THE AMERICAN MERCURY

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Editorial NOTES

Continued from page xviii

resignation in 1920 he was the first and only inspector of prisons for the Federal government. His duties were to visit all of them and examine whatever he encountered, from the cooking of the prisoners' food to the official conduct of the wardens. His territory included the entire United States, Alaska, Porto Rico and Hawaii.

After Mr. Fishman left the government service he started to write on prison subjects, and, in collaboration with Miss Perlman, produced "Crucibles of Crime" in 1922. Soon he was made a consultant in delinquency and penology by the Russell Sage Foundation. He resigned from the Foundation in March, 1928, to join the Department of Correction in New York City, where he is now deputy commissioner.

James Rorty, who contributes "End of Farce" to this issue, was born in Middletown, N. Y., in 1890. He was edu-



James Rorty

cated in the town's public schools and at Tufts College, Mass. He has worked as a newspaper reporter, city editor of a small town paper, farm hand, and publicity man. He was one of the founders of the *New*

Masses, and for a time was one of its editors. He has published two volumes of verse: "What Michael Said to the Census-Taker" and "Children of the Sun." He now owns a farm in the township of Easton, Conn.

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Check List of NEW BOOKS

Continued from front advertising section, page xiv

DOES TRADE NEED ANTI-TRUST LAWS? By Alexander Levene.

Ray Long & Richard R. Smith 7 % x 5; 144 pp. New York

Mr. Levene, who is a member of the New York bar, has little to say that has not been said before. His general conclusion is this: "The public conscience has awakened to the fact that trade must be planned and regulated, and that our prohibitory anti-trust laws, particularly in their effect on trade associations and resale price maintenance, compel ruinous price competition with its attendant disturbances of social equilibrium." He thinks that Congress should supply "the regulation to prevent profiteering." What the regulation is to be he does not say. He was aided in his study by George J. Feldman of the Massachusetts bar.

THE WAY OUT OF DEPRESSION. By Hermann F. Arendtz.

The Houghton Mifflin Company

7% x 5%; 105 pp. Boston

We are now suffering from two concurrent depressions, according to Dr. Arendtz. One is "a financial crisis brought on by speculative excesses, . . . [and] the other and more serious [one] is a long, grinding business depression caused by a falling price level," which in the end is due to "a failure in the proportionate expansion of primary money—or gold production." The only way out of this mess is "an international bimetallic agreement." Silver must be internationally remonetized if the capitalistic system is to endure, "and with it a reasonable measure of human freedom from the chains of Communism or State Socialism."

PSYCHOLOGY

THE PRIMITIVE MIND & MODERN CIVILIZATION.

By Charles Roberts Aldrich.

Harcourt, Brace & Company \$4 8½ x 5¼; 249 pp. New York

Mr. Aldrich believes that in man "the instinct to cooperate is stronger than any other instinct". In primitive societies it sweeps all before it: such a thing as rebellion against the group mores is almost unknown. Later on, as a dawning individualism begins to make a stand against conformity, it is necessary for the group to take account of rebels,

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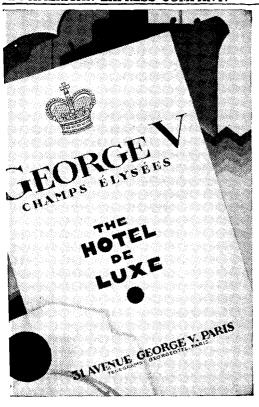
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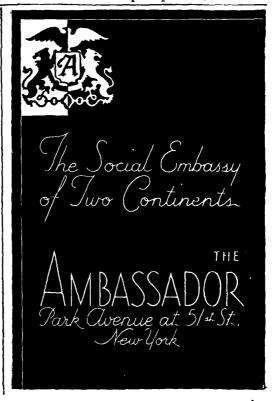
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