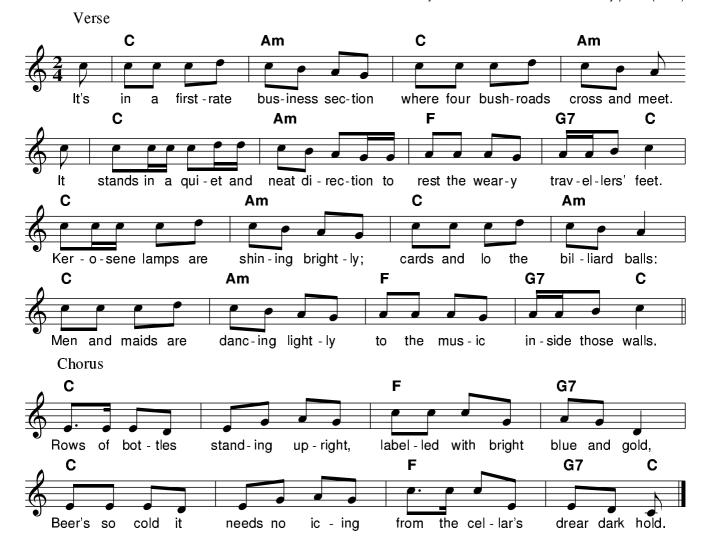
The Shanty By the Way

Dr Percy Jones collected this song in New Zealand from a man who heard two old diggers singing it. They had learnt it from a miner on the west coast who had come from Australia in the 19th century. It is derived from an E J Overbury poem (1865)



There's quoits and games and bagatelle, all to suit your fancy-oh; But better far behind the bar stands smiling darling Nancy-oh. Nancy's smiles are quite beguiling to make some fun she's willing-oh. You give a rap she turns the tap and thanks you for your shilling-oh.

Landlord stands with smiling face, He likes to see your cash forked out. Landlord stands with smiling face, Sometimes he will stand a shout. Landlord shouting is uncommon. He's kidding you to dance and play. How the devil can a man keep sober in the shanty by the way?

When you wake up in the morning In your thirst without a mag You cast around a sad reflection As you shoulder up your swag. Penniless you'll have to wander for many a long and weary day Till you earn another cheque to squander in the shanty by the way.