

BUDDY WON'T YOU ROLL ON DOWN THE LINE?

Traditional Bluegrass Old-Time Song; **DATE:** 1880's; **CATEGORY:** Old-Time Song; **RECORDING INFO:** Allen Brothers, Carolina Tar Heels, Uncle Dave Macon, New Lost City Ramblers; **OTHER NAMES:** "Roll Down the Line," "Hey Buddy Won't You Roll Down the Line," "Brother Won't You Join in the Line." **NOTES:** Based on the Coal Creek, Tennessee labor wars.

The musical score is written in treble clef with a key signature of two sharps (D major) and a 2/4 time signature. It consists of eight staves of music with lyrics underneath. Chord symbols (D and A7) are placed above the staff lines. The lyrics are: "Way back yon - der in Ten - nes - see they leased the con - victs la - bor re - belled a - gainst it, To win it took some out, time, But when the work lease - ing was in the mines a - gainst free la - bor south, Free made 'em rise and shine Bud - dy, won't you roll down the line? Bud - dy, won't you roll down the line? You - der comes my dar - ling com - ing down the line. Bud - dy, won't you roll down the line? Bud - dy, won't you roll down the line? You - der comes my dar - ling, Com - in down the line." The score includes first and second endings for the verse and a final line.

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BUDDY WON'T YOU ROLL ON DOWN THE LINE?

D

Way down yonder in Tennessee, they leased the convicts out

A7

To work in the coal mines, against free labor south;

D

Free labor rebelled against it. To win it took some time.

A7

But while the lease was in effect, they made 'em rise and shine.

D

D

Chorus: Buddy, won't you roll down the line?

Buddy, won't you roll down the line?

A7

Yonder comes my darlin', comin down the line.

Buddy, won't you roll down the line?

Buddy, won't you roll down the line?

D

Yonder comes my darlin', comin down the line.

Early Monday morning they get you up on time,

Send you down to Lone Rock, just to look into that mine.

Send you down to Lone Rock, to look into that hole

Very last words the captain say "You better get your coal."

The beans they are half done, the bread is not so well.

The meat it is all burnt up and the coffee's black as heck.

But when you get your task done You're glad you come to call

Anything you get to eat, it tastes good- done or raw.

The bank boss he's a hard man, a man you all know well,

And if you don't get your task done, he's gonna give you hallelujah!

Carry you to the stockade, and it's on the floor you fall

Very last words you hear "You better get your coal."