

6

AC 0298

BOX 1 FOLDER 6

Women's Educational Association: Report of Laboratory Committee, 1876

You are all doubtless aware
 of the rapidly ^{which women are taking} increasing interest
 in Science especially Chemistry
~~and~~, Mineralogy, and Zoology
 The recent endeavor to become
 members of the Boston Society
 of Natural History is one
 evidence

There are two ladies studying
 Zoology at the Society building
 at the present time

The excellent Laboratory of the
 Girls High school is giving
 a ~~wide spread~~ knowledge
 of what Chemistry means to
~~the young~~ 100 young women
 yearly.

In consequence of the increase in advantages ^{offered to women} for the study of the natural sciences.

by the ^{high} Colleges, summer schools for teachers & winter course of lectures a desire to ~~know more~~ study these sciences farther has been developed in the minds of ~~those~~ ^{many} who have taken the first steps -

Many of the subjects require those qualities which women excel in ^{such as} delicacy of touch & eye for color

Many branches of Chemistry and Mineralogy have special attractions for women as they ^{yet} and as far as they have been ^{yet} able to go in them those who have a love of the subject are

uniformly successful

If these women could have the opportunity they would fit themselves for experts in the several branches to which their tastes incline them.

The demand for such training is constantly increasing but no scientific or technical school offers them this training

The summer school for teachers
at Harvard is doing a
great work towards fostering
a love of really scientific
work.

The Laboratory of Wellesley
College offers instruction
to others besides its regular
students.

The summer school for teachers at Harvard is doing a great deal towards fostering a love of scientific study under strict scientific principles wellness and these are only a few of the influences at work to increase the thirst for more knowledge of these subjects.

Many teachers and others are all ready & anxious to devote two or more hours a day to carrying out some one of these studies.

But they have no place to study in - no teachers, no apparatus to work with and yet each year the number of distinct professors (if we may so call them) in this line is increasing.

The opportunities for special research and discovery of new applications of science were never better.

There are many problems in ordinary housekeeping which can only be solved by chemical experiments and women must make those experiments if they are ever made -

The ~~great~~ question comes to us from all over the country, where can I study the higher departments of Chemistry - where can I have instruction in the use of the microscope and Spectroscope?

How many times we have had to say, there is as yet no

~~place~~

Inspired by this great need of strictly higher education and professional education of women ^{the women} ~~the~~ ^{had so} ~~seized~~ ^{seized} the opportunity - ~~was~~ ^{was} seized upon ~~by~~ ^{by} which they renewed effort to obtain a new building for the Dept of Chemistry in the Inst of ~~Chemistry~~ ^{Chemistry}. ~~was~~ ^{was} ~~seized~~ ^{seized} upon

This association ~~expressed~~ ^{expressed} asked the Government of ~~the~~ ^{the} Inst - ~~Year~~ ^{Year} if they would consider the question of setting apart a portion of the space thus occupied for the use of women engaged ^{in the} ~~in~~ ⁱⁿ the ~~study~~ ^{study} of the ~~Chemistry~~ ^{Chemistry} + allied subjects ~~expressed~~ ^{expressed} their interest in the ~~question~~ ^{question}

The result of the conference
was entirely satisfactory,
as regarded the cordial
~~receipt~~ appreciation of
need of well appointed
was as before & while the
gentlemen were not authorized
to ~~pledge~~ ^{they} ~~for~~ the Government
to any action - they gave
it

6
That amount. It was decided
to wait for light. In a few days
light came in the form of a
proposition by President Rumble
in behalf of the Inst. Comm -
to fit up the South end of the
Gymnasium building for women's
work as the North end had
been fitted up for a dining room.
Space can be obtained for 10 or 15
students to occupy at one time
and by alternating in hours
for twice that number -

It can be well lighted &
perfectly ventilated -

This space can be partitioned off
and fitted with tables and
desks for \$1000 -

of us in their appreciation
of this need and willingness
to meet it - if possible -

They told us that space was
the only obstacle and space
meant money and that
their efforts had so far
failed to obtain funds
for the much needed building
but they suggested that
perhaps some way might
be devised by which space
could be gained outside
the present building either
by having a house near
by or by a small structure
like a wing to the present
building. but in any case
it would need 20 or 25,000
and they did not know
where to look for it.

Thus the matter was left
but in a few days a
bright idea gleamed out
of the darkness.

As perhaps you know, a
dining room was fitted
up last year in one end of
the Gymnasium. The idea
is to fit up a Boboroty
in the other end.

Space can be obtained for
10 or twelve students to
work at once or if
they come at different
hours in the day for twice
that number.

It can be well lighted
~~for microscopic work~~ &
perfectly ventilated. It
really offers all the space
needed at present.

This can be partitioned
off and fitted with tables