

USING PURGATIVES INJURES HEALTH

What You Need in Spring is a Blood Building Tonic

A spring medicine is an actual necessity to most people. Nature demands it as an aid in carrying off the impurities that have accumulated in the blood during the long winter months of indoor life. Unfortunately thousands of people who recognize the necessity for a spring medicine do not know what is best to take and dose themselves with harsh, griping purgatives.

This is a serious mistake. Ask any doctor and he will tell you that the use of purgative medicines weakens the system, but does not cure disease. In the spring the system needs building up—purgatives cannot do this—they weaken you still more. The blood should be made rich, red, pure and only a tonic medicine can do this. The best blood building, nerve restoring tonic medical science has yet discovered is Dr. Williams' Pink Pills. Every dose of this medicine actually makes new, rich blood. This new blood strengthens every organ, every nerve and every part of the body. This is why Dr. Williams' Pink Pills cure headaches and backaches, rheumatism and neuralgia, banish pimples and eruptions, and give a glow of health to pale and sallow cheeks. Men, women and growing boys and girls who take Dr. Williams' Pink Pills eat well, sleep well, and feel bright, active and strong. If you need a medicine this spring—and most likely you do—try this great reviving tonic and feel the new life, new health, and new strength it will put into you.

Sold by all medicine dealers or by mail at 50 cents a box or six boxes for \$2.50 from The Dr. Williams' Medicine Co., Brockville, Ont.

THE SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

INTERNATIONAL LESSON, APRIL 2.

Lesson I. — Elisha Heals Naaman the Syrian, 2 Kings 5. Golden Text, Isa. 45. 22.

Verse 1. By him Jehovah had given victory unto Syria—Naaman is unknown to history except through this story, and we are uncertain whether victories over Assyria are meant, or conquests of Israel. Either is plausible. Syria had already felt the power of the expanding kingdom of the Assyrians, while Israel, on the other hand, had suffered from the deprivations of the Syrians. A well-founded tradition, supported by Josephus, makes Naaman the soldier who, at the battle of Ramoth-Gilead, "drew his bow at a venture," thereby killing king Ahab. But he was a leper—This more than offset his rank, the honor in which he was held by the people, the favor he had won from Benhadad, and his great courage. The strange thing about his affliction, however, was the fact that it did not cause his isolation, as would have been the case in Israel.

2. The Syrians had gone out in bands—Being little encumbered, it was easy for them to make a raid upon an unprotected section of country and make off with plunder before they could be followed.

3. Would that my lord were with the prophet—This is a commentary upon the attractive character of Naaman, which made a little girl fond of him, and a king furnish extravagant sums for his cure, and the servants solicitous of his welfare (verses 5 and 13).

5. A letter unto the king of Israel—He took it for granted that the king could command the ser-

vices of this man of God. Little did he know of the independent spirit of the prophets. The gift which he sent along with the letter was an immense one, no less than \$50,000 of our money.

7. The king . . . rent his clothes—Nothing was said in the letter about the prophet, and Jehoram could see in the message only an occasion for a quarrel, and there was nothing he dreaded more than the hostility of his warlike neighbor. It seems strange that the thought of Elisha did not occur to him, for the invasion of Moab had brought him into special prominence before the king, and even a little maiden knew about his works of wonder and believed he was equal to an incurable disease like leprosy.

11. Naaman was wroth—His pride and patriotism had both been hurt. First, he was made to stand as a suppliant at the door of the house of Elisha (9). Then, instead of being received by Elisha in person, as his rank would seem to demand, he was greeted by a messenger (10). But the prophet was determined to humble still farther this man who came with such show of worldly pride (compare verses 5, 6, 9). Let him bathe in the Jordan if he would be clean. This was a climax of offensiveness. Why was it necessary to take this long journey of thirty miles and to wash in a muddy stream like Jordan, when his own Damascus was famous for its clear and beautiful streams, its Abanah and Pharpar (12)? Naaman had expected to be received with great deference and cured by some sort of magic (11).

13. My father—An unusual term of affection and respect. Surely, they reasoned, a man of such courage would not have shrunk from some great and difficult test. Why, then, should he refuse this easy and humble one?

14. His flesh came again—There was no thaumaturgical power in the waters of the Jordan, but there was power in God, and that power became available to Naaman, because he obeyed in humility of spirit.

15. The cure had two immediate results: (1) Naaman's acknowledgment of Jehovah as the true God, and his remarkable decision to give himself to the service of Jehovah. (2) His gratitude which impelled him to return the entire distance and urge upon Elisha the acceptance of a present. And now, thoroughly humbled (notice his words, thy servant), Naaman is admitted into the presence of Elisha, and the latter's hope is realized, that this warrior should know that in Israel was a prophet, a man of God, and not a mere cunning necromancer like those in Damascus (compare verse 8).

16. He urged him to take it, but he refused—Such gifts were customary at heathen oracles, and were not prohibited in the case of the prophets (2 Kings 4. 42). But Elisha, living as he did a life of few wants, could afford to abjure all rewards in the solemn language. As Jehovah liveth before whom I stand, I will receive none. This would impress Naaman with his superiority to the sorcerers, as well as his disinterestedness.

17-19. These verses present two points over which there has arisen some controversy: (1) The meaning of the two mules' burden of earth. It seemed to Naaman that even the

soil presided over by such a God must be sacred. It was a universal belief that the god of each land could be worshipped only on his own soil. Similar semisuperstitious feelings are not uncommon to-day. (2) Naaman's wish to be forgiven when he attended his king as heretofore in the temple of Rimmon to worship there. This was a real difficulty. The captain of the king's host had made up his mind to serve only Jehovah, and yet, in the prosecution of his official duties, it would be necessary for him to follow the king's example and bow down before the image of the Syrian god of thunder. The answer given by Elisha shows that he took the correct view of this request, looking upon it as the sign of a fine conscience rather than as a compromise with evil. There is a warning here, however, that we must beware of an external conformity to a system in which we do not believe.

20. My master hath spared this Naaman the Syrian—The words are uttered in contempt. The foreigner had received an enormous boon for nothing, and the narrow, covetous spirit of Gehazi rebelled against such fanatical sentimentality.

As Jehovah liveth—By using the



same religious symbol which his master had employed in refusing the present, he adds blasphemy to meanness. Sacred words become degraded when uttered lightly to no purpose.

21-24. Having stifled the voice of reason and of conscience, it was not hard to pass on to lying and fraud, and a treacherous act that

compromised his master and friend and did much to annul the high-mindedness which had prompted him to spurn the offer of money.

25. Stood before his master—Once more the servant of Jehovah confronts the evildoer like an accusing conscience (compare the case of Elijah and Ahab).

CANADA CEMENT COMPANY LIMITED

Annual Report of the Board of Directors

TO THE SHAREHOLDERS:

Your Directors beg to present herewith the annual statement of the affairs and financial position of the Canada Cement Company, Limited, as of the 31st December, 1910.

In presenting the Balance Sheet, we call attention to the Company's strong financial position as disclosed by the large amount of cash on hand, and other quick assets, and the comparatively small amount of current liabilities. After providing for interest on our Bonds and Dividends on our Preferred Stock for the year, we have been able to set up reserves for depreciation, extraordinary repairs and renewals, bad debts, etc., and carry forward a substantial balance to Surplus Account.

The consumption of cement during the past year was not as large as anticipated. Our business also suffered on account of the Railways not being able to meet our full requirements for cars during the heavy shipping season; consequently, we carry over from last year 781,116 barrels of cement.

Early in 1910 the price of our product was fixed at a lower price than cement had ever been sold for in Canada, excepting for a short period in 1909, but your Directors are pleased to state that the anticipated savings in manufacturing and distributing our products were such that they were able to still further reduce this price.

We trust, when you consider the above mentioned conditions, and also the fact that during 1910 our plants were only operated to 57.6 per cent. of their capacity, the profits shown will be satisfactory to the Shareholders.

During the current year, we look for a larger natural demand, which demand will be stimulated by continuing to manufacture a strictly high grade article, and by selling it at the lowest possible price. This anticipated increase will enable us to operate our plants to better advantage than in the past, but we do not expect that the demand will be sufficient to enable us to put into operation either of the two plants which have been idle since the organization of this Company. However, it is confidently expected that the increased demand, and increased output, will result in further savings in the cost of manufacture and distribution, and it is the policy of your Directors to give your customers the benefit of these reductions.

The Shareholders' profits will depend on the increased volume of the Company's business, the policy of the Company being the maintenance of such a stable position as will insure regular and uniform payments of interest on its bonds and dividends on its Preferred stock, and at the same time be in a position to withstand any unforeseen emergency that may arise consequent on business depression or otherwise, which condition naturally necessitates the accumulation of, and the maintenance of, a large cash reserve.

It is also the policy of the Company to equalize the price of cement throughout Canada in so far as the physical conditions make such possible, and in furtherance of this policy, your Directors have arranged to purchase a site near Winnipeg, on which they will erect, this year, a mill to grind clinker, which will be shipped from one of our Eastern mills. The buildings, machinery, etc., will be planned so that, should it at any time in the future be advisable, a Burning Department can be added, and the clinker produced on the property.

And further, an agreement has been entered into whereby this Company expects to acquire, in the near future, a property at Exshaw, which, added to our Calgary plant, and the projected plant at Winnipeg, will put us in the position of anticipating any extraordinary growth in the consumption of cement in the Great West.

With the view of educating the public, and popularizing the use of cement, in addition to the ordinary advertising, the Company has published a small book illustrating some of the many uses to which cement may be put, for which book there has been a great demand, 25,000 applications for same having been received during the past six months.

For the purpose of stimulating interest in the Company on behalf of the Employees, both in efficiency and cheapening production, as well as creating a feeling of mutual goodwill, your Directors deem it expedient to introduce a system, already adopted by several large industrial corporations with beneficial results, viz., to enable employees to become the possessors of Preferred and Common Stock at prices which will be attractive to them, the employees paying a fixed amount per share per month out of their earnings, and the Company carrying the stock for them, charging a rate of 5 per cent. interest. If the plan is put into effect, all dividends will be credited to the employees applying for the stock. Said stock will be held in trust for the employe for a term of five years, excepting in exceptional cases, such as death, when his heirs will receive what benefit a deceased employe has derived from subscribing to the stock.

Your Directors feel that the policy, as herein outlined, will, as nearly as possible, make the interests of the consumers, the employees, and the shareholders identical, and will insure the most enduring and beneficial results for all concerned.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

On behalf of the Board of Directors,

WILLIAM C. EDWARDS,

President

A BOOK FOR MOTHERS.

Every mother is naturally anxious for information that will enable her to keep the little ones in good health. The Dr. Williams' Medicine Co., have issued a little book which contains a great deal of information on the care of babies and young children that every mother ought to know. The book will be sent free to any mother who will send her name and address, with the name of this newspaper, to The Dr. Williams' Medicine Co., Brockville, Ont.

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