

Social Committee Plan Gala Mardi Gras Affair

Gala Mardi Gras festivities will be celebrated in RMSHS when the annual spring dance sponsored by the social committee takes place March 1.

Gay decorations are planned and brightly-colored masks will be given only to the people planning to attend the dance. It is suggested that students decorate their masks to add to the festivities.

Invitations, in keeping with the theme, will be given to all members of the student body. The social committee has advised students who plan to bring guests to sign for them as early as possible.

Results of two recent school surveys gave the following results: 114 voted for an informal dance and 121 voted for semi-formal. The majority of students said they were planning to attend the dance.

Plans are underway to contact the Moderns, the Southerners, and the Collegians. Special features in the Mardi Gras spirit are planned for added attraction, and the committee hopes everyone is going to join the fun.

Rules For Dance

Hours of the dance will be from 9:00 p. m. until 12:00 midnight with an intermission at 10:30 p. m. Customary rules of conduct will be observed as at other dances. No one will be allowed to leave and return while the dance is in process. No drinking will be allowed and smoking will be permitted only in the rest rooms. These are a few rules concerning the dance but students are urged to familiarize themselves with others before attending in order to have a hilarious, festive, good time.

NEWSEES

Mrs. Callie Marie Jackson from Benson, N. C. has replaced Mrs. J. A. Ipock, whose resignation was effective February 15. Mrs. Jackson attended Meredith and has a major degree in home economics.

Jo Dare Williams is the representative for the Betty Crocker Homemaker of Tomorrow Scholarship from Rocky Mount Senior High School. She took the scholarship test last December.

Coach Johnny Guiton paid a visit to RMSHS February 8. Mr. Guiton now holds the position of head wrestling coach and assistant football coach at The Citadel in Charleston, S. C.

Peggy Jones, a '56 graduate, appeared in the Grass Roots Opera in Greensboro recently but was unable to appear in the Rocky Mount performance because she could not be away from school.

Student Council voted for an assembly featuring a panel made up of students only. They will evaluate "Operation Honor" week.

What's Doing?

- February 20 . . . Nash County Tournament
- February 21 . . . Nash County Tournament
- February 23 . . . Nash County Tournament
- February 25 . . . Nash County Tournament
- Mr. Ray Wilkinson, Mass Meeting
- February 27 . . . Nash County Tournament
- February 28 . . . PTSA Meeting
- March 1 . . . Mardi Gras Dance
- March 13 . . . Delegates from THE BLACKBIRD and HINOC-AR go to New York for the Columbia Press Convention.

More Moonlight Please?



Social Committee workers Luanne Hobbs, Mike Womble, Jane Bradley, and John Hines begin planning for the Mardi Gras Dance, March 1. This group is pondering over lighting effects in the gym. Photo by Faulkner

They Hope for Winners

Dramatists, Srs. Decide On Plays

Group Practices For Drama Fete

Lights! Action! Thus work began last week when the dramatic department started rehearsing contest plays to be presented at the District Festival in Goldsboro, March 30.

"For on the Valley," a serious one-act drama by Verna Powers, is being sponsored by the Black Masquers. Sandra Melton, Larry Warner, Frances Gay, Johnny Churchill, Ronald Perry, and Marie Stecher portray characters in this play about a son and his stepmother who openly hate each other.

Howard Buerman's "Quiet Please," about a feud between two brothers, in which Principle C. M. Edson once played a leading role, is being sponsored by the Edsonians Dramatic Organization with Autry Glover, Larry Warner, Jane Palmgren, Ken Fussell, Retha Derrmon, Miriam Viverette, and Jane Winters forming the cast.

It is singular that these two plays deal with the same vice, hatred and contempt, but in opposite ways. One treats it as a comedy, the other as a drama.

Immediate work has begun on these plays in the form of reading rehearsals, preparing stage sets, co-ordinating costumes, and many little jobs necessary in play production.

Mrs. Fermor Hobbs, dramatics teacher and director of the two contest plays, says she has great plans for these plays and hopes to win a first rating and plaque.

Plans are being made to visit Goldsboro before the Festival in order to see the size of the stage.

Studying Lines In Contest Plays



. . . with stepchild

Shown above and below are the leading characters in the two contest plays seen helping each other with their lines.

In the top picture, left to right, are Frances Gay as the stepmother in "Fog on the Valley" discussing script with Ronald Perry, her stepchild.

Below are, left, Larry Warner and right, Autry Glover, the two brothers in "Quiet Please," they are practicing arguing techniques. Photo by Barringer.



. . . two brothers

Class Productions To Provide Funds

To have sufficient funds to finance the class activities which include presenting the school a gift, the seniors voted in the last meeting to sponsor a class play this spring.

Principal C. M. Edson spoke to the seniors about past customs and rules for the class play. He stated that usually each senior class gave a gift to the school when they left, but they had to have money. Putting on a play had, in the past, been the seniors chief-money-making project.

Since there was much discussion about having to give part of the proceeds to the dramatic department, Mr. Edson spoke on this fact. He explained that the seniors would use the dramatic department's equipment. Also the dramatic department will not give a second major production this year, if the senior class has Mrs. Fermor Hobbs, dramatics teacher, to direct their play. The department does not have the funds to use money on contest plays and not replenish their finances. Mr. Edson closed by saying that putting on a play would be hard work, but fun.

The class discussed the matter and finally agreed that a percentage of the proceeds should go to the dramatic department.

Last year's graduates decided against having a play and consequently they had to find other means to make money.

Jean Edwards One Of 2 NC Delegates To UN Seminar

Jean Edwards, one of the two North Carolina delegates to the 1957 United Nations—Washington Seminar, goes to New York and Washington, D. C., February 23 — March 2.



As a member of the N. C. Conference Board of Education (whose main work at present time is with new colleges to be built here and in Fayetteville), Jean is eligible to attend this nation-wide conference.

Jean will have the opportunity to meet outstanding leaders of North Carolina (such as Senator Sam J. Ervin and Congressman Harold D. Cooley) and to study the nature of the world crisis. She will also be able to have a U. N. briefing of items before the General Assembly, particularly colonialism and trusteeship.

Speaker Relates

Inability Causes Failures

Inability to read, to spell, and to write sentences accurately are reasons for most college failures, according to Mr. Roy Armstrong, speaker at the PTSA meeting January 31.

Mr. Armstrong believes that some homework is necessary for all students. He is also of the opinion (as many parents and teachers) that students should take the right subjects and study hard.

Mr. Armstrong's advice to sophomores and juniors is that they

should visit schools in the spring of their juniors year and make decisions as to which college they will attend and then take the entrance exams as soon as possible. He suggested applying for scholarships in the early fall of the senior year.

English (4 yrs.), foreign language (2 yrs.), algebra (2 yrs.), plane geometry (1 yr.), and science (biology) are subjects that Mr. Armstrong said should be required in high school.