New Ph.D. programs in history, forestry and plant science at
Montana State University

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Better service for the state in the field of higher education will be possible now that the Board of Regents has granted Montana State University new Ph.D. programs in history and in forestry and plant science, it was stated here by Dr. Frank Abbott, academic vice president and dean of the Graduate School at MSU.

"The University has a capable staff in both fields, and the two new programs will help meet the need for advance degree candidates," he said. Abbott noted that of the 11 members of the history department, all have the Ph.D. degree. In forestry and botany, the two disciplines which would join to administer the other program, there are 16 who hold the terminal Ph.D.

"The School of Forestry and the Department of Botany are prepared to offer an integrated program of doctoral work in forestry and plant science unique within the statewide university system. The State of Montana will be served both economically and culturally by the program because Montana's greatest growth potential lies in the intensive development and use of its forest resource.

"The awarding of a Ph.D. in history will also contribute to the welfare of the state and its citizens. There is a critical shortage of teachers of history who have the doctoral degree, and many Montana students who now must go elsewhere in pursuit of this training will now be able to get the essential work here at MSU," Abbott said.