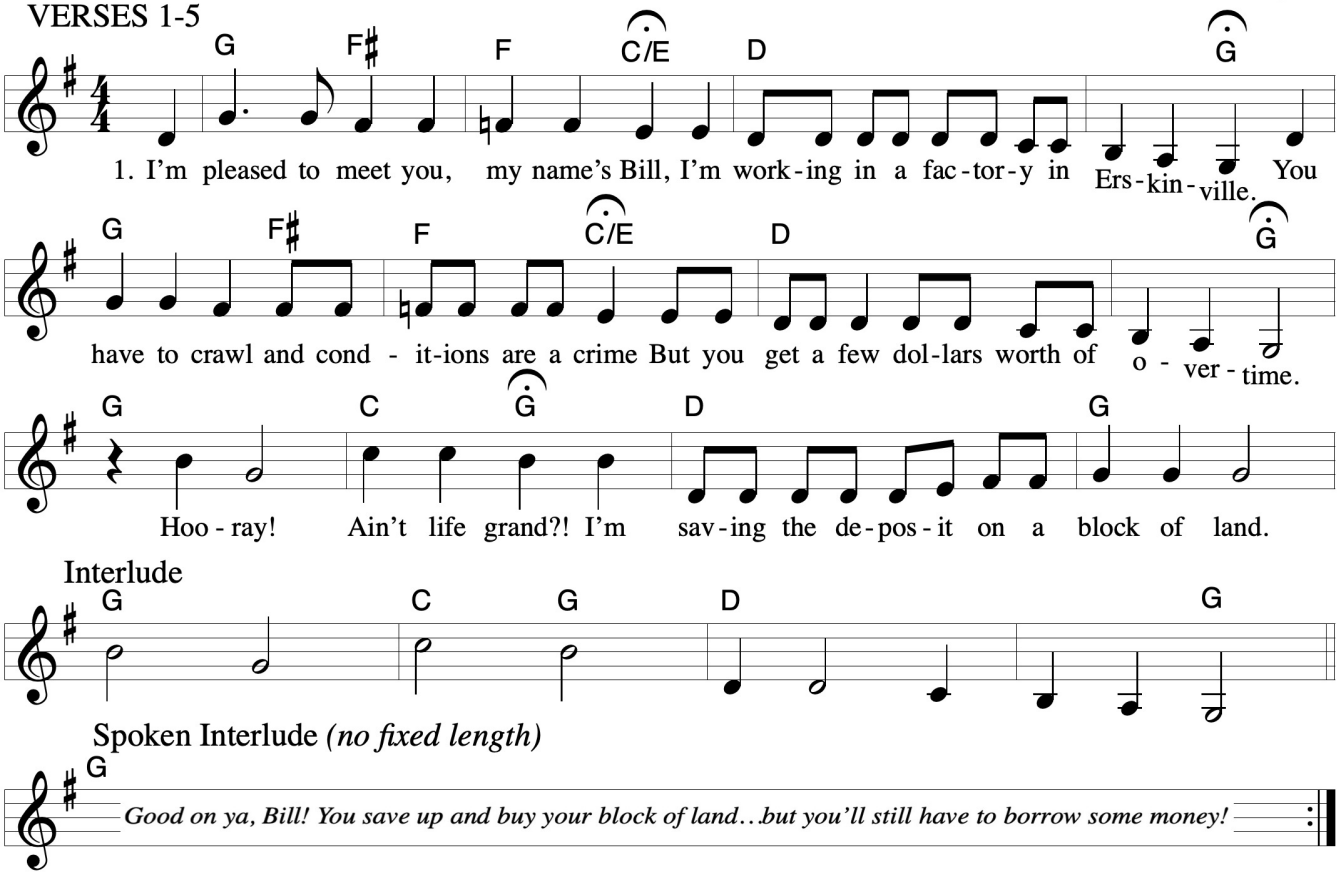
Bill from Erskinville

John Dengate



2. I met a fella selling real estate, he's running from the coppers in another state
   And he's the friend of a generous gent who's lending money at twenty percent.
   Hooray! Life's a lark! I'm swimming' in the water with a finance shark.

   Bill! Get yerself down to Rosehill Racecourse. There's a couple of certainties there today, Bill… A license to print money!

3. I had a couple of dollars on a short-priced horse running in a welter on the Rosehill course,
   But too much weight and too little pace and the bugger finished twelfth in a twelve-horse race.
   Hooray! Faithful nag! Ferryin' the money to the bookie's bag.
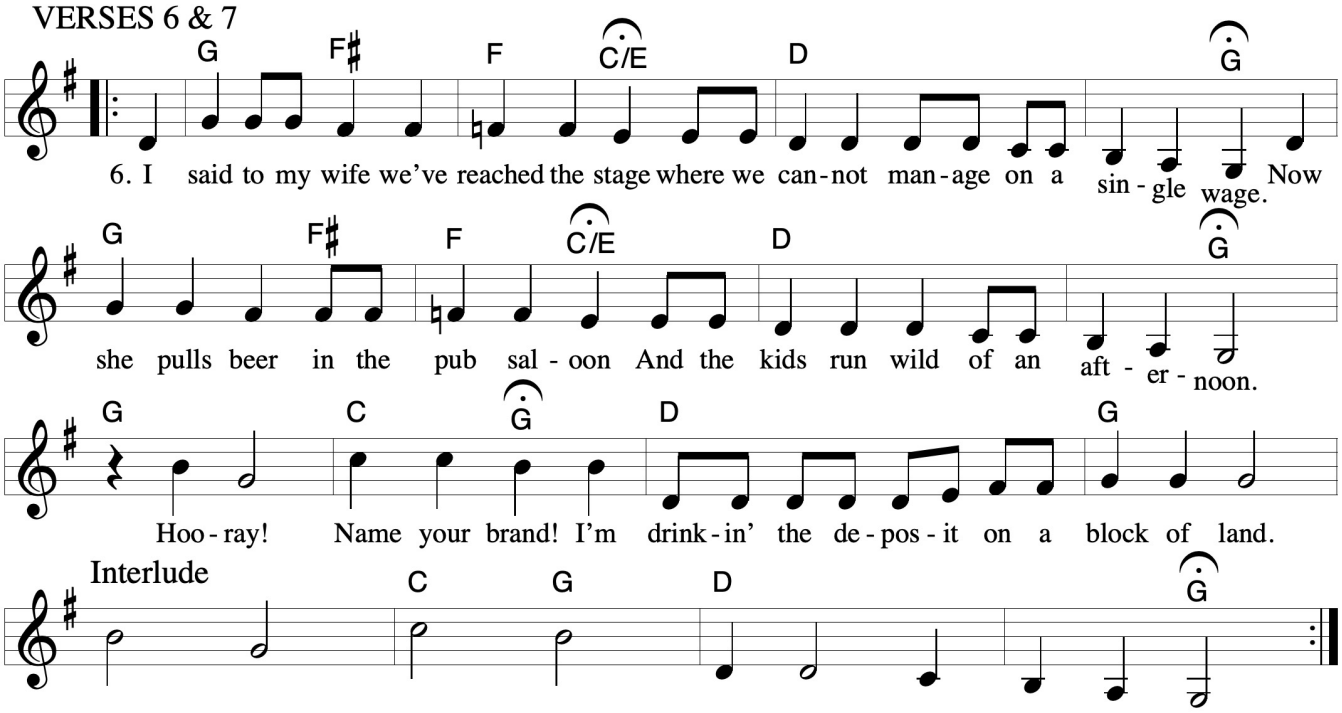
   Bill! – You're too impetuous! Get yerself down to the R.S.L. club. Think about it. Get things into perspective. Have a couple'a schooners of Toohey's Old! While yer down there you might pull a jackpot on the pokies!

4. I had a little flutter on the poker machines and I won a dollar forty when it paid three Queens.
   So, I chases the aces around the reels – now I can't afford the money to pay for meals.
   Hooray! Feed the slot! Haul upon the handle 'til you lose the lot.

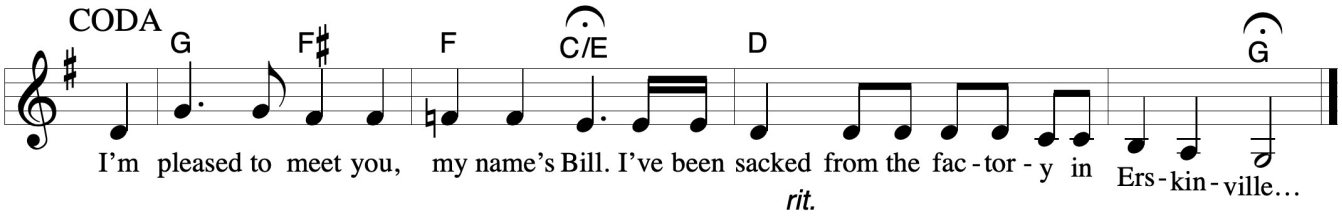
   Lottery tickets, Bill! Go for the big one, Bill!

5. Lottery tickets have me up shit creek – I was twenty off a five-dollar prize last week.
   The tyres on my car are all worn through and the registration's overdue.
   Hooray! Hip-hurrah! For a worn-out, second-hand Holden car.

   Bill! This is a two-income society! Get yer missus out to work, Bill!



7. I said to my wife, "We've reached the stage where we cannot manage on a single wage."
   Now she pulls beer in the pub saloon and the kids run wild of an afternoon
   Hooray! Name your brand! I'm drinking the deposit for a block of land…





John Dengate (1938-2013)

Bill from Erskinville

Words & music: John Dengate

G F♯ F C/E
I'm pleased to meet you, my name's Bill
D G
I'm working in a factory in Erskinville
G F♯ F C/E
You have to crawl and conditions are a crime
D G
But you get a few dollars worth of overtime
C G
Hooray! Ain't life grand?!
D G
I'm saving the deposit on a block of land

Good on ya, Bill! You save up and buy your block of land…

But you'll still have to borrow some money…

G F♯ F C/E
I met a fella selling real estate
D G
He's running from the coppers in another state
G F♯ F C/E
And he's the friend of a generous gent
D G
Who's lending money at twenty percent
C G
Hooray! Life's a lark!
D G
I'm swimming' in the water with a finance shark

Bill! Get yerself down to Rosehill Racecourse.

There's a couple of certainties there today, Bill… A license to print money!

G F♯ F C/E
I had a couple'a dollars on a short-priced horse
D G
Running in a welter on the Rosehill course
G F♯ F C/E
But too much weight and too little pace
D G
And the bugger finished twelfth in a twelve-horse race
C G
Hooray! Faithful nag!
D G
Ferryin' the money to the bookie's bag

Bill — you're too impetuous! Get yerself down to the R.S.L. club.

Think about it. Get things into perspective. Have a couple'a schooners of Toohey's Old.

While yer down there you might pull a jackpot on the pokies!

G F♯ F C/E
I had a little flutter on the poker machines
D G
And I won a dollar forty when it paid three Queens
G F♯ F C/E
So, I chases the aces around the reels
D G
Now I can't afford the money to pay for meals
C G
Hooray! Feed the slot!
D G
Haul upon the handle 'til you lose the lot. [*Alt.* Push upon the button 'til *etc.…*]

Lottery tickets, Bill! Go for the big one, Bill!

G F♯ F C/E
Lottery tickets have me up shit creek
D G
I was twenty off a five-dollar prize last week
G F♯ F C/E
The tyres on my car are all worn through
D G
And the registration's overdue
C G
Hooray! Hip-hurrah!
D G
For a worn-out, second-hand Holden car

Bill! This is a two-income society!
Get yer missus out to work, Bill!

G F♯ F C/E
I said to my wife, "We've reached the stage
D G
Where we cannot manage on a single wage."
G F♯ F C/E
Now she pulls beer in the pub saloon
D G
And the kids run wild of an afternoon.
C G
Hooray! name your brand,
D G
I'm drinkin' the deposit for a block of land.

G F♯ F C/E
Oh, I'm pleased to meet you, my name's Bill
D G
I've been sacked from the factory in Erskinville