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Ladies, Remember—

When you are having Card Parties, get CARDS, TALLIES, PRIZES, Etc.

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"HAVE A HOT ONE" Just "AS YOU LIKE IT"

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POLITICAL SCIENCE

MRS. T. A. SQUIRES, Editor

Taking up the study of "Political Science" in the Women's clubs has only recently been inaugurated. As yet, there is no effort at anything but very elementary work, though this study bears more directly upon the home, and home safeguards, than other departments of club work.

The one thing that appealed directly to club women and caused them to take up this as a study and working department was the fact that it takes so long to secure legislation and laws upon the reform measures that are so vital and important in the mutual home life of those of high or low degree. Of course, the study of government and public affairs naturally leads to politics and political parties—just why politics should be classed by itself, yet reaching out as if an endless chain—is, as yet, not clear to the feminine student. Women want certain laws passed; they also want certain laws repealed; they also want certain laws amended; they also want to know why they do not get them. Hence this interesting department work, has been entered into by club women—not purely for the benefit of themselves, but that they may be better able to train the rising generation into better and more patriotic citizens. Women realize fully that to "stand still" is to go backwards, however contradictory that may seem. The question of suffrage is incidental. Women want better and fewer laws; better homes; better surroundings; better men; better women; better country, no matter if this comes by legislation or public sentiment, moulded to better things. Women, possibly—more than men, who are busy in the devious of business life, almost to the entire exclusion of the passing of time—realize that the home is the heart of the nation; the place where the young are fitted for the future battle of life. Why should women not study this science so that they

may do better the work at hand?

The work in this Department this year has been confined mostly to the study of our Public School system and the feasibility of compulsory education. A man well up in state affairs was heard recently to remark, relative to compulsory education, "Well, it has got to come; it will be here in side of ten years." Ten years! Much good it will do the children of today now roaming the streets in idleness, who will be the men and women of that time.

But some one says "we already have Local Option, which puts it up to the individual communities, or whole counties, if they so desire." True enough, but little seems to be known or understood as to the strict application of the law. A very few of the more progressive counties have instituted it—but, owing to the lack of housing facilities it has not been largely enforced. It is strange, public funds can always be found, for all sorts of public benefits, except the children of today, who will be the men and women of to-morrow, doing the work of the world according to the training they received in their childhood and youth.

"I'd like to know what you women folks know about political science?" said the big man in a gruff voice, though a twinkle gleamed in his eye, "suppose you're gettin' ready to vote?"

"Oh, no! Mr. Bigman," replied the little political scientist, "we are just studying the government machinery as outlined by the Federal constitution so that we may be able to know intelligently whether we do or do not want to vote. I am quite sure we want the privilege but, oh, my! there are so many responsibilities!"

The bigman looked frightened. As he passed on he was heard to mutter, "them's big words, ain't they?"

Side Lights On Suffrage

One hundred and fifty years ago there was no such thing as manhood suffrage in either England or America.

For 400 years (1140-1832) no Englishman was trusted with a vote unless he held land with an annual rental value of 5 pounds (\$25) or more. Even then the statutes of England declared the vote was outrageously large and cumbersome; that people of "small substance" and of "no value" presumed to cast their votes along with the most worthy knights and squires. So a more stringent property requirement was inserted. This condition prevailed until 1832. The county suffrage in England was essentially aristocratic, representing the land holding interests. In the cities it was, according to the local customs, or royal character, limited sometimes, to the score of city officers; or the holders of land tenures.

Some of England's greatest manufacturing cities were entirely unrepresented. It was only after years of effort, many riots and uprisings, that a radical revision of suffrage qualifications and redistribution of suffrage representation was secured.

"When our colonists left England, corruption, religious bigotry and intolerance were things to be accepted as unavoidable evils; and so in the beginning Americans held no exalted ideals regarding universal male suffrage. Among the Puritans, only land holders and church members could vote. (Baptists, Quakers and Catholics were not regarded as church members.) Cotton Mather said frankly enough, 'I cannot conceive that God ever did ordain democracy as a government for a church or for a community.'

"In New England, voters were required to be possessed of property to the value of \$200 or having an annual rental value of \$50. They must also be church members in good and regular standing."

From one-sixth to one-fifteenth of the population had that right. The normal vote was about one-eighth of these. New York and Virginia managed to get about one-half of their voters to the polls. Delaware had to impose a fine on her careless voters to get them to do their duty.

Virginia, South Carolina, Georgia and Delaware thought it necessary to mention specifically that women should not vote; a fact that was simply taken for granted by the other states, except that in New Jersey certain influential women did on certain occasions cast ballots that were duly counted.

"At the time of the ratification of the Federal constitution no state had a general manhood suffrage—Vermont being the first state to adopt the unqualified feature as a part of its state constitution.

"All during the Revolution no principle of government had been more loudly proclaimed than this: 'All governments derive their just powers from the consent of the governed,' yet most of the states kept the suffrage limitations of the Colonial era and when the effort was made to open up the suffrage ranks to non-property owners, the conservative leaders watched the experiment with the greatest alarm.

About 1790 the liberal ideas emanating from the French Revolution began to be felt in this country and during the next ten years eight states broadened their suffrage and office holding privileges. The property test

in those days. The colonists had not yet become independent thinkers, and weakly followed the path mapped out before them.

"There are two theories in regard to the voting power—first, that it is an inherent natural right, like the right to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness; but this theory is not tenable. Suffrage is the gift of the state. The second is that suffrage belongs to certain privileged classes—the educated, those of wealth and power and rank. It is a deep seated belief that to admit all classes to the voting privilege is wrong, because the ignorant and irresponsible will not know how to use the franchise for the public welfare.

"The world has tried this aristocratic idea for hundreds of years and demonstrated that in folly, inhumanity, in tyrannous spirit, in avarice, selfishness and in moral and intellectual childlessness, the rule of wiser, better people has been a conspicuous failure."

New Use For Grapes.

It takes Henry Ford to discover a new use for grapes. He wants them turned into alcoholic fuel products. Said Mr. Ford, "Alcohol, you know, is the coming motor fuel. Recently we had a demonstration of three farm tractors, one of which was equipped with an alcohol engine. I believe alcohol, for use in motors, can be made from grapes. Our chemists of the day I am sure, will be equal to the occasion. Efficiency can and has accomplished wonderful results and this will be a great factor in eliminating the drink habit.

A Mistake.

An idea seems prevalent that the Woman's Club is trying to build an expensive Club House, by borrowing too much money. This is not a fact. The Club owns a lot, has (or will have when all collections from this paper are in) in the neighborhood of \$1500 and proposes to borrow a thousand or fifteen hundred more at 4 per cent interest. We think any business man will back this up as "good business" while a number of substantial donations are promised when the building is actually started.

Gross Inconsistency.

"Did you get your piano on the installment plan?"

"Yes, but the man we bought it from declined to follow his own rule. He took it away all at once."—Atlanta Constitution.

He Lumped It.

"My coffee is not quite sweet enough," remarked he.

"Well, if you don't like it I suppose you'll have to lump it," said she, with a smile, passing the loaf sugar his way.

Bones and Muscles.

The 206 bones of the human body are worked by the aid of 522 voluntary muscles.

"Three Stories of Solid Comfort."

Hotel James

Palatka's Newest and Most Modern Hotel

ROOMS

Without Bath, \$1.00 per day

With Private Bath, \$1.50 per day.

HOT AND COLD RUNNING WATER.

VACUUM CLEANED.

JAMES' Popular Price CAFE run in connection.

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Good Work + Prompt Service

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