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 OPEN EVENINGS**

## THE DAILY GAZETTE-TIMES

Published every evening except Sunday. Office: 232 Second street, Corvallis, Oregon.  
 Phone 4184

Entered as second-class matter July 2, 1909, at the postoffice at Corvallis, Oregon, under act of March 3, 1879.

**SUBSCRIPTION RATES**  
 DAILY  
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**N. R. MOORE** . . . . . Editor  
**CHAS. L. SPRINGER**, Business Mgr.

### LAW, AS ADMINISTERED.

In the Atlantic Magazine, Geo. W. Alger gives an illustration showing how big corporations discharge lawsuits against them, and how the lawyers prophet by the interminable delays of the laws they assist in administering, but not in improving. Following is an extract:

"A grimly humorous illustration of one of the results to the litigant may be found in another New York lawsuit which reached a final chapter recently in the

Court of Appeals. It was a complex case against an insurance company on some policies of insurance, and each time it took from a week to two weeks' attention of court and jury. Owing to reversals and new trials ordered by appellate courts from 1882 to 1902, the plaintiff became at last so sick and disheartened with his interminable law suit that he abandoned it, refused to go to his lawyers to consult with them about it or to appear when the case was being tried. "The lawyers had themselves spent over forty-five hundred dollars on fighting the case and had worked on it for nearly twenty years. Their client having abandoned them, they settled the case for thirty thousand dollars, and took the money themselves for their fee. The last chapter of the litigation was an unsuccessful attempt by the receiver in insolvency of the plaintiff to make the lawyers give up some of their fee to their client's creditors. How much the twenty years' delay in the law suit had to do with that insolvency it is impossible to say; but such an outcome, to the lay mind, seems hardly satisfactory as a result of twenty years of litigation, of

nine trials, and seventy-two days time of over a hundred jurors.

The Eugene Register says Corvallis should not wait until it is the size of Eugene to get "festoon lighting." It says the "do it now" towns are the kind that count. It might be respectfully suggested that if there is no necessity of waiting until towns are able to put on city airs, it is somewhat peculiar that Eugene does not immediately spend \$90,000 on its parks, \$300,000 on a better police service, and fails to put up \$25,000 a year for its library. Corvallis, half the size of Eugene, is now as near to Portland progress as Eugene was five or six years ago. Considering population, Corvallis will have more to show in five years than Eugene has today.

### POINTS TO AN INCONSISTENCY

Editor GAZETTE-TIMES:—

Dear Sir,—Allow me to call your attention to a light inconsistency in yesterday's editorial "Christmas Giving." The first paragraph opens with an implicit quotation from the Bible (John 3, 16), "When the Father gave His only begotten Son that whosoever believeth in Him might have everlasting life. He gave the world its greatest gift, etc."

This statement is quite correct, the claim to everlasting life offered through Jesus Christ is indeed the greatest gift the world could possibly receive. But, as is evident from the sacred text, this gift is conditioned on one thing, it is made entirely dependent on belief in Christ, that is, on the whole souled submission and unwavering adhesion of our intellect to His divine authority to teach, to lead, and to command. This being so, how can it be consistently maintained,—as is done in the third paragraph, or Henry Drummond's presentation of the true test of Christianity,—that after all it does not matter what a man believes?

I, too, with the entire Catholic church, hold that love, human love, purified, energized, and ennobled by divine grace, is the true and final test of Christianity. But this more-than-natural love, which embraces alike friend and enemy, cannot exist, cannot even be conceived, unless founded on a firm faith, on a definite creed, on a humble acceptance of all revealed truth.

Hence, so far from not mattering at all, Christian faith matters everything, because without it there can be no Christian

love and, consequently, no Christianity. Hence also, in that Church alone can Christian love be found in all its sweetness and heroism, which has preserved Christian faith in all its integrity and steadfastness.

I am, dear Sir,  
 Yours very sincerely,  
 HENRY A. GABRIEL, S. J.

Since Henry Drummond is responsible for the inconsistency the Gazette-Times will let Henry Drummond straighten it out with Rev. Father Gabriel. Henry Drummond was one of the world's most brilliant exponents of Christian doctrine. Father Gabriel also stands as an exponent of Christian doctrine. No one questions Drummond's ability to interpret the scripture, neither does anyone question his sincerity. In a greater or lesser degree the same may be said of Rev. Father Gabriel;—and yet one of the exponents finds inconsistency in the utterance of the other. As Father Gabriel puts it, the discrepancy is vital. A skeptical world is continuously confronted with the clashes between doctrinaires, and the faith of the world has been lessened, not increased, by these discussions. It is not the purpose of the writer to discuss this or any other difference. The Gazette-Times merely argued that in Christmas giving the Christian world has an opportunity to exhibit the love for humanity that professed Christians are supposed to possess. Christ gave His life for those who despised Him; will Christians give even a little to the needy, who, perchance, may be neither friend nor enemy?

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### CHRISTMAS SPIRIT

We are going to cast aside at this time commercialism and talk to you about Christmas. We wish you happiness and prosperity, not only today, but tomorrow and the next day, and so on right through the year, because we want the Christmas Spirit of good will to linger with us 'till Christmas comes again.

We may not be able to tell you every day because you and we may be busy; still that will not make any difference as the thought and the wish will be here just the same. Whatever joy and success comes to you will make us glad.

But today most of all let us forget the differences, if any, we have had, and think only of joy and peace and good-will in the Spirit of Christmas.

Sincerely,

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