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April 15, 1957

RISING COSTS FORCE INCREASE IN MSU BOARD RATES

An increase of about seven per cent in Montana State University board rates, to become effective fall quarter 1957, will bring the University's rates closer into line with those of other Pacific area schools, MSU officials said today. The rise in rate per student from \$1.76 per day to \$1.90 was authorized by the State Board of Education at its April meeting.

The change will place MSU board rates in about the middle of the range of rates charged by other schools in the area. A national survey made in the spring of 1956 disclosed that MSU had the lowest board and room charges among Western state universities and colleges at that time.

The rate increase was necessary because of rising costs of supplies and labor, according to University officials. Food costs have increased 13.3 per cent in the current year according to actual figures of MSU food service expenditures. Other costs have been rising in recent years also, according to an Office of Education survey published this spring, which shows that average annual costs for students in state colleges and universities have almost exactly doubled between 1940 and 1957, increasing from \$747 to \$1,500 in that period.

Effective fall quarter 1957, the student's building fee at MSU will be increased from \$5 per quarter to \$7.50; and beginning fall quarter 1958, it will be raised to \$10. The first funds realized from this increase will be used to procure new laboratory and office space, in accordance with the recommendations of the Planning Committee of the faculty.

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