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GLEN ROCK PARENTS OVERSEE ALL-NIGHT SENIOR BALL Glen Rock, NJ, June 18-

At 8:45 yesterday morning, 19-year-old Susannah C. Sommerrock entered her home, kicked off her shoes and said: "What a marvelous night."

About four hours earlier, Susannah's mother, Mrs. Frederick S. Sommerrock, had walked into the same eight-room Colonial house at 118 South Highwood Avenue, sat down wearily, and said, with a sigh: "Well, the excitement was wonderful."

At dozens of homes in this community of 15,000 persons, similar scenes were enacted yesterday as weeks of intensive preparation by parents reached a climax with the graduation ball of the senior class of Glen Rock High School.

Glen Rock, which is about 20 miles from New York City, is one of a number of suburban communities where parents are playing an increasingly active role in the supervision of high school proms and graduation dances.

Mrs. Sommerrock, who was chairman of the food committee at the graduation party, said that there had been little resentment from the teen-agers toward their parents for playing an important role in party arrangements.

Such items as the choice of band and seating arrangements were left strictly to the students, Mrs. Sommerrock said.

Mrs. Jack R. Westby-Gibson, 130 Ellsworth Terrace, said that parents in Glen Rock began to take an interest in student parties as a result of an automobile crash in Manhasset, L. I., in which two young persons were killed.

"We felt in 1959 – at the [*damaged section*] – that something should be done to prevent such tragedies", Mrs. Westby-Gibson said after her son Jack graduated from high school on Monday.

Parents formed committees for the graduation celebration, supervised the arrangements and kept watch over the students. No liquor was served or made available to the students.

More than 400 parents worked this year on the graduation ball, which had the theme "Sophisticated Circus '63".

Against a pink and white backdrop, the school gymnasium was designed "to create an atmosphere of nightclub gaiety and surprise," Stanley F. Cappiello, who handled the decorations, said. Mr. Cappiello, whose daughter graduated from Glen Rock High School on Monday, was the scenic artist for such films as "Butterfield 8" and "The Hustler."

Each of the 200 high school graduates contributed \$15 to cover the cost of the party.

The graduation ball started at 10 P. M. following the high school graduation. At midnight, 42 fathers of the graduates served as waiters at a dinner in the Glen Rock gymnasium. At 3 A. M., groups of students went to 30 homes for breakfast. At 6 A. M., the municipal pool was opened and the teen-agers gathered for a swim.