

BOOKS

AUNT POLLY'S STORY OF MANKIND, by Donald Ogden Stewart. George H. Doran and Co. \$2.00 net.

"The proper study of man-kind is man," thinks this author, and a very imperfect sort of a creature he is, if we may judge by this delightful satire—"Aunt Polly's Story of Mankind," by Donald Ogden Stewart.

"Aunt Polly," is the sort of creature who has a nice, refined explanation for everything and deals out in over-large doses to her youthful listeners, who are no more willing to accept her explanations than is the average 8 to 10-year-old offspring. Uncle Frederick, husband to Aunt Polly, the "progressive" business man, who manages to support three motors, a raft of servants, and show his "loyalty" to the church by a substantial contribution each year, is the ultimate end and aim of progress of mankind, as outlined by Aunt Polly, the narrator.

As in a mirror, we see our faults reflected and, oh how we hate to admit some of the accusations directed at us! "In view of what finally happened to Rome and Carthage," says Aunt Polly, "it does seem too bad that everybody was so shortsighted as to let their hatreds and their jealousies and their bitterness sweep them into another war, but you must remember that this was before the birth of Christ, and besides the leaders in those

days had no education in managing human affairs, and no religion to profit by . . . and so they did not know the awful results of war."

In this record of erring humanity, we laugh with the author at ourselves, though the sword strikes so near at times, as to make us almost uncomfortable.—M. L. M.

Professor Decries Tribe of Ben Hecht

(Continued from page one)

false Freudian psychology. Hence all the hammering of heads against the walls of convention and moral ideals. "Modern literature," says Hecht, "is as much as it is anything, an unconstructive attack upon the morality and ethics of the race. It says morality is the haven for cowards and half-minds."

It is barely possible that there are things wrong in our social system; there is no open-minded person cognizant of the processes of history but would admit that the chances are large that there are whole vistas of life-truth still un-revealed to man lying ready for the explorative vision of seer-like souls. Yet it would be strange, would it not, if all the patient con-long search of the human spirit for a way of life, if all the ages of earnest groping for truth had been entirely vain; strange if it had been given to just one "younger generation" to see and understand, and all the rest were fools?

"Modern literature is—an unconstructive attack upon the morality and ethics of the race," says Hecht. What an anomaly! Modern literature that deserves the name of literature at all is not an attack upon anything. It is not the business of literature to attack; it is the business of literature to interpret life. And whenever any writer permits himself to subordinate human values to propaganda, what he produces is not literature. It may be an interesting sociological document, it may be of historical, scientific, or psychological interest, but it can never deserve a place on the same shelves with the mas-

terpieces. Who will read Ben Hecht one hundred year from now? When one can feed upon the mountain Conrad, why batten on the moor Cabell?

Oregon May Get Olympic Try-outs

(Continued from page one)

best of them. Tuck made the trip across in 1920 and Spearow has several times represented Oregon in Eastern meets. Both are going good this year and perhaps may get an opportunity of carrying Oregon's colors to Paris next July. There is also talk of such men as Glen Walkley, Hank Foster, and Ken Bartlett competing again, this time under the colors of some athletic club. Bartlett has already been across once as a member of the Olympic team.

With the completion of the 290 straightaway, and the full quarter-mile cinder path, Oregon is credited with having one of the best fields on the coast. This, combined with the fact that the conference dates of May 30 and 31 are the only really available dates that would give the men an opportunity to get back to Boston in time to condition

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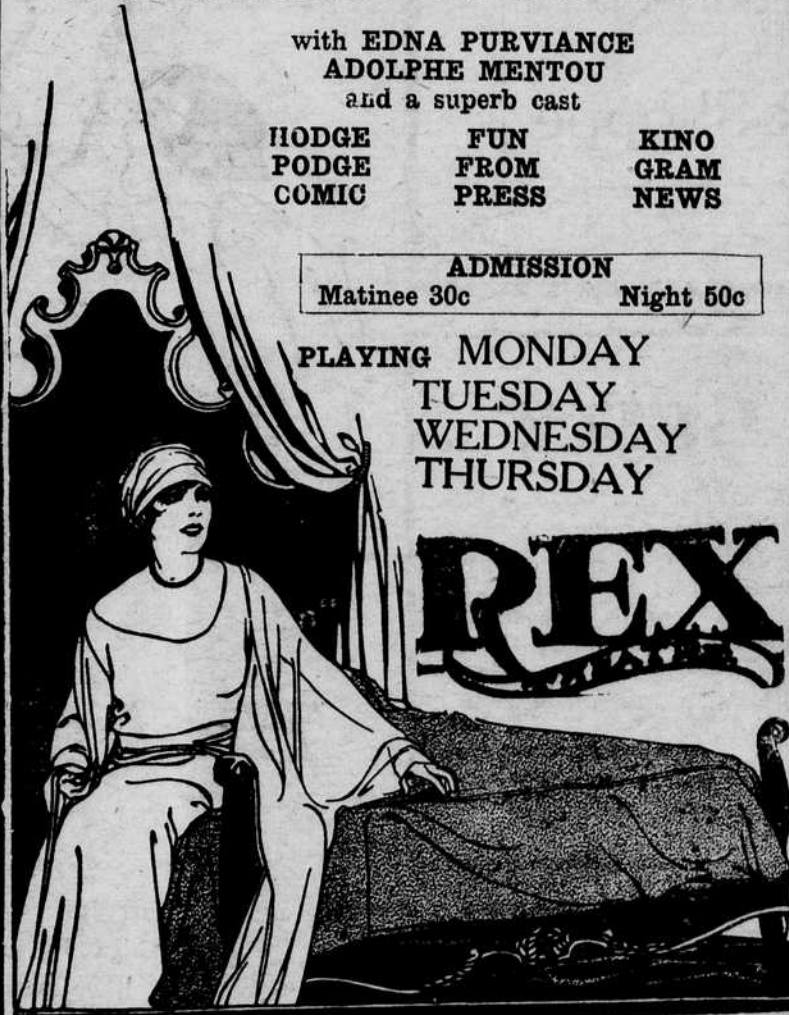
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