

The Bathroom Songsters

By W. E. Hill

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Rose is all by her lonesome in the bathroom, and she's having a great old singfest. Her favorite number is "Rio Rita," which she sings over and over—just the first two bars, because that's as much as Rose is able to retain of any tune.



Isabelle is washing handkerchiefs in the bathroom this bright October morn and singing, as she rinses, with oh, such dramatic intensity, "Just a kiss in the dark, just a kiss in the dark, just a kiss, just a kiss," etc., etc. Only knows a few of the words, does Isabelle, but that doesn't keep her from hitting a few high notes.

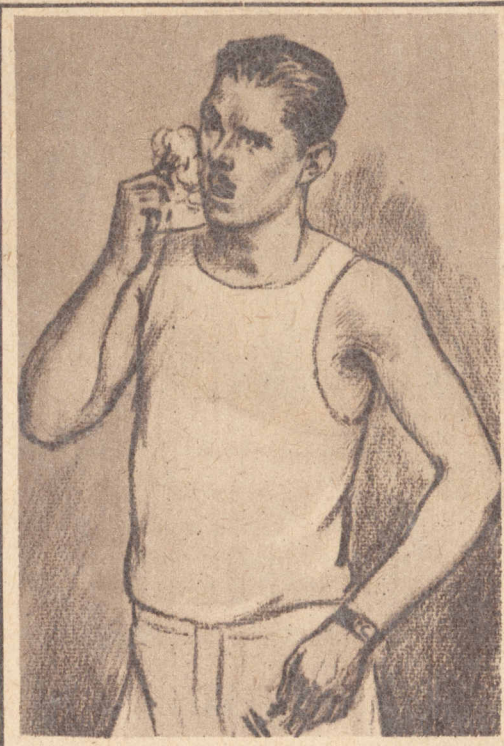
And if here isn't Aunt Susanah at the bath, singing away! Aunt Susanah is an old-fashioned girl, preferring the hits of yesteryear to all this modern jazz. A song or two from "Erminie," "Cherry Red, Cherry Ripe," and "Two Little Girls in Blue" are in her repertoire.



Poor Caroline! She's so musical at heart, and yet no one in her immediate family circle will let her sing a note. The girl is tone deaf, you see. But in the bathroom, with the door locked, and both faucets running into the tub, who is to say her nay? She's having a swell time with "Moonlight on the Ganges" and "End of a Perfect Day," although you'd never guess which is which.



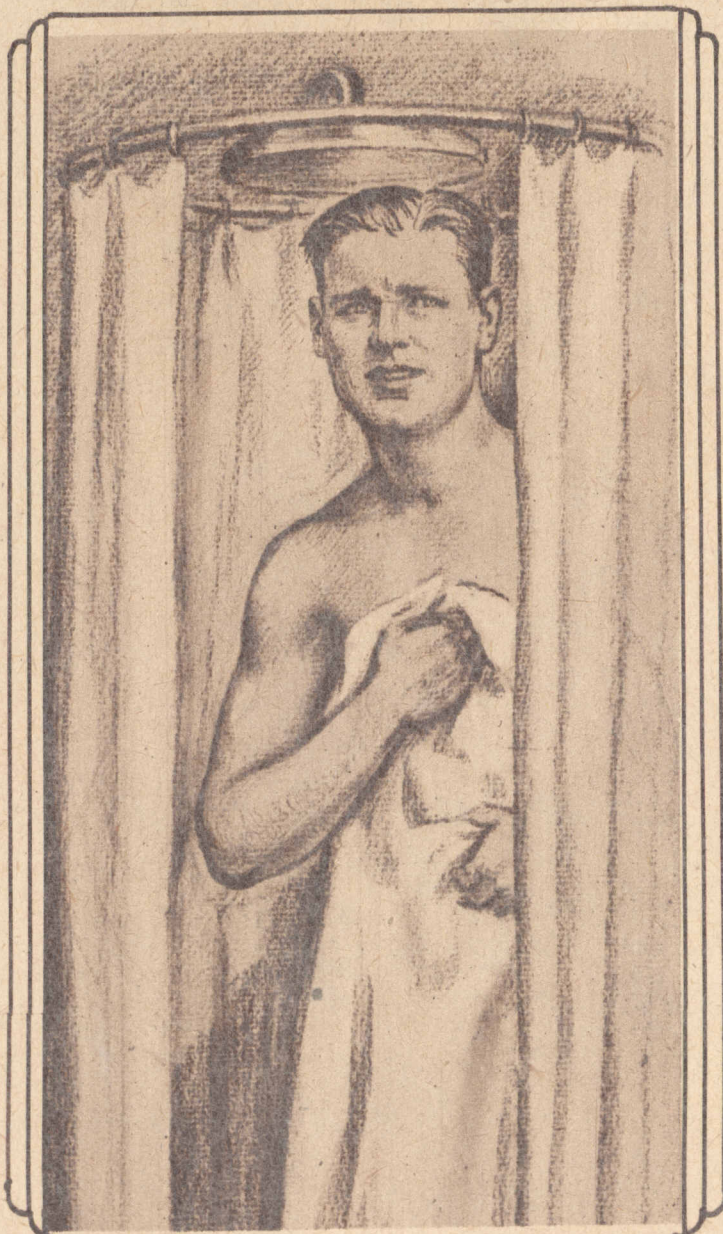
Scalp treatment in the privacy of the bath incites Roland to a perfect orgy of bathroom ballads. "Darling, I am growing o-old, silver thr-eads among the go-old" will be followed by a choice selection from grand opera unless Roland is stopped by members of the family, who can stand just so much and no more.



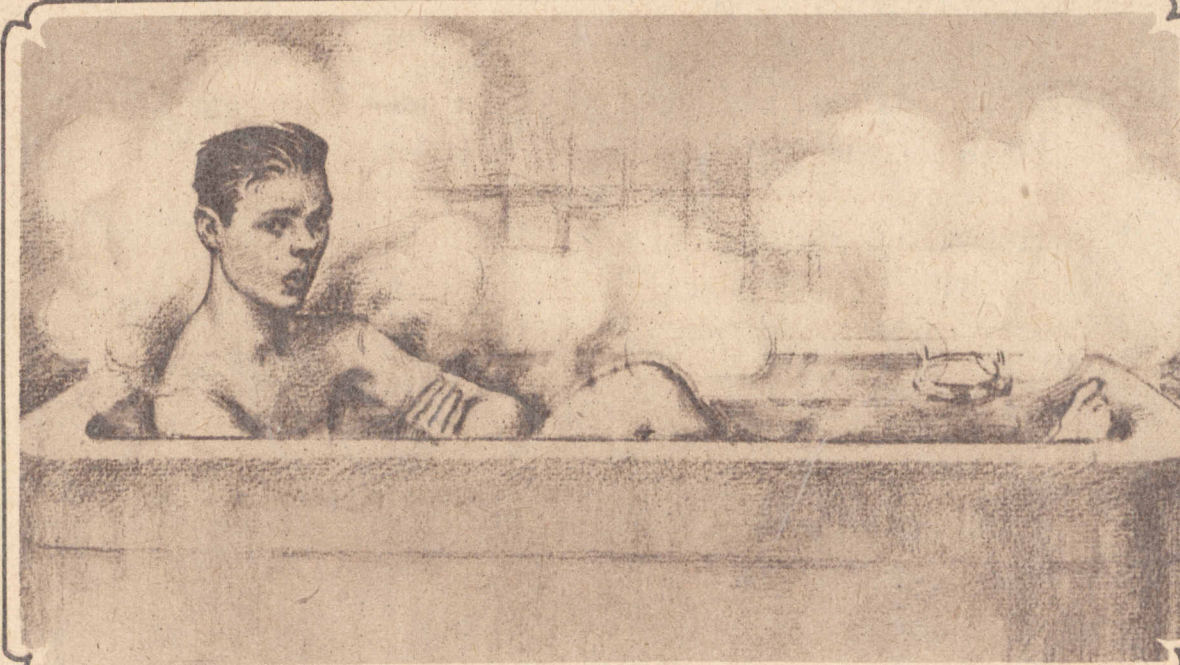
That heart-throbbing ballad, "Although You Belong to Somebody Else, Tonight You Belong to Me," and the more sadistic "It Made You Happy When You Made Me Cry" are great stuff for the morning shave. A young man shaving in the early morning wants to warble something with heart interest and plenty of it.



Owing to the difficulty of keeping soapy water from dribbling into the mouth, a gentle lullaby, or a Swanee river tune, crooned softly, seems to fit in best with a tar soap shampoo over the wash bowl.



"La ta dee dee do" is the burden of the song that issues from under the rubber curtain where Harvey is drying off after the cold shower. Harvey likes to improvise as he goes along. Not much tune, but the louder the better.



Arthur is enjoying a good old soak in hot water, and is whistling the time away while the soap dissolves in the bottom of the tub. He is bringing back all the favorites of the great war, such as "Rose of No Man's Land," "I'm Sorry I Made You Cry," and doing pretty well, if you like whistling.



Uncle Garvey is a bathroom warbler of many years' standing. He likes something that you can sink your teeth into, as it were, something like "Old Dog Tray" or "Asleep in the Deep."