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### "SAYONARA" IS GOODBYE TO FIRST SENIOR CLASS

In the hour between the high school graduation exercises Monday night and the start of the graduation ball more than 3,000 Glen Rock townspeople made their way through the unrecognizable gymnasium which was open for public inspection during that hour.

Long lines of people inched slowly forward toward the one entrance to the room as the glow of excitement mounted. As they grew closer to the gym, glimpses of a gold ceiling and the gasps of those ahead as they entered the room brought an even greater feeling of gaiety to those still to enter.

But even the hint of what was to come failed to prepare the viewers for their amazement as they finally emerged into the breath-taking Japanese garden where the seniors would have their dance.

Entering the completely transformed room over an arched bridge spanning a real garden pool filled with water and surrounded by good-sized potted plants, on-lookers were no longer in the Glen Rock High School but in the gardens of a Japanese pagoda.

Wide bands of gold cellophane paper draped from the ceiling were interspersed with a few red bands to create an additional oriental effect and completely disguised the usual function of the room. Jutting out from the walls of the room were many-sided screens holding hand-painted murals of Japanese landscapes and creating tiny garden bowers which had been strung with huge Japanese lanterns.

Here and there a parasol or two were suspended and in between the bowers were colorful but plain panels on which were mounted masks, ornamental fish and other oriental items. Two large Buddhas faced each other across the long room and a large pagoda stood against the wall opposite the bandstand where the Tommy Dorsey orchestra was tuning up.

Diffused lighting reflected in the gold ceiling spread a glow over the entire room and made the small tables set up near the garden walls seem secluded and yet glamorous.

On each of the tables there were favors for the girls, a large Japanese doll standing alongside a gold lipstick. For the boys there were gold cuff-links and tie clasp sets. Menus on the tables spelled out Sayonara (goodbye) in oriental script to inject a single sad note in the occasion. Oriental floral arrangements were the centerpiece on each table.

As the pre-ball viewers left the room, via an identical bridged-garden to the one over which they entered, one word was heard most, "Fabulous."

When the lucky seniors and their guests arrived at ten o'clock, Warren Covington had his 18-piece Tommy Dorsey band going full tilt, and the excitement never died down.

His cha-cha partner, Kathee Selbee, made a hit with the crowd as did the vocalist, Donna Lee, but perhaps the greatest thrill was when Mr. Covington invited members of the audience to join him on the bandstand. The ninth grade Vanderkrake twins, Beverly and Barbara, were first with a hillbilly song; the senior class's own twins, Anne and Betty Allen, were next to harmonize in their lovely way. Then Lissa Hetzel's "The Lady is a Tramp" and "Blue Moon" got such an ovation from both the audience and the band members that Mr. Covington urged her to turn professional. Roger Taylor on his trumpet and Bob Quackenbush on the drum brought this impromptu highlight to a smashing climax.

Thirty-one door prizes, mostly purchased with trading stamps, were drawn throughout the evening, but the final hour was reserved for the fanciest gifts. Top winner, Jim Rector, went home with a VM stereophonic high fi. Other lucky ones were Joanne Piccotti and Tom Drake who received watches; Nancy Courter and Charles Plumb, sets of matched luggage; Barbara Polhemus and Donald Bishop, typewriters; Luanne Finkel and John Horne, transistor radios. Judy Vogt's prize was an orlon dynel evening stole; Nancy Legg and Bette Jane Fleming won bathing suits, while Al Walker, James Dunne, and Doug Anderson won electric razors.

Al Semenza played his accordion between all the final drawings.

Informal breakfast parties in 14 private homes and a dawn dip in the cool pool on Doremus Avenue wound up the festive night.

General chairmen for the ball were Mr. and Mrs. James Webb. Peter Wade designed the Sayonara scenery.