

THE OBSERVER

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Editor and Owner.

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THE CASE OF MINNIE SIEVER.

In the midst of good health, of prosperity and plenty; when the world is moving along well with us, we are all too apt to treat lightly the afflictions of a fellow being.

There is a case at Hot Lake that deserves attention. Minnie Siever gave of her life to comfort others who were ill. She was a trained nurse and every nurse leads a life of self

sacrifice. They do as much for humanity as any profession known to man, and sometimes it would seem the balance is in their favor.

Now it is time for others to help. This poor girl wants to go to St. Vincent's hospital at Portland. She has neither home, friends or money.

We recall the much talked of political "assembly" when the case of the little actress who had lost her limbs in a railroad accident was mentioned.

Could not something along this line be done for Minnie Siever.

JOSEPH AS ENTERTAINER.

Those who attended the Farmers' union picnic at head of the lake are all talking of the splendid way in which they were entertained by the city of Joseph.

It is a fine thing for people of two or three counties to get together as they did at Joseph. Men are broadened by association, and from the amount of good things furnished to eat, they were broadened otherwise, also.

A band concert, wherein two bands, such as La Grande and Baker, taking part will be one of the good things of the season.

Well, here's to Baker Elks. We are glad to have them with us tomorrow, but they must not win the game.

TO HARNESS MISSISSIPPI.

The Father of Waters, the mighty Mississippi, is to be harnessed. This mighty dam, which is being constructed at Keokuk, Iowa, will furnish 200,000 horse power and when completed will be the largest dam for hydro-electric purposes in the world.

The dam will stretch across the Mississippi from Keokuk, Iowa, to Hamilton, Illinois, a distance of almost a mile.

The effect the giant power house will have upon the industrial and civic welfare of the middle west will be

great. Within a transmission distance of practically 200 miles are an unusually large number of flourishing cities and towns: St. Louis, Bloomington, Decatur, Galeburg, Rock Island, Springfield, Quincy, Peoria, Joliet and Dubuque, Davenport, Des Moines, Clinton and Cedar Rapids in Iowa.

Then there are the large cities of Missouri—St. Louis, Kansas City, Hannibal and St. Joseph. Although the work will not be completed until 1913, contracts have been made with the public service companies of St. Louis for 60,000 horse power for a period of 99 years.

It has been pointed out that while the east, as a whole, is the great manufacturing center, yet for many years past there has been a pronounced tendency on the part of manufacturers to get as near as possible to the sources of their raw material, or to seek those localities where motive power can be obtained at a minimum of cost.

It is understood that the power generated will be supplied to existing central stations in different towns and cities in the territory that can be served in much the same manner as natural gas is supplied to local gas companies in the gas belts.

The United States government and the Mississippi River Power company are jointly interested in the enterprise. The government secures free of cost a new lock and dry dock, to replace the present canal and three locks, which will be submerged by the new dam—the new lock being much larger than the old ones.

INVESTMENT VS. SPECULATION.

At a time when money is plentiful and much capital is idle, as at present, two corrective measures present themselves: The country can put its money into solid investments or it can engage in a vast speculative movement.

Economists declare, however, that this country needs greater agricultural development. Its manufactures already are equal to the requirements of the population but the actual output of farm products is below what it ought to be.

This theory is in line with the generally accepted belief that the farm is the basis of our national prosperity.

More intensive farming, therefore, is the object to be attained. Conservationists have clearly shown that our waste of soil is enormous. The time has passed when the farmer, having worked the life out of one tract, can afford to move to another state and begin over on new land.

Some people have claimed that the general buying of automobiles by farmers is a menace to business conditions. As a matter of fact every farmer who is able to buy an automobile and pay for it without burdening himself makes a real investment.

When the farmer who owns a quar-

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