

**(BP)****BAPTIST PRESS**

News Service of the Southern Baptist Convention

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77-72

**Court Says Teacher  
May Paddle Johnny**

WASHINGTON (BP)--Local school officials and teachers cannot be forbidden to administer corporal punishment to schoolchildren, the U. S. Supreme Court ruled here in a 5-4 decision.

The slim majority concluded that the U. S. Constitution's prohibition against "cruel and unusual punishment" does not apply to spanking pupils for disciplinary reasons and that students are not entitled under the "due process" clause to a hearing before a paddling is administered.

The majority opinion, written by Justice Lewis F. Powell, held that the practice of corporal punishment in the schools dates to Colonial days and that the founding fathers had no intention of banning it. The practice is rooted in English common law, Powell noted, and is governed by the "single principle" that "teachers may impose reasonable but not excessive force to discipline a child."

Powell, joined by Chief Justice Warren E. Burger and Justices Potter Stewart, Harry A. Blackmun and William H. Rehnquist, argued further than the ban on cruel and unusual punishment contained in the Eighth Amendment to the Constitution "was designed to protect those convicted of crimes" and not "as a means of maintaining discipline in public schools."

The court also noted that remedies are available to parents whose children are abused through corporal punishment, including "the openness of the public school and its supervision by the community." School administrators and teachers who abuse their role as disciplinarians are also subject to both civil and criminal sanctions, the majority stated.

Turning to the due process question, the court rejected the view that school children have the constitutional right to a prior hearing before a paddling is administered. To take that position, the majority held, would amount to "intrusion into an area of primary educational responsibility" that should be reserved to localities.

Justice Byron R. White, speaking for Justices William J. Brennan Jr., Thurgood Marshall, and John Paul Stevens, disagreed, saying that if the Constitution protects convicted criminals from beatings, it likewise ought to protect schoolchildren.

White accused the court majority of advocating the "extreme view" that "corporal punishment in public schools, no matter how barbaric, inhumane, or severe, is never limited . . ." He also said that he personally favors spanking in some instances.

The case decided by the court was brought by the parents of two students from Drew Junior High School in Dade County (Miami), Fla., who were subjected to repeated paddling during the 1970-71 school year.

One of the students, James Ingraham, was given more than 20 licks with a wooden paddle which resulted in a blood clot. He was placed under medical care and missed 11 days of school after the beating.

Testimony presented at the trial led a U. S. court of appeals to conclude that the administration at Drew Junior High School was "severe" and "exceptionally harsh."

The high court majority ruled, nevertheless, that corporal punishment and that "the low incidence of abuse" by teachers makes the possible violation of schoolchildren's rights "minimal."

Fon Scofield Honored  
As Audiovisuals Pioneer

ATLANTA (BP)--A lanky, camera-carrying individualist who has circled the world 19 times to capture the story of Southern Baptist missions on film found himself caught in his own medium here:

At a special dinner at Wieuca Road Baptist Church, the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board dimmed the lights and made Fon H. Scofield Jr. sit back to watch a special film presentation which portrayed him as a pioneer of audiovisual materials for the religious field.

Scofield, who will retire Aug. 1 after 29 years with the Foreign Mission Board, also received a good-natured "troasting"--a cross between a toasting and roasting--as leaders and co-workers gathered to pay him tribute.

Frank K. Means, the board's area secretary for Eastern South America, recalled that Scofield traveled so widely and sometimes to such dangerous cannibal-infested areas that he was once presented a can of meat tenderizer--so that he might be "good to the end."

During the quarter century from 1950 to 1975, Scofield produced or served as executive producer of 49 motion pictures. Under his leadership, his department produced 96 filmstrips, 86 mixed media programs, 200 slide sets and 28 recordings.

Scofield who came to the board's home office staff in 1948, is associate secretary for program and product development in the board's communications department. Wherever he has traveled, Scofield has been welcomed not only for his professional skill, but also for his good humor.

Executive director of the Foreign Mission Board, Baker J. Cauthen, giving the concluding testimony, said Scofield should consider himself "a very rich man" to evoke such spontaneous expressions of appreciation from both board members and colleagues. But never, Cauthen said, did Scofield stand taller in his own eyes than when he had to watch the one he loved be ill. Scofield's wife Maude died last October after a lengthy illness.

The special film ended with a whimsical view of Scofield taken through a fisheye lens, a view that faded into a map of the world. Co-worker Kenneth R. Lawson, production specialist in Scofield's department, said the view is appropriate because deep in Fon's heart is the whole world.

-30-

Clifford Ingle Dies  
Of Heart Attack

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KANSAS CITY, Mo. (BP)--Clifford Ingle, professor of religious education and church administration at Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary here, died suddenly of a massive heart attack, April 18, at his suburban Kansas City home.

A native of Howard, Kan., the 62 year-old professor joined the Midwestern Seminary faculty in 1959, just two years after the school's founding.

He was a graduate of William Jewell College, Liberty, Mo., and received master and doctor of education degrees from Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Fort Worth, Tex.

Author and editor of several books, including Children's Conversion, a text used in many religious education centers, Ingle was recently named to Who's Who in Child Development for his research in children's conversion and the church.

Ingle is survived by his wife, Theda; and two sons, John Barry and Thomas Lynn; three brothers; and one sister.

-30-

RPRC Names National  
Media Award Winners

MINNEAPOLIS, Minn. (BP)--Four newspaper religion writers and editors and a television news reporter were named Fellows of the Religious Public Relations Council (RPRC) during the interfaith group's annual, national meeting here.

At the same time, RPRC gave Awards of Merit to the National Observer; WCCO-TV, Minneapolis; and two radio stations, WMAL, Washington, D. C., and KYW, Philadelphia.

Special citations were given to Sports Illustrated and to writer Frank Deford for a series on sports figures in religion.

Fellows from newspapers named are Barbara Stoops, religion editor of the State in Columbia, S. C.; Lori Sturdevant, religion writer for the Minneapolis Tribune; Billie Chaney Speed, religion editor for over 20 years for the Atlanta Journal; and William Reid, religion editor for the Buck County Courier, Levittown, Pa.

Sam Ford of CBS-TV, New York, formerly of WCCO-TV in Minneapolis, was the only television news person honored as a Fellow this year.

The National Observer received the Award of Merit in the weekly newspaper category, while WCCO-TV was given Award of Merit for its coverage of the 1976 General Convention of the Episcopal Church.

The winners were guests of RPRC at a banquet at the Leamington Hotel in Minneapolis, where they received their awards for outstanding coverage of religion.

-30-

Key Cities Selected  
For Nationwide Thrust

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4/20/77

ATLANTA (BP)--Six major cities have been selected as "key cities"--major targets of concern--in the first phase of the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board's Bold Mission Thrust to "evangelize and congregationalize" the nation by the end of the decade.

The six cities--New York, Chicago, Los Angeles, Baltimore, Seattle and Houston--are phase one of a three-phase project involving 16 other cities. New York City is included in each phase.

Other phase two cities besides New York are Detroit, Washington, D. C., St. Louis, Atlanta, San Francisco/Oakland, Portland and Denver. Other phase three cities are Minneapolis/St. Paul, Salt Lake City, Philadelphia, San Diego, Boston, Miami and Kansas City.

"We are committed to giving high priority to these areas," declared M. Wendell Belew, director of the board's missions ministries division, who announced the selections.

"The selections are not a minimizing of other Bold Mission Thrust (BMT) opportunities, but an effort to select national priorities for evangelistic and church extension activities," Belew said.

Gerald Palmer, director of the board's missions section, said the key cities are one facet of overall BMT strategy, which includes projects and programs in many other cities and counties across the nation, in conjunction with Baptist associations and state conventions.

"The key cities project is really supportive of the on going Bold Mission Thrust planning which is well under way by state conventions and associations across the nation," added Leonard Irwin, director of the board's planning section.

Palmer and Belew said much of the board's effort in the key cities will center on consultation and planning and will not feature much additional funding.

Belew elaborated: "There will not be a lot of new financial resources. We will, however, work with local leaders to discover needs and find ways of meeting those needs."

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Palmer added : "The success of this effort is not to be measured in the number of dollars, but on whether we can join with these other cooperating units to share in the planning as well as in the discovery and provision of resources to meet the needs of the cities."

Key cities make up one of four primary targets of concern for BMT.

Others are areas without an effective evangelistic witness, cultural and lifestyle groups, and transitional communities with churches in crisis.

The key cities project has been divided into phases, Belew said, because "we will move faster in some of the cities than we will in others."

He added that in each of the 22 cities selected for the three phase program, the Home Mission Board will seek to determine national perspective, to suggest national priorities, and to create among Baptists "an awareness of a national concern.

"But, even more, in BMT, the board will seek new places, new techniques, new persons-- individuals endowed by God with the gifts necessary to act boldly to bring into hurting lost lives the good news of Jesus Christ," he said.

Palmer said the key cities were selected because of the "impact they make on the life of the nation as a whole." He said some of them already have done extensive planning.

"Some of them have adequate resources. We want to stand alongside them with the state convention in making BMT planning as effective as it can possibly be," he said.

Palmer pointed to Baltimore as an effort in cooperative planning which he said "could well be a model for other cities to use." The Home Mission Board, Baptist Convention of Maryland and the Baltimore Baptist Association have been cooperating in BMT strategies.

Baltimore also has a link to the Baptist State Convention of North Carolina, a pattern Home Mission Board planners hope will carry over to other key cities and county areas. In the linkup, the larger convention provides manpower and resources to the other area.

Don Hammer, director of Metropolitan evangelism, will manage the key cities project.

Board consultants, selected to work with each of the key cities in phase one and expected to be trained by early summer, will serve as facilitators to help in the planning process, Hammer said.

Selection of the key cities was based on a computer study, assistance from state and associational leadership and on-the-field inspection.

"We made the computer study to find the key cities, then we made the material available to state leadership. They selected the target areas and made the recommendations to us. From this input, we designated the key cities," said Belew.

Palmer noted: "We're very encouraged by the planning and work the states and associations have done in Bold Mission Thrust. They have taken the ball and run with it. They have done a bang up job."

-30-

Board Recommends Help  
For Baptists in Canada

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ATLANTA (BP)--The Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board voted here to recommend that "all appropriate Southern Baptist Convention agencies" be encouraged to extend a helping hand to Baptists in Canada.

The recommendations, made as the Foreign Mission Board met for its major meeting of the year outside its Richmond, Va. headquarters, will be presented to the Southern Baptist Convention (SBC) annual meeting in June in Kansas City.

Action came in response to a motion made at last year's convention in Norfolk, Va., by Hazen Simpson, a messenger from California. He moved that the convention immediately extend encouragement to Southern Baptists dwelling and working in Canada by "financial assistance plus any and all other means of support made available" to areas outside the United States.

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The convention referred the matter to the Foreign Mission Board for study and consideration. The board, in turn, called a consultation in Nashville, Feb. 23, to hear views of key Southern Baptist agency and institutional leaders, as well as the leaders of the Northwest Baptist Convention, which has fostered the work in Canada's Western Province.

At the meeting here, the Foreign Mission Board made a two-part recommendation to the SBC:

1. That all appropriate SBC agencies be permitted and encouraged to give assistance and resource help to all Baptist churches, associations and organizations in Canada as requested, in keeping with the Southern Baptist agencies' program statements and with appropriate consultation between agencies.

2. That no worker whose salary is paid wholly or in part by any SBC agency shall encourage any presently existing Baptist church in Canada to affiliate with the Southern Baptist Convention (on a national level).

The wording of the first part follows very closely the recommendation made by the Northwest Baptist Convention at the Nashville meeting.

The second part of the recommendation is an attempt to state that Southern Baptists do not intend to try to lure any existing Baptist churches away from other organizations, a board spokesman said.

Some 35 churches and missions in the four provinces of Western Canada, whose members identify themselves as Southern Baptists, are affiliated only with the Northwest Baptist Convention (one of 33 state Baptist conventions) and have no affiliation with a Baptist organization in Canada.

If any Canadian church should seek to seat messengers at annual SBC meetings, it would require a change in the SBC's constitution. Article 11 of the constitution says, "It is the purpose of the Convention to provide a general organization for Baptists in the United States and its territories . . ." (italics supplied).

As an introduction to its statement, the Foreign Mission Board recommended that the SBC reaffirm its 1958 action which stated:

1. We recognize the freedom and the responsibility of Christians, as individuals and as churches, to seek the extension of their witness through fostering the establishment of new churches and other media to advance the gospel.

2. We recognize and respect the autonomy of each church and each Baptist body in its witness and work for Christ.

J. R. White of Alabama, chairman of the special Foreign Mission Board committee appointed to study the matter, pointed out that the first request for aid to Southern Baptist work in Canada came from the Northwest Baptist Convention in 1954. The convention (then known as the Oregon-Washington Convention) had responded to the request from a church in Western Canada.

Last year, White said, the Canadian churches affiliated with the Northwest Convention gave \$30,000 to the Cooperative Program, Southern Baptist unified budget. Five members of the churches have been appointed as Southern Baptists missionaries.

White said these churches are in an area that is 95 percent unchurched and represents "one of the greatest challenges for the gospel of any place in the world."

For 23 years the SBC has, through its committees, considered the challenge of this work, he said.

"Through all these years the Lord has been at work in Canada and now has brought this great nation and its spiritual need to our attention in a most unusual way," White added. "It is our desire to maintain mutual fellowship with all Baptist bodies and to work for the advancement of the kingdom of God through mutual encouragement and help."

## Board Elects Self, Appoints 18 Amid News of Cannata Release

ATLANTA (BP)--In a dramatic meeting highlighted by announcement of the release of missionary doctor, Samuel R. J. Cannata Jr. in Ethiopia, the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board appointed 18 missionaries, elected three missionaries to administrative posts, and named William R. Self of Atlanta, Ga., as its president.

An estimated 14,000 converged on this city's Omni Auditorium, April 19, to take part in the board's first appointment service of the year, with 197 making commitments for mission service. About 200 others came forward to indicate willingness to hear God's call if He should lead them into some type of special service.

In other sessions held at Wieuca Road Baptist Church, the board allocated additional \$5.2 million from the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering for foreign missions and appropriated \$182,892 in hunger funds and another \$186,100 from world relief money.

It also accepted a low bid of \$1,491,890 by Barker Construction, Inc., of Richmond, Va., to build a new wing on the board's home office building in Richmond.

Executive director Baker J. Cauthen said latest reports on the 1976 Lottie Moon Offering showed contributions of \$28,038,804 had been received--less than \$1 million short of the record \$29 million goal. He expressed confidence the offering would reach the goal before books are closed on the offering at the end of April.

The offering for 1976, which already stands \$1,868,383 above the total for the previous year, and the regular Cooperative Program giving of Baptist churches provide support for Southern Baptists' worldwide program of missions in 85 countries.

Earlier, the Foreign Mission Board had allocated \$21 million of the 1976 offering. The additional \$5.2 million was divided among the eight mission sectors into which the board separates the world. A final allocation will be made when the offering is completed.

The most dramatic moment of the meeting came as Davis L. Saunders, area secretary for Eastern and Southern Africa, received word of the release on guarantor (similar to U. S. bond) of medical missionary Cannata by Ethiopian authorities.

Cannata, who had been held for 16 days after a search of his home in remote Alem Ketema, walked into a group of praying fellow missionaries just one minute before the end of an around-the-clock prayer vigil in which the missionaries were praying for his release.

Cauthen related this account later in the day to the thousands gathered in the Omni. Addressing parents and relatives of the 18 missionaries appointed at that service, he said, "The Ethiopian incident shows Jesus' tender care for those whose lives are entrusted to him."

Election of the new board officers came at the closing session of the three-day meeting. Self succeeds James G. Harris of Fort Worth, Tex., as president. Other officers elected were Travis S. Berry of Texas, first vice president; John W. Patterson of Virginia, second vice president; Mrs. Ray Mullendore of Kentucky, recording secretary; and Miss Elizabeth Minshew of the board's Richmond staff, assistant recording secretary.

Three missionaries elected to new administrative posts were Lewis I. Myers Jr., named associate to the director of the overseas division; Ervin E. Hastey, elected associate to the consultant in evangelism and church development; and Harold E. Hurst, voted as associate to the board's medical consultant.

Hastey and Hurst are both missionaries to Panama and Myers served as a missionary to Vietnam before evacuation of that country.

Hurst has assisted the board's medical consultant on furloughing missionary status since Aug. 1, 1976. His new appointment was to take effect May 1.

Myers and Hastey will assume their new posts July 1. Since the fall of Vietnam, Myers has been on extended leave from the Foreign Mission Board while working with the Home Mission Board's ministry to Vietnamese refugees in the United States.

The addition to the Foreign Mission Board building in Richmond, expected to be completed in September, 1978, will house the overseas division, treasurer's office, business manager and purchasing offices. The third floor will be left unfinished and will provide space for future expansion.

The contract also covers some renovation work in the present building.

Board members also voted to make a feasibility study of the possibilities of the board owning its own orientation center. In March, the board approved a new three year contract with Callaway Gardens, Pine Mountain, Ga., where its present orientation program for missionaries is located. Board members toured the Callaway Gardens facility at the close of the meeting in Atlanta.

In other actions, the board appropriated a total of \$368,492 for hunger and relief needs in various parts of the world and approved a 40 percent increase in longevity benefits for missionaries.

From the hunger fund, \$110,000 was approved for flood relief in the state of Mato Grosso, South Brazil, and another amount of \$72,392, was voted to continue a "food for work" project in Corrente, Piaui, North Brazil.

The largest amount allocated from the relief fund was \$75,000 to assist in rebuilding churches and the Baptist seminary in Romania, severely hit by a major earthquake, March 4. At its March meeting, the board appropriated \$25,000 for this purpose.

Romanian government officials have agreed in principle to \$200,000 in aid being sent to Romania by Baptists in other countries, but they must give their final approval before the funds can enter the country.

The Baptist World Alliance, the European Baptist Federation, and various national Baptist conventions also are raising funds for Romanian relief and reconstruction.

Other relief appropriations included \$50,000 for work with refugees coming into Thailand from communist countries and \$5,000 for Ugandan refugees in Kenya. Other amounts were \$15,000 for relief in Ghana; \$10,000 for use in Tanzania; \$8,100 for Nicaragua; \$8,000 for Antigua and \$5,000 each for Peru, Columbia and Korea.

The increase in longevity allowances, effective July 1, will provide \$420 annually per missionary after 10 years service, with an additional \$210 to be provided after each additional five years of service. Previously, these allowances were \$300 after 10 years of service and an additional \$150 with each additional five years of service.

In the new move the board voted to give longevity allowance of \$210 per missionary beginning after five years of service.

During the meeting, the board extended invitations to a record 103 to participate in training for missionary journeyman service in 44 countries. Upon completion of a six-week training program at Meredith College in Raleigh, N. C., those commissioned by the board will spend two years overseas in a specific job assignment alongside career missionaries. Missionary journeymen are college graduates 26 years old or under.

The 18 new missionaries include 13 career missionaries and five who were employed as missionary associates.

Career appointees are Mr. and Mrs. R. Dwight Bass of Tennessee to East Africa; Mr. and Mrs. R. H. (Bob) Dowling of South Carolina to Chile; Miss Monica L. Keathley of Missouri to Upper Volta; Mr. and Mrs. J. W. (Jim) Laird of Texas to Venezuela.

Also, Mr. and Mrs. J. M. Simmons of Michigan and Arkansas to Okinawa; Miss Anne Sliger, a native of Georgia now living in Kentucky, to Rhodesia; Miss Mary Lois Summers of Texas to North Brazil; and Mr. and Mrs. M. S. (Mike) Wilson of Oklahoma, a now living in Missouri, to Togo.

The new missionary associates are Mr. and Mrs. G. H. (Harry) Kinchen of Georgia to Botswana; Dr. and Mrs. Malcolm G. Nichols, natives of Tennessee and Mississippi now living in Florida, to Korea; and Dr. Vi Marie (Mrs. T. Wayne) Taylor of Texas, to Hong Kong/ Macao.