

## Susan Reed Recital Pleases Schwab Crowd With Ballads, Folk Songs in Artists' Finale

By Bennett L. Fairorth  
Ancient Celtic-English ballads and uncolored Appalachian folk songs were rendered as up-to-date, youthful, timeless carols by Susan Reed in Thursday's Artists' recital, the final program of the summer series.

Accompanying herself on the Irish harp and the zither, 20-year-old Miss Reed (a red-head) explained the background of her

brand of American songs to the audience in a relaxed stage manner. Her humor and receptive charm endeared her to the concert goers.

In a voice of exquisite clearness and purity, Miss Reed sang simple homespun tunes of love and jealousy and hate.

### Rebirth of Ballad

The ballad, now enjoying a resurgence of popularity, has become a vocal and literary science, and it is difficult to grasp the implications and dramatic nuances of these forthright-phrased airs at one sitting.

The most impressive delivery came after the intermission with "My Lagon Love." In this hymn-like song Miss Reed's voice flowed like the pearly tones of a full choir with intense shading.

Another hit with the audience was the interpretation of "Molly Malone" in a subdued, ghost-like pitch with a final whispered wail.

In these two numbers particularly, Miss Reed reached a standard of liquid, full-throated ease

over a wide range that she retained most of the evening, although in some songs her scope fell short of its merit.

### Joyous Faith Songs

The spirituals in the Reed manner were joyous revelations of a story-book faith rather than somber chants of death and damnation. In this group "Honor, Honor" and the "Cherry Tree Carol" were bright and tender.

### Singer Unassuming

In person, Susan Reed is fully aware of her abilities and the scope of her type of songs, but she is sincerely unassuming and eager to please.

"Folk songs today appeal more to the genuine music lovers than the mountain folks who have taken to Ray Acuff," Miss Reed has commented.

"Much of the flavor of folk songs is in their unknown origins, according to Miss Reed, who readily admits that J. J. Niles, for one, a collector of folk music, has written original songs and passed them off as genuine ballads.

Miss Reed, a Victor Record recording artist, has chosen from several versions of a single ballad in many cases to get the rendition that she sings at concerts and on her disks.

"I prefer accompanying myself with strings because they're more harmonious with the voice whereas piano is too glassy," she said.

## Veterans May Obtain World War II Medals

Veterans who received awards for service in World War II may now obtain the medals for their awards, according to the ROTC department.

Interested veterans should send one copy of the orders awarding the decoration to The Adjutant General's Department, Washington, 25, D. C., Attention: Decorations Section. Medals will be mailed to them within two or three weeks.

The World War II Victory Medal and the American Theater Medal are among the decorations available.

## PSCA Schedules Weekend Party

An All-College weekend cabin party has been scheduled August 23 and 24 by the Penn State Christian Association. Students planning to attend shall contact the PSCA office, 304 Old Main.

"Stags and couples are invited," said Mrs. Earl Spenser, PSCA secretary. Weekend guests may also attend the Watts Lodge party.

The group will leave from the parking lot behind Old Main, 2:30 p. m. Saturday, August 23, and return the following morning. Meal tickets at one dollar are secured from the PSCA office.

The PSCA Hugh Beaver lounge 304 Old Main, will be open daily during post session for student use, said James T. Smith, PSCA director.

Room and board for women at the College was \$2 to \$3 a week in 1947.

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