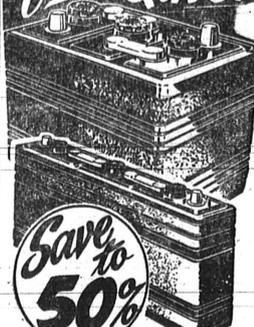


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Shoestring Residents Call Protest Meeting

By MARY HALL

Residents of Los Angeles' Orphan Alley—the Shoestring Strip—protested this week that their area has become a mud-hole at one end and a racetrack at the other.

The mudhole problem will be alleviated when the Los Angeles Board of Public Works builds a footbridge across the Denker Slough, which is located on Denker Ave. between 211th and 213th Sts., for children to use when the rains turn the road into a small river.

\$3200 has been appropriated for this job, and work should begin next week.

Race Problem Remains

But the racetrack problem still remains. Residents will hold a meeting Tuesday at the Normandie Recreation Center and will draft a protest to be taken to the San Pedro Police Department to keep hot rodders and jalopies from using the streets in front of Shoestring Strip.

homes as drag strips, the Herald learned this week.

Mrs. W. C. Sidwell, head of the Shoestring Strip Advisory Committee, said this week that the area between Western and Normandie Aves. south of Carson St. has become a Mecca for racing cars.

Blame Lack of Police

Inadequate police protection in the area has been blamed. Cars roar down the unpaved streets at all hours of the night and day, Mrs. Sidwell reported.

Since few streets are paved there are practically no boulevard stop signs at intersections. Strip children are taking their lives in their hands twice a day on their way to and from school.

The narrow strip of land that connects Los Angeles City with its lucrative San Pedro Harbor is heavily populated with children. Their parents have been forced to wage a slow battle to protect them by requesting boulevard stop signs, paved streets and police protection—things which no citizen should have to beg for.

The unpaved streets, lack of stop signs and absence of police patrols combine to make the area a haven for youthful speeders whose cars could easily fit a bump, go out of control and end up in somebody's living room, Mrs. Sidwell said.

Phone calls to the police have failed to stop the speeders because the youths see the police coming and leave, the committee leader stated. Mrs. Sidwell wrote a letter to the Chief of Police in Los Angeles two years ago requesting unmarked police cars to patrol the area. She was told that this violates a state law that forbids entrapment.

But the parents of the area believe that the reckless driving could be stopped if the police would put in regular appearances in the area; if the streets were paved; and if boulevard stop signs were installed at all intersections.

Shoestring residents hope to create enough noise to make the City of Los Angeles take a long look at this Orphan Alley—and then do something about it.



ONE-PROBLEM . . . A little rain and the sewers overflow and cause this problem on unpaved Denker Ave. between 211th and 213th Sts., where the road dips down and crosses the "Denker Slough." Children wade through the mud until it gets so deep that they can't then they take the long way to the Halldale School. Money has been appropriated for the Los Angeles Board of Public Works to build a footbridge across the morass and sidewalks down to it, and work should start soon. This is just one problem that exists, however, in Los Angeles' "Orphan Alley." (See below).

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