

BOOK NOTICES

Midas and Son, by Stephen McKenna.—Methuen & Co., London. (8s. net.)

The name of Stephen McKenna is a promise of a well-written novel and an interesting story. In *Sonia* he gave us the best novel of the war, and in this new book we find many of the people we met in *Sonia* once more. *Midas and Son* is a powerful novel. The characters of the old millionaire, wrecked in health as a result of his fight for gold and power, and of his highly-strung, obstinate heir are drawn to life. Yolande is a picture of what is best in the modern girl—frank, independent, clear-eyed, and pure amid the rottenness of society around her. The story of the old man's efforts to mould his son's career, and of the son's determination not to be moulded, is pathetic. The book is sombre with the shadow of the accursed gold that brings to the father no happiness in old age and leaves the son drifting aimlessly to the final tragedy. While we do not find the novel as interesting as *Sonia*, there is no denying that it is a work of distinction which will add to the author's reputation.

Various Discourses, by the Rev. T. J. Campbell, S.J.—From Linehan, Melbourne. (12s.)

In this volume we have a collection of discourses ranging over a period of 35 years, delivered on platform and from pulpit, and dealing with historical, ecclesiastical, and educational topics. It is not a volume of sermons. The discourses deal with persons and things mainly, and from a Catholic point of view. We have here useful papers on problems of the day, occasional pronouncements and addresses on special occasions, criticisms on actual topics of interest to Catholics, and glimpses into the history of the progress of the Church in the United States. The addresses on Marriage, Jesuit Education, The Higher Education of Women, Socialism, Leo XIII. are extremely interesting. The book is one that deserves a place in a priest's library.

Publications Received.—From the Australian C.T.S.: *A Profiteer and Other Stories: Non-Historical History: A Criticism*, by Brother Purton, M.A.; *Drink and Democracy*, by Father Lockington, S.J.

“TABLET” SUBSCRIPTIONS

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