



Above: John McPherson, Cherokee Indian evangelist, was featured speaker for morning Camporama services. Below: Rangers improve their archery skills.



Johnnie Barnes (left), national commander of Royal Rangers, presents an outstanding service plaque to Will Thorne, commonwealth commander of Royal Rangers in Australia.

## OUR FUTURE LEADERS

Who will be the leaders of our Assemblies of God churches in the future? Our youngsters who today are receiving Christ as Saviour and living for Him as they grow into manhood and womanhood.

That points up the extreme importance of the Royal Rangers ministry. More than 20,000 boys accepted Christ last year through the Royal Rangers program, and over 7,000 received the baptism in the Holy Spirit, according to Johnnie Barnes, national commander.

During 16 years of the Royal Rangers program, almost 90,000 boys between the ages of 7 and 17 have accepted the Saviour.

What a tremendous way to develop our church and lay leaders of tomorrow!

"Spiritual results make up the main thrust of the Royal Rangers," said Brother Barnes, under whose direction the program began in 1962.

"After winning them for Christ, we endeavor to challenge them in Bible study, encourage them to establish a pattern of Christian living, familiarize them with the basic teaching of the church, and involve them in Christian service.

"In addition to the spiritual emphasis, we wish to encourage the development of the total boy. Therefore, this ministry is designed to assist in the mental, the physical, and the social growth of the boys."

The program emphasizes outdoor activities. These provide an ideal learning situation. Activities include

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camping, hiking, nature study, primitive skills, and crafts. There is also emphasis on self-reliance skills such as first aid and survival training.

This outdoor environment gives boys an opportunity to practice democratic living, make responsible decisions, and activate leadership abilities, which in turn lays a good foundation for future leadership in the church.

When Royal Rangers began, only a handful of men and boys were involved. Today this ministry has developed until it includes over 150,000 men and boys in the United States and over 80,000 in 39 other countries.

It has grown greatly from the days when the program was so small that Johnnie Barnes was jokingly called "The Lone Ranger." Now it is a massive outreach that is recognized as the fastest growing religious program for boys in America.

The adults who lead the Royal Rangers are encouraged to receive training on how to "reach, and teach boys for Jesus Christ."

Some tremendous spiritual benefits have accrued. "Many times entire families have been brought to the Lord through boys' participation in Royal Rangers," stated Commander Barnes.

One Chinese youngster in Northern California joined the group at a church. Soon he was saved—and af-

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