

Sign-On Day

<p>It's sign-on day at the Dance Palais And we're down to a quid or two But we'll cut a quick ton if you give us the run And we'll see the season through</p>	UNISON
<p><i>You can have Maria, Sophia and Madelaine, But we'll take the sugar That comes from sugarcane</i></p>	TWO PARTS
<p>We've cut down on the rivers And up at Mossman too, But give us the cane with the Herbert strain And we'll see the season through</p>	TWO PARTS
<p><i>You can have Maria, Sophia and Madelaine, But we'll take the sugar That comes from sugarcane</i></p>	THREE PARTS FROM HERE ON
<p>The ganger is a gun, me boys, The cook can make a stew, If he drops the cane inspector in, We'll see the season through</p>	
<p>Our hands are raw, but two bob more Will make them seem like new, If we get enough pay we'll cut all day 'Til we see the season through</p>	
<p>There's grog of sorts in other parts, But Cairns has got the brew That we'll drink and drink and drink and drink When we've seen the season through</p>	
	DOUBLE CHORUS WITH ANTICIPATION AT THE END

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The great Australian folklorist Ron Edwards learned this song from Bill Oliver of Redlynch, NQ in 1960, and published it in Great Australian Folk Songs.