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Rock Hill, S.C. — Negroes — Nursery Schools



"SCHOOL DAYS" — Mrs. Emily Ivory, supervisor of the Hermon nursery, directs her happy charges in singing. Titus Ivory, her son, is by her side with Mrs. Alene Anderson, assistant, looking on. Front row, left to right, Valerie Walker, Roy Lee Blake, Wanda Gale Parker, Delores Crawford, Armster Blake and Catherine Knox. Second row, Jeenice Crawford, James E. Blake, Chris

Sanders, Mark Sanders, George Henry Williams, Bernard Parker (partly hidden), Paul Knox, Rudolph Sanders. Third row, Joan Sanders, Cecil Ivory, Charlie James, Willie Steele. Top row, Jacquelin McGuirt, Patsy Simpson, Lorraine Brown, Daisy Miner and Susie Mae Hall. (Herald Photo.)

Kids Just Love To Go To RH Negro Nursery

By JULIA LOWRY

There's at least one school in Rock Hill where the students act as truant officers for their parents. The children actually beg to go to the Hermon Presbyterian Negro Nursery on Trade Street, and cry if they have to stay home. A situation like this, when the little ones nag their mamas about getting to school bears investigation. The children, obviously, have a grand time. They are also learning a lot from 8 a.m. 'til 3 p.m. under the capable direction of Mrs. C. A. Ivory and her assistant, Mrs. Alene Anderson. The ABC's come first in the informal "formal" learning with spelling out loud and writing of names following naturally. Good manners and good health are absorbed in the everyday atmosphere

of games, songs and a hot lunch every day, Monday through Friday. The school operates nine months a year. As far as Rock Hill is concerned, four white churches and Hermon Presbyterian find this nursery an eminently successful demonstration of Christian helpfulness. Oakland Avenue, Northminster, Ebenezer and First Presbyterian subscribe to the total working budget with the assistance of the Negro church. Outside donations are unnecessary because of this, although each child pays a nominal fee of \$1.25 per week toward the expense of operation. **Good Cooperation** In a much wider sense, the Nursery is an example of Christian cooperation between sections of the country. The Nursery is held

in a Northern Presbyterian Church plant, but the executive Committees (national) of the General Assemblies of both the Northern and the Southern Presbyterian Churches give \$500 a year to its support. This shows the experiment to be not only an example of inter-racial but intersectional good will and confidence. The nursery had its beginning several years ago when a group of women sponsored Mrs. Shelly Hall's trip to an interdenominational conference at Benedict College in Columbia. She returned with a desire to help her own people. This resulted in the idea of opening a nursery school. The Hermon Church offered its Sunday School building and people of every denomination gave generous financial aid. Among those interested and helpful in the early days was Mrs. J. W. Milling. During its three and a half years, the school has grown so (the normal enrollment is 30-35), that a Board of Supervisors was appointed for its operation. This board consists of two representatives from each of the supporting white churches and four Negroes from Hermon Church. The Rev. H. Dock-

ery Brown, pastor of the First Presbyterian Church is board chairman; Mrs. L. F. Abney is treasurer; Mrs. J. Thomas Williams is secretary, and Mrs. J. J. Godbold is educational chairman. Dr. D. M. Duckett is chairman of the equipment and building committee. Other members of the board include the Rev. Henry Mobley, the Rev. C. A. Ivory, the Rev. Bruce Fisher and the pastor of Ebenezer. The children are a little too young to appreciate the whys and wherefores of their nursery. All they care about is that it is — and they love it!

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Correspondence regarding early
Rock Hill Newspaper,
THE CHRONICLE

Letter dated Dec. 29, 1859
from Archibald Whyte to
Eugene Hutchison

Hutchison Papers
Kindness of:
Mrs. I. A. Bigger