Page 4, Portland Observer, November 10, 1988

> RELIGION

> > Believe And Pray

But say a fervent prayer to God

In trial and adversity Let not your faith grow dim,

The World's Child Care Needs

Part 2

(Excerpt from the Plain Truth)

The Soviet Union has provided institutionalized child care for years, but use of these services has dwidled. Many parents depend on friends and relatives to care for children under 3, the age Soviet preschoolers usually attend kindergarten.

Soviet mothers receive full salary for 1-1/2 or two years and 50 to 75 percent salary for the third year, and still have a guaranteed place at their old work.

In Britain, women receive 18 weeks maternity leave from their employers. For those who have worked for more then two years, pay for the first six weeks is 90 percent of salary, then about 33 pounds a week for the next 12 weeks.

in the late 1970's, France instituted supplemental allowances called the complement familial. These are childcare allowances given to families of limited resources having at least one child under 3 years old or three children, whether the mother works or not.

In France, the working mother is given 16 weeks' maternity leave, six weeks before and 10 weeks after the birth. She is paid 90 percent of her normal wages by social security during this time. French children from 2 to 6 years of age may attend preschool classes.

And all this has been made necessary by the growing number of two-income families in our overextended debt-ridden world!

THE DEVELOPMENT OF LOVE

Even more sobering, studies are revealing that a child's ability to form a lasting attachment to another human being-his capacity to love-is learned before age 3. And that this ability to form a lasting mutual attachment is inexorably tied in with the formulation of the child's conscience. In other words, no human attachment equals no proper sense of conscience.

From studies over the last 20 to 30 years infant psychologist Selma Fraiberg states: "We have learned that the human qualities of enduring love and commitment

to love are forged during the first two years of life. On this point there is a consensus among scientists from a wide range of disciplines.

"We are living in times," Professor Fraiberg continues, "when there are voices which denigrate the human family and even cry for its dissolution or its recomposition. I cannot identify the voices of infant psychologists among them" (Every Child's Birthright: In Defense of Mothering).

It's unnerving to visualize what final effect the emotional near abandonment of our children will have upon our society.

Too long has women's value as the primary nurturers and educators of their children been downgraded. Women who choose to stay home with their children should never again feel they have to apologize for their occupation.

My question to those considering day care from almost day once is, should you consider having children? If your career is at such a critical stage that you can't make the sacrifice of a few years to give the care every human being needs for emotional stability, perhaps you shouldn't bring children into the world at this time.

At some point or other, careers can be interrupted, with little or no repercussions. The nurturing and care of your most personal precious product, your infant child, cannot.

Of course, mothering takes sacrifice. For the first few months, it's an around-the-clock, physical job for which you'll get little praise. But what rewards!

The intense nuturing of another human being defined as mothering builds a relationship like no other. You can experience this kind of deep, interpersonal closeness in no other way. Do you want to miss that?

YOUR CHILD DESERVES THE BEST

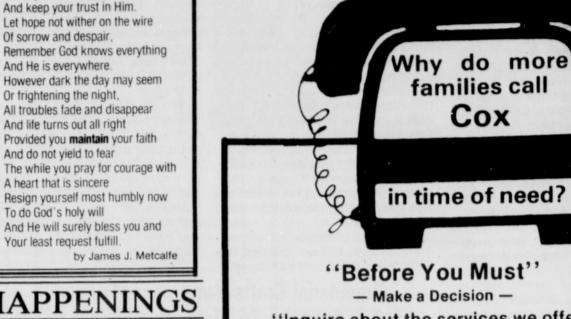
For those with older children, depending on the family circumstances and children's ages, it may not always be as harmful for mothers to work. But those of you with very young preschool babies and toddlers feeling the pressure to make a decision you may regret, quit feeling inferior-you're indispensable!

"There's no one answer to the child care problem, no course that's right for every family. If a mother absolutely must work, then she woes her child the best care possible. If she does have a choice, then she owes it to herself, as well as to the child, to take two or three years for the most important work she may ever do, nurturing a new life." (The Child Care Crisis — The Real Costs of Day Care for You-and Your Child, by Fredelle Maynard).

COMMUNITY HAPPENINGS

WILLIS DINNER: The Mt. Olivet Baptist Church will sponsor a dinner on Nov. 11, at 6:00 p.m. Tickets are on sale for \$5.00 each. The evening affair is being given by the Miriam Missionary Circle. For further information, please call 284-1954.

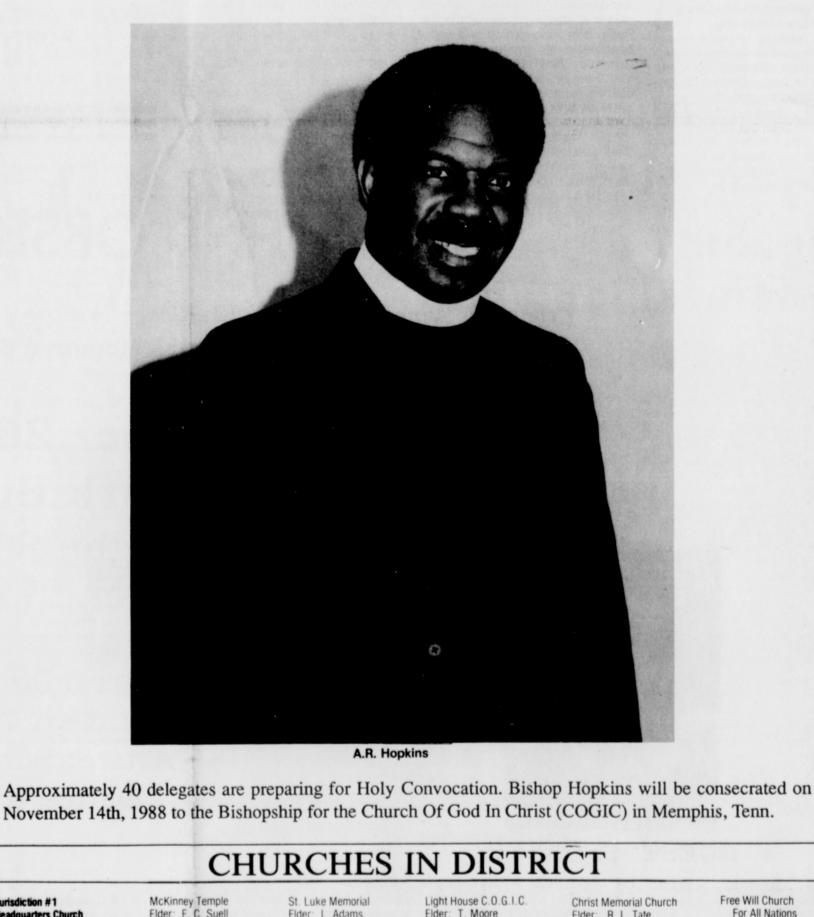
WAFFLE BREAKFAST: Delta Mothers and Patroness' Club - Annual Waffle Breakfast, Saturday, November 12, 1988, 9:00 a.m - 1:00 p.m. at Vancouver Avenue First Baptist Church, 3138 North Vancouver Avenue. Donation \$2.50.



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SCRIPTURE OF THE WEEK I THESSALONIANS: Chapters 1 & 2

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