

ROYAL RANGERS EXPANDS WORLDWIDE

BOYS WILL BE BOYS—wherever they are. And because boys enjoy scouting, Royal Rangers activities are quickly spreading worldwide.

Beginning in the United States, this Assemblies of God boys program has mushroomed until approximately 69,000 men and boys are actively engaged in Royal Rangers in the U.S.

The advantages of Royal Rangers in meeting the spiritual, social, and physical needs of boys in other countries became immediately apparent.

There are now Royal Rangers groups in Australia. Spearheaded by W. John Woodham, pastor of the Assembly of God in Petersham, New South Wales, groups are functioning very similarly to U. S. groups. Just recently the Assemblies of God State Conference of New South Wales officially endorsed the Royal Rangers program and asked Brother Woodham to serve as state commander.

Development has not been limited to English-speaking countries. Early this year the Men's Fellowship of Argentina, directed by Dick Ellis, took its first step in launching a program for boys by sponsoring a five-day camp for boys 10 to 14 years of age. These Royal Rangers are known as *Exploradores del Rey*.

In a camping program similar to that used in the U.S., Speaker Ralph Hiatt challenged these boys to commit their lives to Christ. Of the 25 boys attending, five doubtful of their salvation gave themselves fully to the Lord. Others were deepened in their spiritual lives as they dedicated themselves in prayer.

To encourage further development of the Royal Rangers program in Spanish-speaking countries, the *Royal Rangers Handbook* has just been translated into Spanish. This meets the need for more complete information on the boys program which has been requested by many in Latin American countries.

Exploradores del Rey was written by Johnnie Barnes, national commander of Royal Rangers, and translated by Benjamin E. Mercado. While the U. S. program has three different handbooks—one for each of the three age divisions, the Spanish handbook has adapted the materials and incorporated them into one age group, ages 9-17.

John Jackson, director of the Spanish Literature Division of the Assemblies of God which produced the new handbook, declared, "Many leaders believe *Exploradores del Rey* will prove a real blessing, not only to the Assemblies of God but to other Protestant groups as well. The reason for this is that all other programs for boys, such as the Boy Scouts, are dominated by the Catholic Church in Latin American countries."

Spanish-speaking Assemblies in the U.S. have already organized Royal Rangers groups with over 1,500 boys participating in the program. There will undoubtedly be an even greater response in other countries since materials are now available.

For further information about this boys program write to: Royal Rangers, 1445 Boonville, Springfield, Missouri 65802, U.S.A.

The Royal Rangers of Argentina (top photo) enjoy games on a camping trip, and participate in a flag-raising ceremony (center photo). In the lower photo W. John Woodham (second row, center, in uniform) is shown with Royal Rangers and officers of the Assembly in Petersham, New South Wales, Australia.

