

# Jane Froman Develops A New Talent

*Twenty years after her brush with death, songstress is studying art*

*By The Associated Press*



Associated Press Photo

Retired from show business, former singer Jane Froman is in a University of Missouri art class. She's a housewife.

**J**ANE FROMAN, whose voice inspired GI's during World War II, is now a student at the University of Missouri at Columbia.

But she doesn't sing any more. "I'm permanently retired from show business," she said. "I don't even sing for community groups."

Now a housewife, she spends hours each week studying art at the university.

Recently she married Columbia newspaperman Rowland Smith.

She thinks the 34 years she was in show business passed fast.

"But don't think it doesn't take some doing to go back to school after more than 30 years," she commented.

"These students today are smarter than we ever were."

Twenty years ago she almost died in a plane crash off the coast of Lisbon, Portugal. She was with a U.S.O. show at the time, and suffered severe injuries. She still wears a brace on her leg as a result of the accident.

Miss Froman is busy in state and local groups.

She is on the Alumnae Board of Christian College, the Boone County and Missouri health boards, a governor of the Menninger Foundation, president of the Jane Froman Foundation for Mentally Retarded Children, and an adviser to Kappa Kappa Gamma social sorority.

She also is a member of Mu Phi Epsilon music sorority.

Although she never completed college, Miss Froman hoped to make up the eight hours of credit she needs. She has taken up art and, much to her surprise, she's an honor student.

Christian College in Columbia recently honored her with a distinguished-alumna award. The citation praised her for "the hope and inspiration which she has given to millions and which have transformed her into a living legend."

What of the old days?

"I can't help but compare those old days—all the trouble and pain—with now," Miss Froman said. "I'm home now and I plan to stay."



The photograph above was made in 1938 when she was an established vocalist.

At left, her braces hidden, Miss Froman sings in 1945 at a Red Cross club in Paris where she hoped to inspire GI's.