

Boy, 13, Skips School To Care For Puppy

A boy's comradeship and love for his dog caused 13-year-old Ronald Haynes to play truant from Outhwaite school Monday. His six-week-old puppy, Rex, had hurt his left front paw over the weekend.

For two days, Ronald had helplessly watched Rex whine, cry and limp, pausing only to lick the pain of the hurting paw. Saturday and Sunday was all right but he couldn't bear to leave the dog alone Monday.

"I did the only thing I knew how," explained Ronald, who had suspected a broken paw. Far from an expert job, he improvised splints and bandages from sticks and strings. To heal the damage, Ronald added Mercurochrome.

But Ronald's actions seemed only to disturb Rex more. Wondering what to do, Ronald started walking with the dog, crying along with Rex's whining. At mid-afternoon, Ronald was near Outhwaite school and Rex was more sickly than before.

Mrs. Emma Holmes, 2409 Chestnut Place, volunteered her help by cutting away the bandages and soaking Rex's foot in salt water.

The son of Mr. and Mrs. Clifford Haynes of E. 39 St., Ronald nervously watched Mrs. Holmes at work. He told her of his friends and their dogs. "All of us have dogs and we have a club house

on E. 39 St.," he said nervously. "We meet with our dogs over there, that's where we keep them," he said, seemingly unable to keep quiet.

Billy Franks, 2458 E. 84 St., took the crying Ronald and whimpering Rex to a veterinarian where the boy hopes the dog will get well.

Rex isn't the only dog Ronald loves. "I have three more over at the club house," he added. Ronald goes there daily to care for his large family.

"Nope, four dogs aren't too many," Ronald hastily explains. "I love dogs," he said with a slight snuffle. "But the others don't get sick."