

JUSTICE SPENCE GIVES THE FACTS

**Presents Statements From
County and City Officials
Showing Has Made Full
Settlement**

Trial Justice George J. Spence characterizes as misleading or wholly untrue an article in this week's Independent charging him with laxness in settling with the city for fees collected in his court and suggesting that Mr. Spence has also been remiss in settling with the County and that his books "have not been audited in months and have not been properly kept."

Mr. Spence says that he has settled in full with the city, County and school fund and that he had made settlement with each before this week's Independent was off the press. In support of his claim Mr. Spence presents statements from County Auditor Carmine, City Auditor Bell and the Savings Bank & Trust Company, County treasurer.

The statement from County Auditor Carmine follows:

This is to certify that on November 30, 1920, George J. Spence, Trial Justice, filed his annual account for the year ending November 30, 1920, and that I audited same and found same correct in all respects, that he at that time paid to the Sheriff all moneys due him for fees, that he at that time paid to Savings Bank & Trust Company all moneys due the County School Fund and also all moneys due the County General Fund which embraces all moneys coming into his hand except the costs due city for which costs he pays to the City Auditor. That he on November 30, 1920, paid over to the Sheriff and County all moneys due them and he does not now owe them anything. I further certify that I have audited his books regularly and have always found them correct and properly kept in all respects.

CHAS. CARMINE,
County Auditor.

Audited this 24th day December, 1920.

The statement from City Auditor Bell follows:

I certify that about three weeks ago or about the first of November, I asked Mr. Spence to pay over to the city the costs due the city according to his books as trial justice. He stated that he had been called to the bedside of a sick brother in Georgia and that upon his return he would settle the town costs. I heard that Mr. Spence returned on Saturday night, December 18th, 1920, and I called him on Monday morning, December 20th, and asked him about the settlement and he told me that he would in three or four days.

On Thursday, December 23rd, 1920, during my absence from the office Mr. Spence did bring checks to the amount of \$511.88, which he said was the town's part of the funds as turned over to him by the Chief of Police up until November 30th, 1920.

According to Mr. Spence the checks were left at my office before the publication of the article in the Independent under date December 23rd, 1920.

MILLS E. BELL, Auditor,
The statement from the Savings Bank & Trust Company, signed by Assistant Cashier W. H. Jennings follows:

This is to certify that Geo. J. Spence, Trial Justice, has paid to us as County Treasurer during the fiscal year, ending November 30, 1920, for the General County Fund \$437.46 and for the School Fund \$3,502.00.

SAVINGS BANK & TRUST CO.
By W. H. Jennings,
Asst. Cashier.

Treasurer Pasquotank County, N. C.

"The only part of the Independent article that is true," says Mr. Spence, "is the statement that I had not settled with the city for six months up to Dec. 23rd. Monthly settlements with the city have not been made regularly in the office of trial justice since the incumbency of J. B. Leigh.

"The year ends November 30th, and I would have made prompt settlement thereafter except for the fact that I was called out of the city as explained in Mr. Bell's statement.

"The insinuations that I may be behind with the County or school fund, that my books have not been properly kept or that they have not been properly audited is absolutely without foundation as the statements of the County Auditor and the Savings Bank & Trust Company will show.

"On the morning of December 23rd I called at the City Auditor's

TODAY IS TAG DAY

Today has been set aside as Tag Day for the Y. M. C. A., and everyone in the city is asked to contribute liberally to this good cause. Without the unstinted support of the people tomorrow, the "Y" is likely to be closed, for it is practically without any money.

Our Y. M. C. A. building compares favorably with any similar building in the State, regardless of the size of the city, and the good done by an institution of this kind is incalculable.

Last year the "Y" sponsored the Twilight League, originated swimming classes in this city, supplied us with basketball games, revived bicycle races here. These with many other favorable additions to the welfare of the town, are to the credit of the "Y."

You have helped starving Armenia.

You have contributed liberally to bleeding Poland.

You answered the call of other devastated countries of Europe.

WILL YOU NOW HELP A CHRISTIAN CAUSE IN YOUR OWN CITY?

Soldiers To Get Wine For Xmas

Coblenz, Dec. 24.—An old fashioned Christmas dinner with light wines will be served American soldiers on the Rhine.

Negro Preacher Killed By Negroes

Jackson, Miss., Dec. 24.—Coleman Brown, negro preacher, was lynched by negroes yesterday, according to Sheriff Williams here.

The preacher was suspected of being implicated in the murder of Della Green, 14 year old negro girl.

THIEF STEALS TOYS

Braintree, Mass., Dec. 24.—A thief today stripped all the toys and decorations of the school children's Christmas tree here.

Clara Smith Says Will Lead New Life

Big Springs, Tex., Dec. 24.—Conservation of her future energies, to atone to her family for the sorrow she has brought them and determination never again to waste a hour of her life was avowed by Miss Clara Smith today en route to Ardmore, Oklahoma, to answer to the charge of the murder of Jake L. Hamon.

President Will Not Pardon Debs

Washington, Dec. 24.—White House officials were unable to say today whether the President would grant any Christmas pardons, but the President said he would not pardon Eugene V. Debs, serving ten years in Atlanta penitentiary for violation of the Espionage Act.

CONFESSES IS "FIREBUG"

Fayette City, Pa., Dec. 24.—Benjamin Bevier, aged 22, today confessed to firing several buildings in this section which has been annoyed by "firebugs."

N. Y. HORSES GET XMAS TREE

Boston, Dec. 24.—A Christmas tree for the horses was erected here today in the square and the horses nibbled apples and sugar from its boughs.

GREET ARMY AND NAVY

Washington, Dec. 24.—Secretary Daniels and Secretary Baker today sent Christmas greetings to all the army and navy.

office at 10:30 to make settlement, but found him out. I called twice again during the day without finding him and on the last call at 2:30 left the checks with City Tax Collector Wood.

"My books are open to the public at any time and I would be more than glad to have them examined by any one."

The foregoing statement is published in justice to Mr. Spence.

The Independent is dated Friday morning, but commonly comes off the press late Thursday afternoon.

As Christmas Comes

By RALPH POOL

Down through the long procession of the years
Stark and bright and driven for petty things;
And even higher grows the tide of tears
Waft by new hosts of peasants, and of kings.
Each frenzied generation, mad for gain,
Seeks baubles which too late men find are vain,
And all unworthy of their bickerings.

It is the way of most folks to ignore
Those treasures that are not the fruit of strife
In market-place, or factory, or store,
But crown alone the rightly ordered life.
Our prophets, even, sometimes point the way,
Of truth, and then themselves go far astray,
Caught in the snares with which the world is rife.

As Yuletide nears, we feast in blatant mirth
All out of keeping with the message brought
By Him, whose coming to a troubled earth
We now commemorate with scarce a thought
To live upon a pure, exalted plan
Of service to a faltering fellowman,
According to the deathless truths He taught.

BAPTISTS EXTEND MISSION FIELDS

And Dr. E. Y. Mullins, Recently Returned From Study of Conditions Abroad Urges Immediate Aid by America

Louisville, Ky., Dec. 24.—Unless the United States soon throws its influence into international affairs and actively participates in the solution of the momentous problems that are confronting Europe, that continent may soon be involved in another destructive war, in the opinion of Dr. E. Y. Mullins, president of the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary of this city, who has just returned from a first-hand study of twenty countries of Europe as a special commissioner from the Southern Baptist Convention, having been named along with Dr. J. B. Gambrell, president of the convention, to make a study of the social, economic and religious needs of the continent and carry to the Baptists of Europe the greetings of those of the South.

"The carving up of Austria and Hungary at the peace table at Versailles bred trouble of all kinds," Dr. Mullins declared, "and I would not be at all surprised to see war break out in Eastern Europe on a really large scale at almost any time unless the United States comes to the assistance of the great powers of Europe to prevent such a catastrophe. Russia is likely to attack Roumania at any time and Hungary might do so, too. Austria, if she had any spirit, would like to regain some of her lost territory, but Austria is too dispirited to fight anybody or anything.

"If the Treaty of Versailles can be so modified as to bring satisfaction to the many peoples most vitally concerned in the partition of territory I think the prospect of a better day in Europe is bright. In many countries of the continent the people have an excellent morale, despite the adverse conditions of today. In England, France, Belgium, Italy, Roumania and Czechoslovakia the morale of the people is excellent, in Hungary there is great discontent over the peace treaty, while in Germany and Austria the people have lost all their morals, the helplessness and hopelessness of Austria being absolute. The world should come to the rescue of Austria with moral reinforcement and raw materials or that country is forever doomed."

Southern Baptists have just extended their mission fields in Europe to include Spain, Austria, Jugoslavia, Roumania, the Ukraine and the remainder of Southern Russia lying east of the Ukraine, in addition to Italy, where they have operated for a number of years, and Drs. Gambrell and Mullins gave particular attention to these fields which are now being opened up as a result of the Baptist 75 million campaign.

VETO IS EXPECTED

Washington, Dec. 24.—Veto of the joint resolution for reviving the war finance corporation was expected by White House officials today. Secretary Houston, who is considering the measure is expected to recommend a veto.

Miss Martha Roberts, of Shawboro, is visiting Mrs. Joseph Berry on Peartree Road.

Remembers Pal At Christmas

Among the great number of young men who have left Elizabeth City during the days long gone there is none who loves Betsy more or is more devoted to his old friends than Captain John A. Harris, of Winter Park, Florida, who left here about forty years ago.

He tries to visit his old home every summer to eat his birthday dinner here. Among his friends, former Sheriff Cohoon, is in the first ranks. Captain Harris gathers from his tropical orchard his choicest fruit and sends to his old friend every Christmas. They were boys together, played marbles, flew kites, went swimming and made the old town lively.

HARDING CONFERS WITH TAFT TODAY

Marion, Dec. 24.—President-elect Harding conferred with former President Taft today on the world peace problem and details of organizing new administration.

Whiskey Still Found In Church

Hanford, Mass., Dec. 24.—A whiskey still in full operation was discovered today in a church basement here when the church caught fire. A butcher was arrested.

Fiume People Deserting Gabriel

London, Dec. 24.—Starvation is expected to end the state of war between Fiume and Italy. A barrage of proclamations was hurled into the rival camps today. The population of Fiume is deserting D'Annunzio.

Took One Drink And Then He Died

Jacksonville, Dec. 24.—Carter W. Johnson, Chicago travelling salesman, died here today after taking one drink of "liquor" purchased from a bell boy.

AMERICA SHOULD TRADE WITH SPAIN

Washington, Dec. 24.—Trade opportunities with Spain were pointed out in the Department of Commerce reports today, which said that European countries are able to pay cash for American goods and that cotton composes about half the entire exports from the United States.

CARDINAL GIBBONS BETTER

Baltimore, Dec. 24.—Cardinal Gibbons spent a restless night, but was better today.

Western Union Observes Sunday Hours

Christmas, 1920
Forenoon, 9 to 11. Afternoon, 4 to 6.
Manager Sykes will appreciate it if wishing to send Christmas greetings and other messages will file them early and not wait until time for him to close before filing, as that would keep him working over time and he has very little time off as it is, as the four hours he has to be at the office breaks into his holiday and he intends to close promptly at the time designated.

CITY CHURCHES

Special Christmas Music

The program of the special Christmas music to be rendered at Christ Church Christmas Day at 11 o'clock is as follows:

Venite in G—Trayer,
Glorias—Trayer,
Wagner's Festival Te Deum—Albert J. Holden.

Jubilate Deo—Albert J. Holden,
Offeriors, The Message of Peace—Louis R. Draggler.

Blackwell Memorial Baptist.

At 11 o'clock Sunday morning the pastor, Dr. G. W. Clarke, will preach from the subject, "The Second Coming of Christ."

The evening service will be given over chiefly to the beautiful Christmas oratorio "Star of the East," directed by L. E. Skinner.

The public is very cordially invited to attend these services.

ADD Blackwell memorial

Following is Sunday night's program:

Organ prelude.

Solo and women's chorus, "Arise and Shine."

Prayer.

Contralto and baritone solos and choir, "The Stranger Star."

Scripture reading.

Duet, "The Angels' Song."

Baritone solo and choir, "Sing O Heavens."

Soprano solo, "The Beautiful Star."

Prayer.

Solos and choir, "Awake, Put on Thy Strength."

Women's chorus and choir, "Bethlehem."

Baritone solo, "Lead Kindly Light."

Offerory.

Remarks by Dr. Clarke.

Quartet, "There Shall Be No More Night."

Tenor solo and choir, "Rejoice Greatly."

Closing hymn.

First Methodist

Rev. R. H. Willis will preach at the morning service, and at night the following musical program will be given:

Organ prelude.

"O, 'Tis the Hour"

"The King of Glory"

Chorus—"The Heavens Declare"

Tenor Solo—"What Means You Star?"

Chorus—"The King is Born"

Male Quartet—"The Desert Way is Weary"

Chorus—"Follow the Star"

Musico Soprano Solo—"The Birthplace of the King"

Chorus—"Sing Hallelujah"

First Baptist

Rev. H. K. Williams, pastor.

Sunday school at 9:30 a. m., S. G. Scott, superintendent.

Preaching at 11 a. m. and 7:30 p. m. by the pastor. The morning theme: "The Names of Jesus." The night theme: "The Man Who Went to Sleep in Church and Fell Out of the Window."

The B. Y. P. U. meets at 6:45 Sunday evening. The mid-week prayer meeting is on Wednesday evening at 7:30.

The public is most cordially invited to attend all these services.

City Road Methodist

Rev. H. E. Myers, pastor. Sunday school 9:30, Mr. G. T. Seyfert, superintendent. The Sunday school will render a Christmas program at the usual hour instead of following the regular lesson plan. At 11:00 the pastor will preach a Christmas sermon. In the evening at 7:30 City Road Church responds to the invitation of the First Methodist Church to be present for the Christmas cantata, Wednesday evening at 7:30 Mr. Case will show the beautiful colored pictures of the life of Jesus. Friday evening a reception to the Sunday school and a Watch Night service will be held.

Christ Church

Rev. George F. Hill, pastor.

Christmas Day special service 11 a. m.

Sunday, St. Stephen's Day, morning prayer and sermon 11 a. m. Evening prayer and sermon 7:30 p. m. Sunday school 9:45 a. m.

Special music both Christmas Day and Sunday.

You are invited to attend these services.

Cann Memorial Presbyterian.

Rev. William McMiller, formerly of Virginia, the new pastor, has arrived in this city and will preach on Sunday morning at the 11 o'clock service. The public is cordially invited to attend.

Calvary Chapel

Sunday school at 3 o'clock Sunday afternoon.

Preaching at 7:30 by Rev. R. F. Hall.

This Sunday school will have its Christmas entertainment on Tuesday evening.

The public is most cordially invited to attend all services.

MAY GET OUT OF SAN DOMINGO

**Possibility That United States
May Withdraw From Respon-
sibilities In West Indian
Republic Is Indication**

Washington, Dec. 24.—A proclamation announcing "that the government of the United States believes the time has arrived when it may inaugurate the simple processes of its rapid withdrawal from responsibility assumed in connection with San Domingan affairs" was issued today at San Domingo by direction of President Wilson.

The message the withdrawal of American control over the affairs of the West Indian republic beginning four years ago.

NORTH DAKOTA IS AMBITIOUS

**Has Big Program For Taking
Care of Farm Products and
Live Stock and Building
Homes**

Fargo, N. D., Dec. 24.—The State of North Dakota is engaged in four lines of activity usually followed only by private interests. These are:

1. Insurance (for public building and for crops).
2. Operation of mill and elevators.
3. Operation of a bank.
4. Operation of a home building association.

These activities are part of the industrial program, backed by the Non-partisan League. The last three named are under the control of the industrial commission of the State.

Possibly the most ambitious of the four programs is that for a chain of State-owned mills and elevators. A State-owned flour mill with a capacity of 125 barrels a day is in operation at Drake. A 3,000 barrel a day mill and a 1,500,000 bushel elevator are being built by the State under one roof at Grand Forks. These will be ready in time to handle wheat of the 1921 crop. It is expected.

The mill and elevator system is to be only a beginning, says H. E. More, state secretary of the Non-partisan League, the plan being to supply, eventually, machinery to handle live stock and other farm products. The final aim, according to Mr. More, is to extend credit to the farmers and to mobilize money in the state at points where it is most needed, by repositing it in local banks at these points. The western end of the state, impoverished by five years of crop failures has had, until recently, \$1,000,000 more in repositals than was originally drawn from that section, he says.

Before the November election a law provided that all public funds in the state be deposited in the state bank, but an initiative law passed at that time now makes the depository of county, township, municipal and school moneys optional with the treasurers of these respective funds.

The capital stock of the bank is \$2,000,000.

"The home building association, which is in its infancy, has built about 100 homes throughout the state, Mr. More says. The plan is to build homes costing \$5,000 or less and sell them for a cash payment of one-fifth the value and the rest in 10 or 20-year payments. Its monthly payment on a \$5,000 house after the \$1,000 has been paid, would be \$28.64, including interest, under the twenty-year plan.

All public buildings in the state are insured against fire and wind-storm. There is a demand, according to league officials, that this insurance be made available for private buildings. The administration of this tax is more economical than in old line companies and as soon as a sinking fund has been accumulated the cost which now is about equal to that charged by the old line companies, will be lowered, Mr. More says.

A 3 cent per acre tax is levied on all taxable land for the state hall tax. Last year this tax cost the farmers, who insured their crops, 28 cents per acre. This compares, according to Mr. More, with 77 cents per acre charge by private companies for hall protection. Both forms of state insurance he adds are making money.

NICKY GETS MISTRIAL

Washington, Dec. 24.—The jury in the case against Jules W. (Nicky) Arnstein failed to agree today and a mistrial was ordered.