

Behring Hall men help House of Hope Orphanage

February 6, 1967

Men residents of Behring Hall dormitory at the University of California, San Diego make the House of Hope orphanage in Mexico a more comfortable place for young orphans each week.

The project was adopted when Karl Kottmann, a philosophy student at UCSD, suggested that students at Behring Hall undertake improving the House of Hope, which is about 12 miles south of Tijuana.

Almost 40 men students have participated since the project began. This week the women of Portola Hall at UCSD will be invited to join forces.

Students leave every Saturday morning at 9:00 a.m. to work on a project which the head of the orphanage and student leaders feel will be a worthy one and will help the orphanage.

Since the weekly trek started, students have built a retaining wall to fortify the sides of the river bank; they have raised money from fellow students for an improved roof for the chicken coop, and they are now laying a wooden floor in a storage room.

The physical work, the boys feel, is a preview to what they hope will develop into "big brother" relationships with the orphans. This, Kottmann believes, will be "as much a benefit to the students as we hope it will be for the orphans."

In the next months, University students hope to take the youngsters to such places as the San Diego Zoo, Sea World, the beach in La Jolla and other local spots.