

THE AMERICAN MERCURY

CHECK LIST OF NEW BOOKS

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old-time one-horse farmer will be eliminated. The author discusses at length the effects of these changes upon the small towns. He believes that they, too, must reorganize themselves. At present, aping the cities, they pursue chimeras. The book shows wide information and is thoughtfully written.

ANTHOLOGIES

SO SAY THE WISE.

Edited by Hazel Cooley and Norman L. Corwin.

George Sully & Company

\$2 7½ x 5½; 275 pp. New York

The editors have here assembled about 1300 epigrams and apothegms from modern sages, most of them still alive. Some of these sayings are mere wheezes and wise-cracks; others pretend to a more solemn wisdom. The persons levied on number 650, and include Mr. Hoover, Lady Astor, Bernard Macfadden, Rabbi Stephen S. Wise, Rabindranath Tagore, Admiral von Tirpitz, the Prince of Wales, Grover Whalen, Jimmy Walker, Al Smith, Ezra Pound, Adolph S. Ochs, Christopher Morley, Judge Ben B. Lindsey, Otto H. Kahn, Will Rogers, Elinor Glyn, Texas Guinan, Senator Borah, Mr. Justice Brandeis, Charlie Chaplin, Bugs Baer and Rebecca West.

THE GRUB STREET BOOK OF VERSE, 1929.

Edited by Henry Harrison.

Henry Harrison

\$3 9½ x 6; 79 pp. New York

The editor of this anthology, which presents 121 poems by 99 poets, is the present captain-general of Greenwich Village, and his selections exhibit pretty well what is going on there at the moment. Obviously enough, the Golden Age is over. His poets, in the main, write very conventionally, and some of them get little beyond the prettiness of high-school bards. Perhaps the best poem in the collection is "In a Strange City," by Shaemus O'Sheel. What it has to say has been said before, but there is a certain eloquence in it. Most of the other poets simply twitter. There are a number of full-page illustrations by Charles Cullen.

NEW EDITIONS

MEN & WOMEN.

By Havelock Ellis.

The Houghton Mifflin Company

\$5 8¾ x 5½; 495 pp. Boston

The first edition of this standard text-book of secondary and tertiary sexual differences appeared in 1894 as a sort of prolegomenon to the author's "Studies in the Psychology of Sex." Its value was recognized at once, and since then it has passed through many edi-

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tions and has been translated into most civilized languages. Now it appears "remolded and put into a more popular form," but without any sacrifice of essentials. It is a thorough and excellent piece of work. The author's chief observations are that women are more variable than men, and more precocious. They represent, so to speak, an earlier form of *Homo sapiens*, and in many ways, both physical and psychic, are more like children than like adult men. "The differences may be often of a slight or subtle character, but they are none the less real, and they extend to the smallest details of organic constitution. . . . When women differ from men, it is the latter who have diverged, leaving women nearer to the child-type." The book is well documented and has a good index.

THE STORISENDE EDITION OF THE WORKS OF JAMES BRANCH CABELL.

Robert McBride & Company

\$180 9 x 6; 18 vols.; average of 300 pp. New York

Mr. Cabell has now reached Vol. XV of this elaborate revision of all his books: it is devoted to "The Eagle's Shadow." He speaks somewhat sadly in his preface of the changes that time has brought. "Only in 'The Cream of the Jest' and in its temporal successors," he says, "have I had any sense of dealing with my own work." The earlier books were "written by persons who are to me, nowadays, comparative strangers." "The Eagle's Shadow" was first published in October, 1904, after first running as a serial in—of all magazines!—the *Saturday Evening Post*. The sale of the first edition stopped at 2871 copies. In his preface to "The River in Grandfather's Neck," which forms Vol. XIV of the new edition, Mr. Cabell recounts how it was entered in a prize competition in 1913, and beaten by a book called "Diane of the Green Van," by one Leona Dalrymple. Thereafter the MS. was rejected by fully a score of publishers, and when it was finally accepted by McBride it turned out a complete failure. Vol. XIII is given over to the author's verse and to his only play, "The Jewel Merchants". The earliest of the verses go back to 1895; not a few of them, as the author says, have been "a little prinked and titivated." The remaining three volumes of the Storisende Edition will be published in March.

FICTION

THE GOLDEN WIND.

By Takahi Ohta & Margaret Sperry.

Charles Boni

7½ x 4¾; 269 pp. New York

This is the first volume of Mr. Boni's series of Paper Books, offered to subscribers at \$5 for twelve monthly

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SHERMAN: Soldier, Realist, American

By B. H. Liddell Hart

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