

The Old Bullock Dray II

Burl Ives came to Australia in 1952. In Melbourne he obtained songs from Dr Percy Jones which were released as a folio and record called 'Australian Folk Songs' with acknowledgement to Jones for collection and arrangement.

Now the shear-ing is all o - ver and the wool is com - ing down.

I mean to get a wife, my boys, when I go to town.

For ev - ery - thing has got a mate that brings it - self to view

From the lit - tle pad - dy - mel - on to the big kan - gar - oo.

Chorus:

So roll up your bundle and let us make a push,
And I'll take you up the country and show you the bush;
I'll be bound such a chance you won't get another day,
So roll up and take possession of the Old Bullock Dray.

I'll teach you the whip, and the bullocks how to flog,
You'll be my off-sider when I'm fast in the bog,
Hitting out both left and right and every other way,
Making skin, blood and hair fly around the Bullock Dray.

Good beef and damper, of that you'll get enough.
When boiling in the bucket such a walloper of duff,
My mates they'll all dance and sing upon our wedding day
To the music of the bells around the Old Bullock Dray.

There'll be lots of picaninnies, you must remember that;
There'll be "Buck-jumping" Maggie and "Leather-belly" Pat;
There'll be "Stringy-bark" Peggy and "Green-eyed" Mike;
Yes, my colonial, as many as you like.

Now that I am married and have picaninnies three
No one lives so happy as my little wife and me;
She goes out hunting to wile away the day
While I take down the wool in the Old Bullock Dray.