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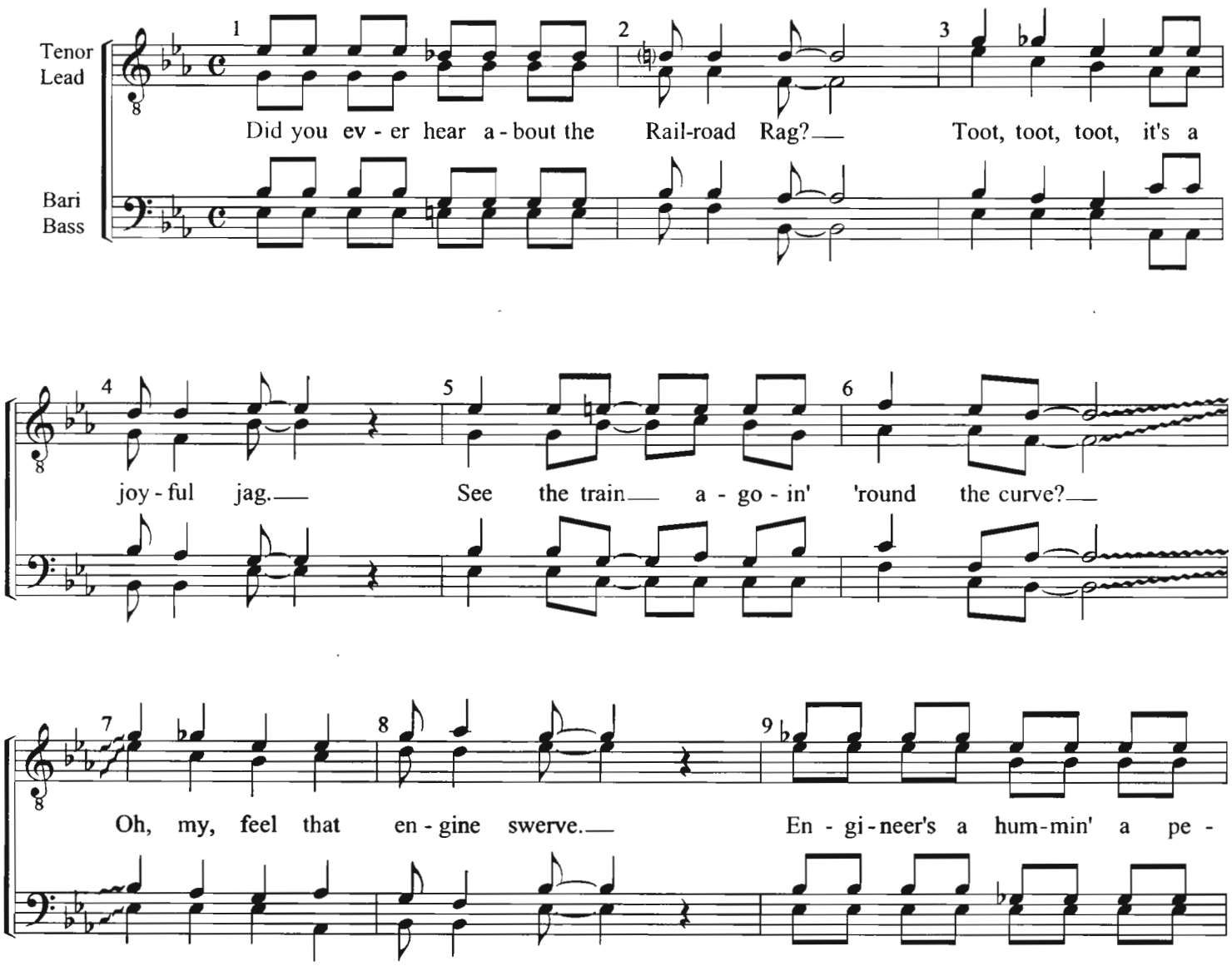
THAT RAILROAD RAG

(1896)

Words by NAT VINCENT

Music by ED. BIMBERG
Arrangement by KIRK ROOSE

Verse



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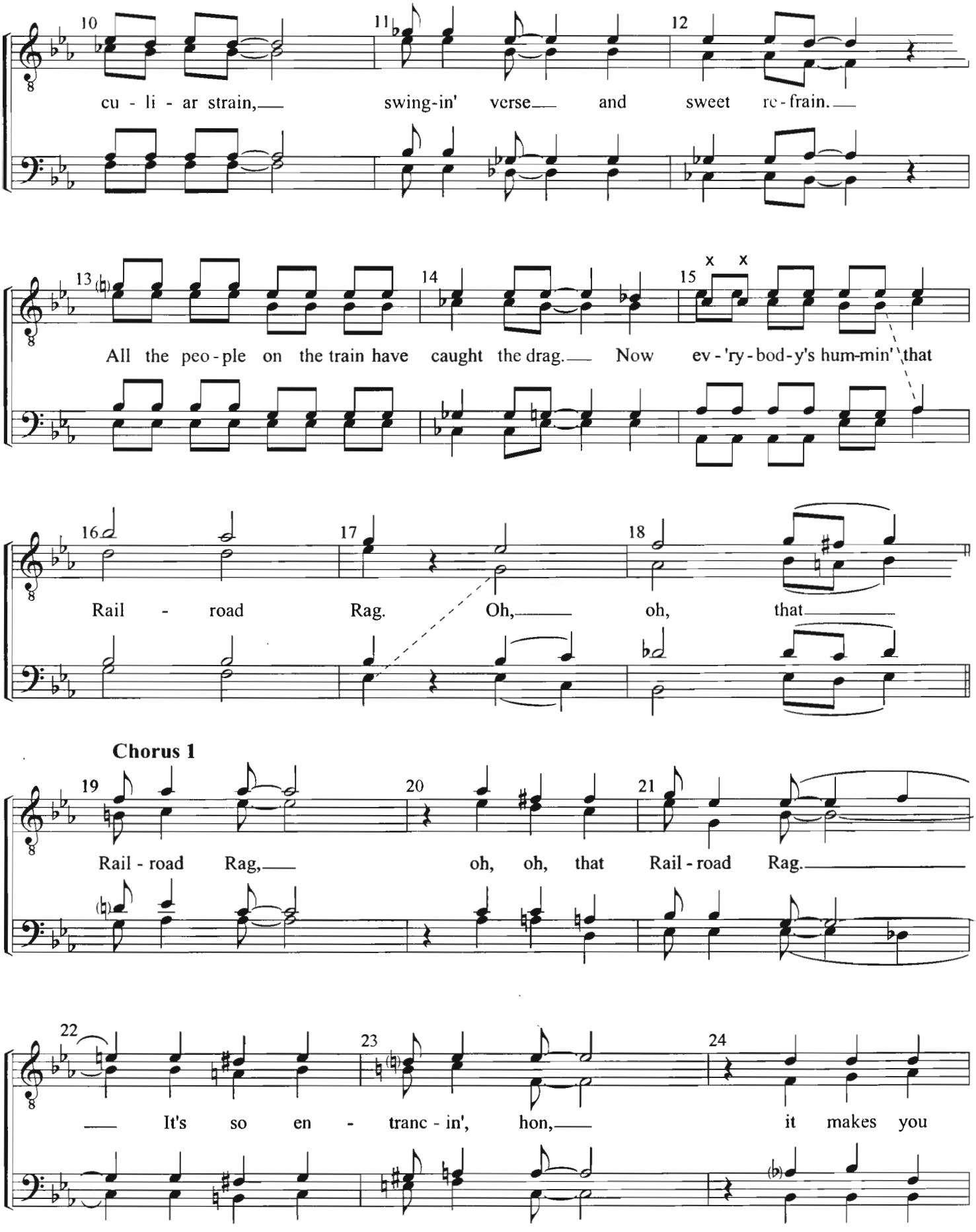
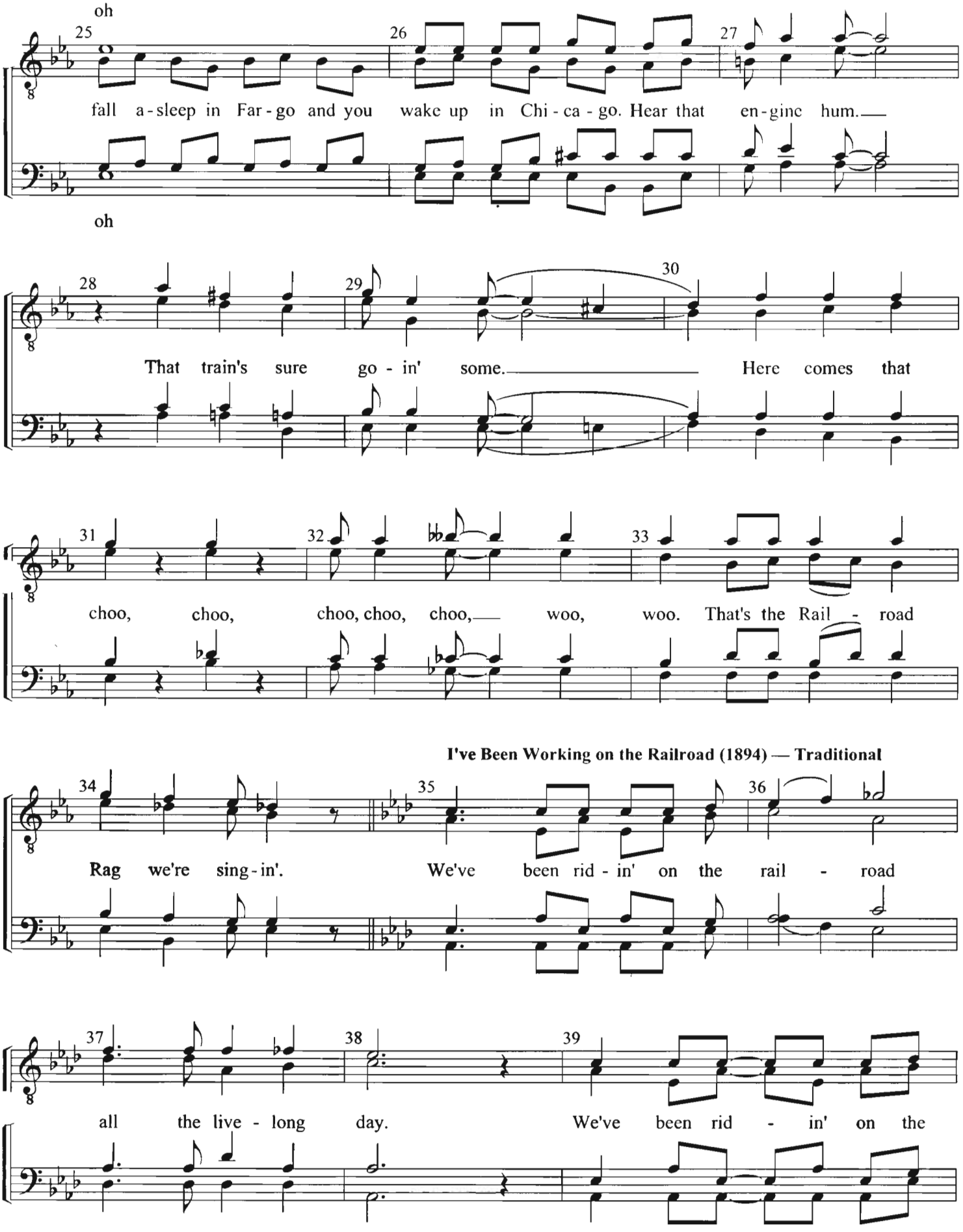
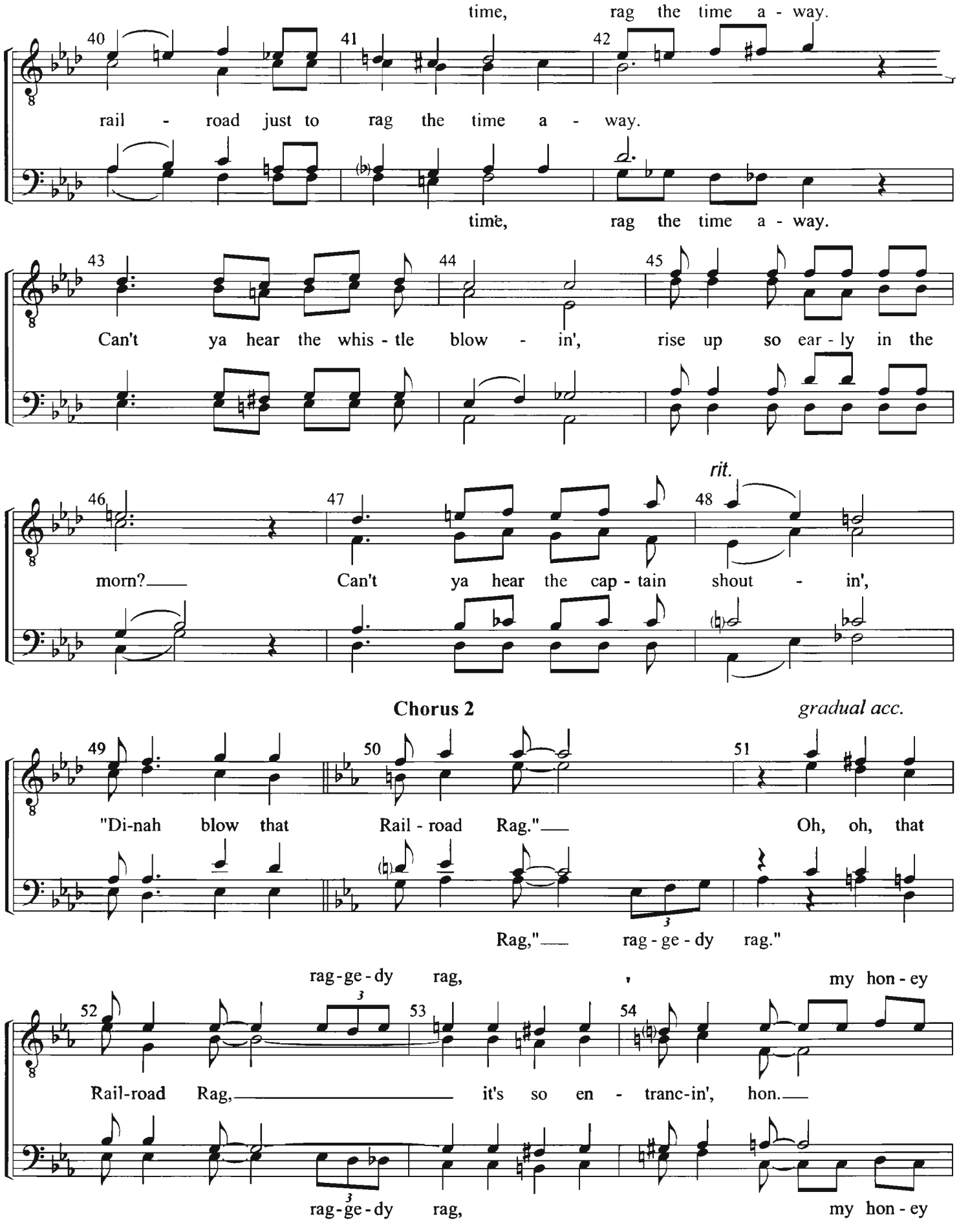
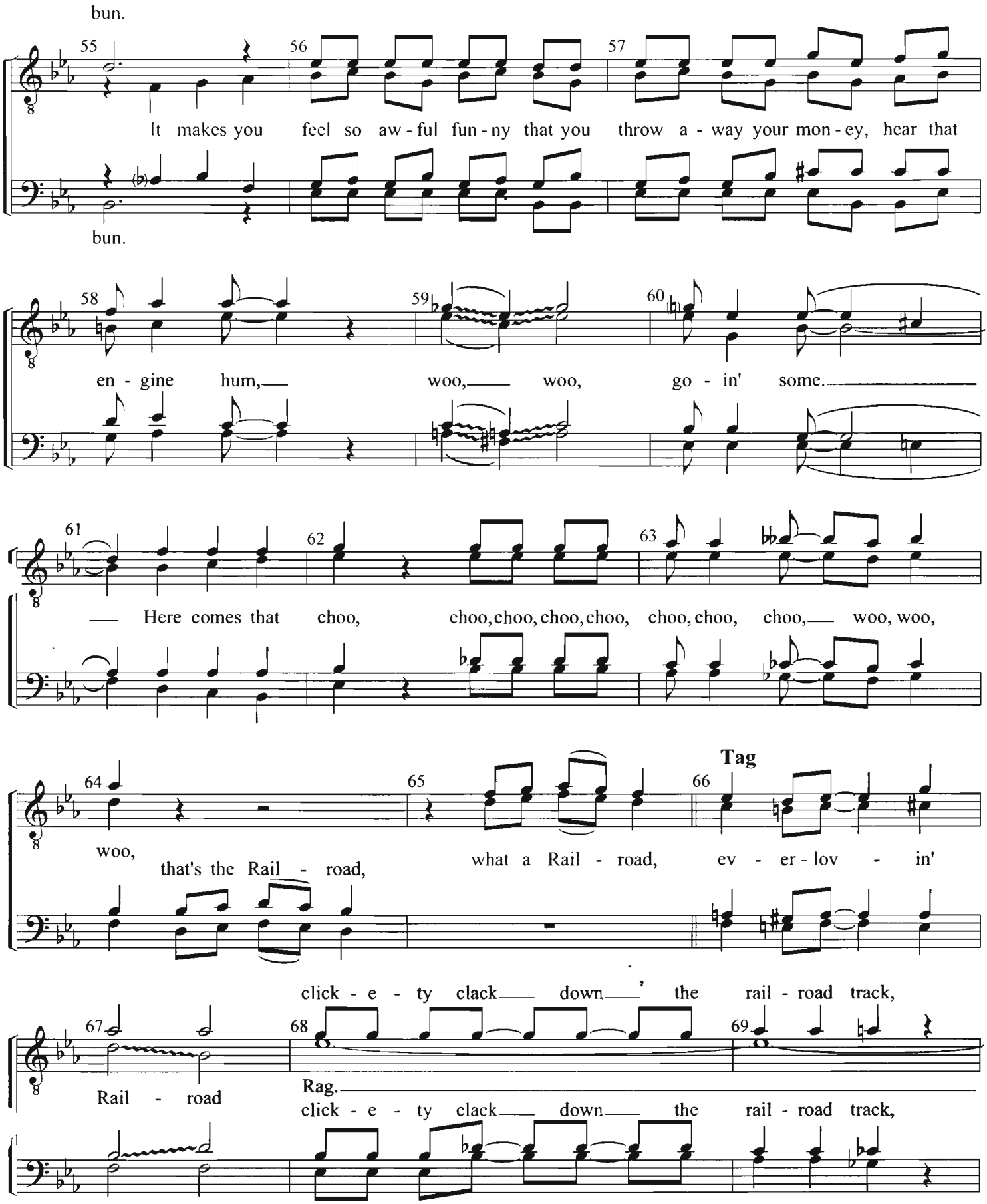
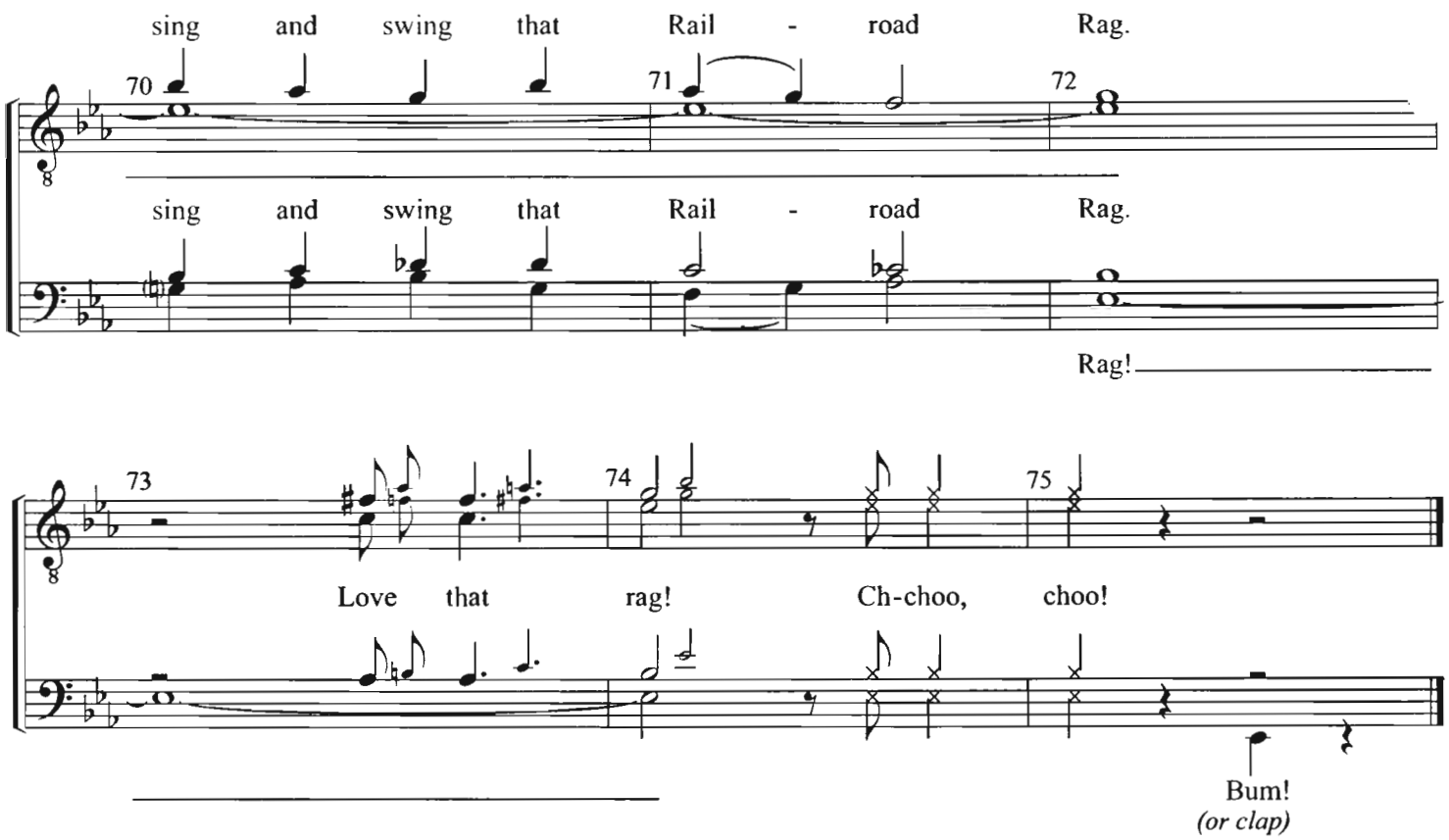

10
11
12
cu - li - ar strain,
swing-in' verse
and
sweet re - frain.
13
14
15
All the peo - ple on the train have caught the drag.
Now
ev - 'ry - bod - y's hum-min' that
16
17
18
Rail - road
Rag.
Oh,
oh,
that
Chorus 1
19
20
21
Rail - road Rag,
oh, oh, that Rail - road Rag.
22
23
24
It's so en - tranc - in', hon,
it makes you


oh
25
26
27
fall a-sleep in Far-go and you wake up in Chi-ca-go. Hear that en-gine hum.
oh
28
29
30
That train's sure go-in' some. Here comes that
31
32
33
choo, choo, choo, choo, choo, woo, woo. That's the Rail-road
I've Been Working on the Railroad (1894) — Traditional
34
35
36
Rag we're sing-in'. We've been rid-in' on the rail-road
37
38
39
all the live-long day. We've been rid-in' on the


time, rag the time a - way.
40
41
42
rail - road just to rag the time a - way.
time, rag the time a - way.
43
44
45
Can't ya hear the whis - tle blow - in', rise up so ear - ly in the
rit.
46
47
48
morn?— Can't ya hear the cap - tain shout - in',
Chorus 2
gradual acc.
49
50
51
"Di-nah blow that Rail - road Rag."— Oh, oh, that
Rag,"— rag - ge - dy rag."
rag-ge-dy rag, my hon - ey
52
53
54
Rail-road Rag,— it's so en - tranc-in', hon.—
rag-ge-dy rag, my hon - ey


bun.
55
56
57
It makes you feel so aw - ful fun - ny that you throw a - way your mon - ey, hear that
bun.
58
59
60
en - gine hum, woo, woo, go - in' some.
61
62
63
Here comes that choo, choo, choo, choo, choo, choo, choo, choo, woo, woo,
64
65
66
Tag
woo,
that's the Rail - road,
what a Rail - road, ev - er - lov - in'
click - e - ty clack down the rail - road track,
67
68
69
Rail - road
Rag.
click - e - ty clack down the rail - road track,



Performance Notes

Over his lifetime Nathaniel "Nat" Hawthorne Vincent (1889-1979) was a lyricist, songwriter, singer, vaudeville performer and sheet music demonstrator at several New York City department stores. Among his many famous songs are *When the Bloom Is on the Sage*, *I Know What It Means To Be Lonesome*, *When Old Bill Bailey Plays the Ukulele* and *I'm Forever Blowing Bubbles*.

As well-known as Vincent is, absolutely nothing is known about Ed Bimberg, other than he composed the music for *That Railroad Rag*. One possible explanation is that Bimberg simply may have been a pseudonym for another composer—a common practice in those days.

Kirk Roose is one the Society's finest arrangers. His creations include *Am I Wasting My Time on You?* , *We'll Meet Again* and *Bad Buncha Boys Singing Barbershop,* which is an original composition. Kirk notes that there is a slowing of tempo leading into the reprise, at which point the tempo gradually speeds up, like a train getting faster, finally settling into a comfortable tempo by measure 56. An optional high tag is provided for quartets wanting a bit more challenge. Although this song was written in the heyday of the ragtime era, performers can try singing this song with a swing feel, a style that would not emerge for another 20 years.

As a final note: Questions about the contest suitability of this or any other song/arrangement should be directed to the judging community and measured against current contest rules. Ask *before* you sing.