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Fraser speaks to University of Montana law students

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FRASER SPEAKS TO U'M LAW STUDENTS

MISSOULA--

Governmental change is essential if "Montana is going to "go and grow," said Billings Mayor Willard Fraser in a speech to University of Montana law students Tuesday. But the hardest thing in the world to change is government, added Fraser, who said he is "tempted" to run for governor of the state.

"We need someone to tell the state what it has to offer," said Fraser. He stressed the fact that Montanans must recognize the growth of the cities of Montana and the continuing need to pay taxes to support their growth.

Three of the most important issues facing people in America today, according to Fraser, are integration, Vietnam and garbage. Garbage, he said, includes pollution, which he termed "disgraceful" in Montana and elsewhere. He voiced the need for immediate action to clean up Montana.

In discussing other pertinent issues, the Billings mayor said he advocates permitting 18-year-olds to vote, city-county consolidation, and a Constitutional convention for the purpose of revising the entire tax structure. He said a sales tax would not meet the needs of the growing state.

"We in Montana have been trying to sit outside the mainstream of America since 1948," said Fraser. He stressed the importance of finding ways to incorporate all individuals into our modern society. We must recognize the existence of the cities, he said.

Fraser also discussed the problems of the Montana Indians and of the serious loss of young people from the state each year. "We must provide opportunities for our youth to keep them in Montana," he said.

The future of Montana was discussed by the Billings mayor, who said Montanans would have to pay for neglect of the state's needy. Montana will be a great place, he said, only if we build it to make the state known.
He said Montana has not had a really great governor since Joe Dixon. He discussed his possible gubernatorial candidacy. "If I do run and if I am elected," he said, "there will be a great many changes made."