highway department has designed and looked after the construction of important county bridges. Senator Eddy secured the enactment of a law which enables county courts to do their own bridge work or have it done, where the structure does not cost more than \$35,000.

Attempts definitely to locate the Roosevelt highway were defeated.

A bill was passed which extends indefinitely the time in which the state highway commission can match any government appropriations for the Roosevelt highway.

Efforts to have a salaried highway commissioner were defeated, notwithstanding the recommendations of the governor.

The ambition of the American Legion of Oregon was realized when Governor Pierce attached his signature to the anti-alien land bill.

To the irrigation and drainage securities commission, which for several years has been composed of the state engineer, the attorney general and the state superintendent of banks, the legislature added the governor and the state treasurer.

### Malheur Controversy Settled

The Malheur lake controversy was probably settled by the Ellis bill, allowing squatters on the lake bed lands, the gratis acquisition of 160 acres each and riparian owners the right to fill out their fractional "forties" from the land along the meander lines.

Two bills of interest to the farmers were passed. One defining the standards of ice cream and a bill to prohibit the use of milk or milk products in milk or butter substitutes containing vegetable oils.

The fish commission, by the imposition of a 1-cent poundage tax on fish caught and used by canners, and the establishment of a sinking fund out of part of the proceeds from this fund, has taken the step toward making that body self-sustaining.

Under the provisions of the narcotic law approved by the governor, the penalties for the use, possession or sale of narcotics are greatly increased. A state prohibition enforcement organization headed by the governor was created and a division of fines imposed in the counties authorized to maintain the state organization.

Confiscation of automobiles used in illicit liquor transportation was provided for and additional restrictions placed on the use of stills and mash products.

### Sterilization Law Enacted.

Considered among important enactments is the sterilization bill, intended to curb the propagation of feeble minded and criminally inclined persons.

Another important bill requires a literacy test for voters.

The old wild animal bounty system was repealed and in its place was enacted the so-called hunter system whereby counties have the option of using government hunters to chase down predatory animals. They are paid jointly by the counties and the government.

Measures flavored with religious prejudice received scant consideration. The only bill of a religious character which passed was the Woodward bill prohibiting school teachers from wearing sectarian garb. There was little opposition to the measure.

Bills to eliminate Columbus day from the list of legal holidays and to repeal the law providing for both Protestant and Catholic chaplains at the penitentiary failed.

No attempt was made to advance the effective date of the compulsory school bill that was passed by the people in November.

Bills attempting to place a tax on church property and on hospitals also failed.

A bill providing for free text books, another proposing that all electors in school districts be allowed to vote on questions affecting school finances, and another calling for dental inspection in public schools all failed.

The \$40,000 appropriation for the Pacific Northwest Tourist association was killed.

### Initiative Changes Fail.

Several attempts were made to amend the initiative, referendum and recall acts to curb the activity of petition circulators, but these failed.

A house joint resolution proposing to submit to the people the question of amending the state constitution to provide for a lieutenant governor was indefinitely postponed.

The Bennett bill, which would have done away with the listing of agricultural and horticultural lands by county assessors was vetoed by the governor.

The governor failed in his effort for a severance tax, but was given the authority asked by him as an alternative, to call a conference of the governors of Washington, California and Idaho to sit with him for the formulation of some harmonious plan for the protection of the natural resources of the Northwest.

### Astoria Gets Relief.

In the closing hours the Mott bill granting relief to Astoria through the remission of state taxes for a period of seven years was passed.

The legislature defeated the bill to compel women to serve on juries and also killed the measure to require a physical examination of women before marriage.

From a financial viewpoint, the legislature is \$291,519 more economical, so far as direct appropriations voted are concerned, than was the session of 1921.

That session voted appropriations to the amount of \$6,359,537. The session just ended voted money bills totaling \$6,068,018.

Among the minor bills passed of general interest was an appropriation which will bring the battleship Oregon into Portland harbor, there to remain as a floating monument for the future, and bills reopening loans to those who took the soldiers' bonus, when they prove that they did so under mistake; prohibiting changing of party affiliation within 30 days of primaries and placing safeguards around the signing of initiative petitions.

### Sulphur Increases Crop

Sulfur has beat super-phosphate producing increases in crop yields on red hill soils in recent field experiments conducted by the Oregon Experiment station, reports W. L. Powers, head of soils investigation. As much as 5.0 per cent increase has been obtained from sulfur treatments.

Four field fertilizer experiments are maintained on red hill soils at Shaw, Corbett, and North Albany, and on the uplands at the Astoria branch experiment station. There are 12 to 30 plots at each location.

The sulfur content of red hill soils runs only 150 to 400 pounds in the plowed surface of an acre, as shown by chemical analyses made by the department of agricultural chemistry, of soils from several counties surveyed. That these soils are deficient in available sulfur at the close of the rainy season is indicated by the fact that more sulfur is lost in drainage than comes down in the rainfall.

Gypsum, which is calcium sulfate, has aided in nitrification and is establishing new clover stands.

Sulfur can be bought as flour sulfur or in gypsum, which is one-sixth sulfur in available form.

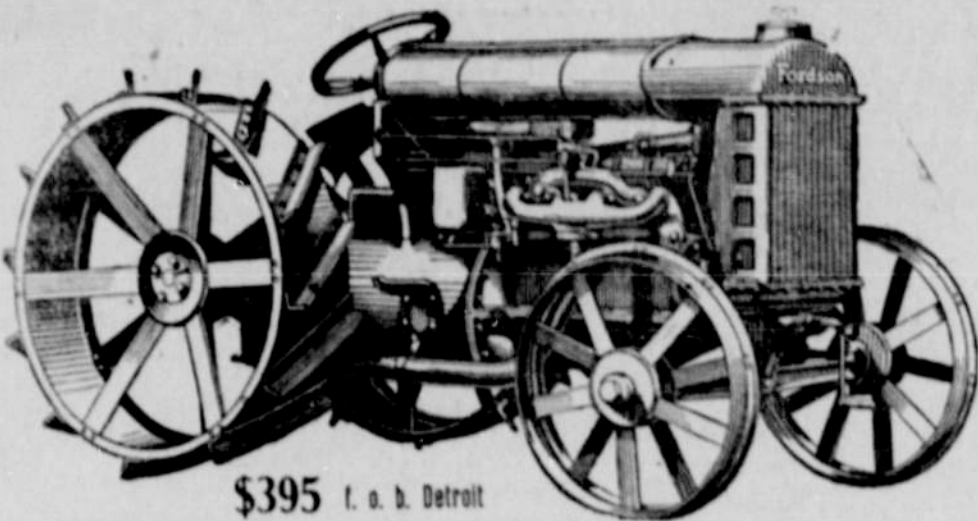
Continued use of sulfur, or applied faster than it is used up by the plants, tends to produce an acid condition that may make necessary the use of lime.

### Half City, Half Desert.

On the Gulf of Aden is a spot of barren sand where a city springs up every winter and almost disappears in the summer. This place is called Berbera. A market is held there every winter and during the height of trading it becomes a city of rude huts and tents with a population of over 20,000. During the summer the place is deserted.

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Scio, Oregon

## "Industrial Edition"

April 5, 1923

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¶ There is need for more and more publicity concerning the environments surrounding this great community, and in order to do our part in spreading the news, we are going to issue an Industrial Number on April 5th and with appropriate articles and advertising tell the world what we have in the Forks of the Santiam and what is needed.

¶ If you operate a Flour or Feed Mill, a Lumber Mill of any capacity, a Planing Mill, a Prune Dryer or any other Fruit Processing Plant; if you are breeder of Pure-bred Stock, a producer of Pure-bred Chickens; if you are a grower of any particular Seeds peculiar to this section—if you manufacture anything, if you have anything to sell, or want to buy anything—advertise it in this edition, April 5th, and watch results.

¶ There will be no raise in advertising rates, but should we have to go out and solicit the business it would force us to make a substantial increase in our rates for this issue. Mr. Citizen, if you believe in this community, give us your unqualified support—the success of this issue will prove your loyalty. Mr. Business Man, this is your best opportunity to tell the people what your business is and where you can be found.

¶ Remember, April 5, 1923, is the date. The time is short, so get your copy in as soon as possible. Help us a little in this matter by helping yourself and your community most. "Do it today."

## The Scio Tribune