

of entertainment and rest during the noon hour. In Chicago the Noonday Rest was established several years ago, and at the end of the first month claimed a list of 600 members. A fee of twenty-five cents a month is exacted from the members, who are all self-supporting women. Twelve hundred young women may be seen in the lunch room daily. A matron is in attendance in the rest room, while a woman physician gives her services free of charge between the hours of 12 and 2. The Ogontz Lunch club also has a large membership. Founded by graduates from Ogontz college in 1893, the organization is composed of business women and girls who pay twenty cents monthly for the club privileges. Another similar organization is the Ursula club, which claims a membership of 400, with an average daily attendance of 350. The Business Woman's club has the handsomest dining room of any club in the city. It also has a room supplied with a dozen typewriters, where women out of employment may practice typewriting. In the Masonic temple is a beautiful room where women may rest at any time during the day. The Noonday club also is open to any woman on the payment of five cents. In nearly all of the cities a rest and lunch room is provided by the Young Women's Christian association. The Omaha branch accommodates over four hundred young women daily, and the Lincoln Y.W.C.A. has operated a lunch room successfully for nearly six months.

A successful partnership has been carried on for several years in Philadelphia by Miss Amy E. Blanchard, author of many popular books for girls, and Miss Ida Waugh, artist and illustrator. The two friends work in adjoining studios and have recently built adjoining summer cottages in Portland harbor, to which they have given the appropriate name of "The Barnacles."

A confectioner's establishment in London managed by women has become so popular that its kitchen has been partially converted into a school where women are taught the confectioner's art. Many of the pupils are planning to become managers of similar establishments. A restaurant and tea room are carried on in connection with the candy kitchen.

Miss Mae E. Orr of New York, who is considered the fastest typewriter operator in the world, is a tall, slender young

woman with fingers as pliable as rubber. In a recent contest she pounded out 120 words in a minute, and it is believed that she can do even better than that. Miss Orr has charge of the half dozen expert typewriters who are doing the clerical work of the National Educational association convention in Detroit this week.

Mrs. C. B. Murray of Chicago is manager of a house boat that will accommodate twelve persons. Mrs. Murray proposes to take parties on a two weeks' cruise down the Illinois river, and to make frequent stops and land excursions. She says: "Boating, swimming, walking and climbing for two weeks ought to give a tired woman new youth, and that is what my house boat is going to try to accomplish. If the plan succeeds it will be amplified in the future; enlarged so as to cover more ground and accommodate more people. It promises to be a success this year."

Philosophical.

If love could be guided by reason—  
If all men's hearts were true—  
If spring were the only season—  
If life contained no treason—  
I'd live with you!

But since the heart is foolish  
And men's love mostly false—  
Since winter winds are ghoulish  
And life not one made valse—  
I'll live sans vous.

—Town Topics.

PORCH STUDIES.

BY FLORA BULLOCK.  
For The Courier

Flitting time comes at last, even for the robin raised in a barrel. The wild little fellow, who even snapped his beak fiercely at me, and would not be fed, would not be petted, showed his plebeian descent and lack of discernment by simply running away, hopping through a fence and into some dark corner under my neighbor's porch. I suspect the cat crunched his bones nicely. But the well-bred, tame robin who would perch very contentedly on my finger left me in royal fashion, as a bird of the air should. His eyes grew big with wonderment, his whole little body trembled with fear, or it may have been joy, at the deed he was about to do. I, being just a dumb animal, did not understand the thought that showed in his dark eyes. They glowed with inspiration—a sudden, unfathomable, joyous wisdom leaped into them. Then, without a word, his royal highness took his flight. His career was begun, and I suppose that ere this he has learned how to pull worms out of the ground in most approved spring-board style, has visited the mulberry tree, and has perhaps forgotten barrels and the harmlessness of the strange folks who sit on porches. During his very young innocence we tried to keep from him the knowledge of the cat. Now he must know that, too, though perhaps it will not harrow his little soul greatly until days come when he himself carries fine fat worms to yellow mouths in a tree.

There is something very wrong in the system of domestic economy known to the birds, or at least it seems wrong. Why, when they set out to rear a brood of five, do they make a nest that can not possibly hold the fledglings until they can fly? Of course they are very much like human parents who have ability to rear three children respectably, but whose flock numbers ten. The little birds fall out of the nest, and the cat gets them, unless they are very strong of wing and limb. The human fledglings—well, let us not speak of

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