

POPE BLESSES SAN FRANCESCO VILLAGE

From Italy comes this story of an all-but-forgotten people, the cave-dwellers of the aqueducts that lead to Rome's historic castles. Living in squalor unmatched by any of Europe's war-torn capitals, homeless families here took refuge during the war. Here they remain - and here a new generation is born, beyond the reach of humanity's arm; a grim reminder to the outside world that "European Recovery" is still little more than a phrase.

Out of the rubble, the young build the dreams of Youth. Their plight at last stirs the conscience of the Italian nation. Rome's leading architects plan a new village among the ruins, to which the Pope himself contributes generously;

Named the village of San Francesco, public contributions enable its building to begin.

Italian Secretary of State Fanfani inscribes a parchment for interment with the foundation stone, as tomorrow brings new hope to San Francesco.