

16 FEB/22

Soils and Crops

Address communications to Agonomist, 73 Adelaide St. West, Toronto.
Our Friend the Goose

Repopulating Farms With Electricity

Here in the Province of Ontario a mighty campaign has been launched to solve the serious question of rural repopulation. The campaign is a cooperative effort of the various agricultural organizations. The objective is to bring the farmer back to the farm by making it a profitable and attractive place to live.

cost of the energy has been much higher than it has been to consumers in the towns and cities, it has still been found to be cheaper than the cheapest man power. When the distributing system has been extended to all the rural parts of Ontario, the cost will be greatly lowered and electricity will make farming an attractive vocation, not a repulsive job.

THE SUNDAY SCHOOL

FEBRUARY 19

Elisha and Naaman the Syrian, 2 Kings 5: 1-4, 9-14. Golden Text—Ps. 103: 2, 3.

Time—Revised Bible, C. 858 and 800.

brews was a ceremonial act. See Lev., ch. 14. Seven times. The priest was required to sprinkle the leper who was cured, seven times, Lev. 14: 7. V. 11 Naaman was wroth; (1) because he thought that Elisha was not worthy of the courtesy due to his high office in acting through an intermediary; (2) because, according to his own preconceptions, Elisha's method of cure was to be magical. V. 12. The words of a patriot who loved his own country almost to his undoing. Rivers of Damascus. The region of Damascus is watered by two rivers, the Abana with seven branches, one of which flows through the city, and the Pharpar, running nearly parallel to the Abana some miles to the south. The waters of these rivers, since they come from the melting snows of the Lebanons, are pure and sparkling in contrast to the turbid waters of Jordan. V. 13. Naaman showed his fine nature in allowing subordinates to re-arrange with him. Their appeal was in common sense. Try the simple counsel of the prophet. V. 14. Then went he. The Jewish people used to say that although God's hands were not always intelligent to man they were tests of obedience and faith. Naaman stood the test of obedience and faith. The flesh of a leper is covered with festering sores which become hard and caked. Naaman's skin became as healthy as a child's. He was clean. So loathsome a disease as leprosy that the leper was said to be "unclean."

Application.

Naaman a mighty general—but a poor man. No responsibility attaches to him for this affliction. But the defect of heart and character which an otherwise well equipped man must lament and repudiate. Kind of leprosy is within our reach and is curable. The highest in the land require the same cleansing as the lowest. The leprosy is "curable" because it is of the flesh. Naaman was a general in the Syrian army. Men like Foch and Haig were generals in the Allied army and both are humble Christians, men who are not helped by the presence of the Divine. The simple unselfishness of the prophet. Naaman wanted to reward Elisha handsomely, but Elisha was not a trafficker in sacred things. And besides, he did not want the Syrian king to think that the favor of Israel's God could be bought and sold like sheep or oxen. In any event he declined the present which Naaman proffered him. The Christian attitude toward foreigners. In Canada we have many "foreign born." How shall we regard them? It is known that the attitude of the natives toward the newcomers who came to our shores twenty years ago had consequences in India which were alarming. On the other hand if we evangelize the Chinese who are in Canada, there is a fine chance for our Christian efforts will bear fruit in China itself. Take the example from southern Europe who are on our prairies. There is only one thing to do. We have invited them to come to Canada, and we must give them the best we have—a pure Christianity. We must serve them, not exploit them.

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THE CHILDREN'S HOUR

The Time I Had the Measles.
The time I had the measles,
I thought up things to play—
I seemed so awful lonesome
When Tommy kept away!
I played I was a soldier
and had to lie in bed,
my wounds tied up with