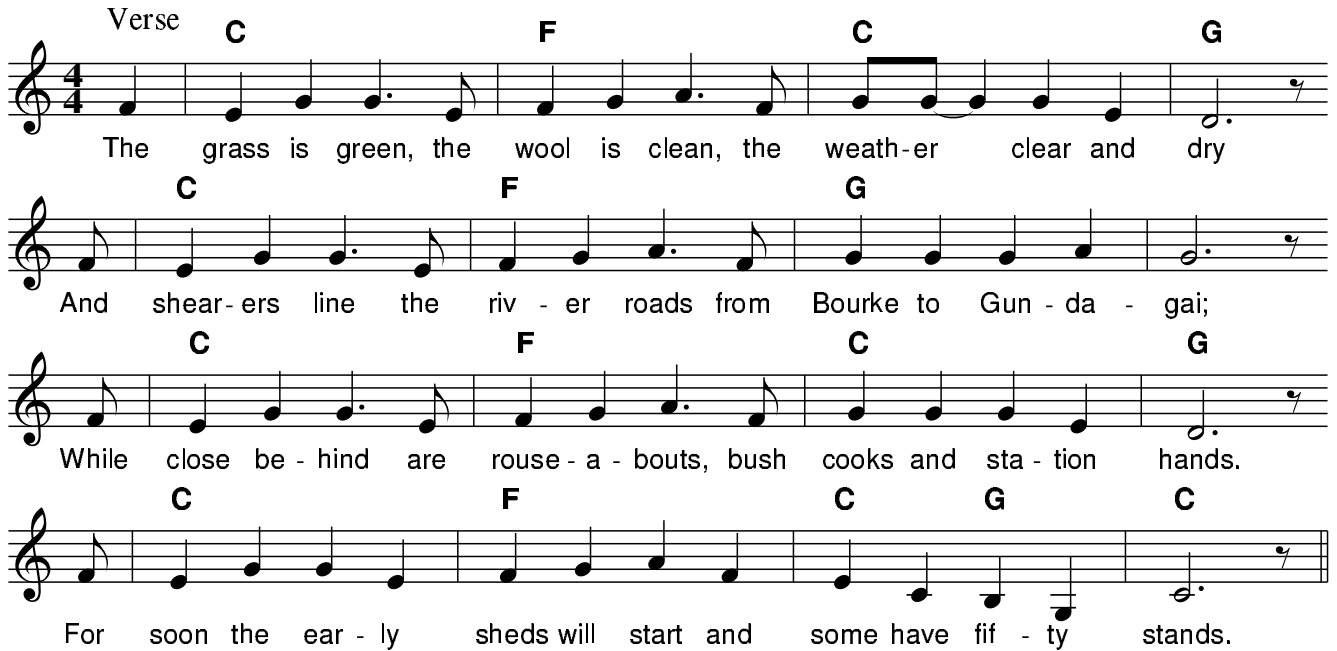


The Early Sheds


Original words Jim Grahame (Jim Gordon), a life-long friend of Henry Lawson. The tune was written by musical duo Tony & Helen Romeo, both long term members of the Bush Music Club and performers with Southern Cross Bush Band.

Verse



The grass is green, the wool is clean, the weath-er clear and dry
And shear-ers line the riv - er roads from Bourke to Gun - da - gai;
While close be - hind are rouse - a - bouts, bush cooks and sta - tion hands.
For soon the ear - ly sheds will start and some have fif - ty stands.

Chorus



The grass is green, the wool is clean, the weath-er clear and dry
And shear-ers line the riv - er roads from Bourke to Gun - da - gai.

Beside the billabongs and the creeks as in and out they wind
Are stringing flocks of bleating sheep with men and dogs behind;
While at the outposts of the run where dancing whirlwinds spin
Are shepherds riding far and wide to bring the stragglers in.

The engine has a trial run, the grinder tests his gear
And clears away his oily rags where they have lain a year.
The old shed trembles on its joists and creaks from roof to floor
Where startled swallows leave their nests and vanish through the door.

Beyond the sheds are swagmen's camps with here and there a tent.
The nomad dwellers of the bush who pay no rate or rent.
Young rousies sit and poke the fire with mouths agape in awe
The bush providing education they've not had before.