

# Robeson Opens Artists' Series Monday

Featuring the negro spirituals for which he has become so famous, Paul Robeson, noted singer of folk songs, will appear before a capacity crowd in Schwab Auditorium Monday evening.

The curtain will rise for the great baritone's recital at 8 p.m. In addition to such favorites as "Swing Low, Sweet Chariot," "Joshua," and "Go Down, Moses" Robeson, by special request has added "Ballad for - Americans," which he originally introduced on the CBS "Pursuit of Happiness" broadcast.

When Paul Robeson appears in Schwab Auditorium after his New York and Philadelphia performances, subscribers to the Artists Course will hear not only the greatest interpreter of Negro spirituals but also a versatile and ac-



PAUL ROBESON

complished personality.

The negro baritone has been prominent in three fields, athletic, dramatic, and concert. The late Walter Camp called him one of the greatest ends that ever trod the gridiron. He had been approached by boxing promoters and has made numerous dramatic triumphs in "Emperor Jones," "All God's Chillun" and many others. Today on the concert stage he is acknowledged the best-known folk singer in the world.

Robeson will share a portion of his program with Clara Rockmore, thereminist, who is an artist in her own right. The State College audience will thus hear the product of modern electrical magic, a musical instrument that is not touched by the performer.

# 'I'd Sing All Night' Robeson Says As Nine Encores Thrill Audience

By ROSS B. LEHMAN

Tired, fatigued after a two hour concert including nine encores and being mauled and pushed for half an hour by students who sought autographs, "young" Paul Robeson, as the 42-year-old negro voice master likes to be called, said last night in a small dressing room in Schwab Auditorium after his Artists' Course concert, "I could sing all night to a crowd like that."

Robeson explained, "I can't stop being young. I love to sing to college groups, to be 'natural' and sing the melodies I want to sing—the songs that come from the heart."

Waving his hand toward the little semi-circle of students and professors who still remained, the six-foot-four former Rutgers All-American remarked, "They seem to catch the spirit of my songs better than most people. I may give concerts in England, France, or other countries, but in America, I know the youth can interpret my singing. They know my background."

Folk songs are the "Showboat's" star's first love. From the folk song, Robeson pointed out, comes the soul of the Negro and his instinctive love for music. "Most modern music arises from the notes of a folk song that my people were humming and dancing years ago," he said.

When asked what he thought about "swing," Robeson chuckled deeply, glanced furtively at the

ringed circle, then said, "Boy, if I had known I wouldn't have been thrown off the stage, I would have come out singing the 'St. Louis Blues'."

Not referring to the "swing tunes" that disappear in a week, but rather the George Gershwin melodies and William C. Handy's folk tunes, Robeson explained that these songs contained the emotional and musical melodies of many generations.

Starting off his career by deserting his law aspirations and supported only by his Phi Beta Kappa key, Robeson soon attracted the notice of Heywood Brown and other critics with his unpretentious and natural singing. Later he starred in "Emperor Jones," and "Showboat", both stage and screen productions.

Last night, Paul Robeson held his audience spellbound with his effortless interpretations and mastery of mood effects, his rich, mellow voice skillfully presenting the beauty of songs such as Ballad For Americans, Ole Man River, and various negro spirituals.

Miss Clara Rockmore added special numbers to the program with selections on the theremin, a musical instrument which the performer never touches while playing. The tone is produced when the performer's hands enter an electro-magnetic field and produces a rich tone like the viola or cello.