

Paddy West

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came to Pad - dy West's house He gave me a

plate of Am er - i - can hash And he called it

En - glish scouse. He said "There's a ship that's -

want - in' hands And on her you - will sign,

Her mate is a bast - ard, her bo's - un is

worse But she will suit you fine". Take

Chorus off yer dung - a - ree jack - ets And give yer

sel - ves a rest And we'll think of them cold nor'

wes - ters That we had at Pad - dy West's.

1. Oh, as I was a-walkin' down London Road
I came to Paddy West's house
He gave me a plate of American hash
And he called it English scouse.
He said "There's a ship that's wantin' hands
And on her you will sign,
Her mate is a bastard, her bo'sun is worse
But she will suit you fine".
Chorus:
Take off yer dungaree jackets
And give yerselves a rest
And we'll think of them cold nor'westers
That we had at Paddy West's.
2. Well, when I'd had a feed, me boys,
The wind began to blow.
He sent me up in the attic
The main royal for to stow
But when I got up in the attic
No main royal could I find
So I jumped upon the window sill
And I furled the window blind.
Chorus
3. Now Paddy he piped "All hands on deck!"
Their stations for to man.
His wife stood in the doorway
With a bucket in her hand
And Paddy sings out "Now let her rip!"
And she flung the water our way
Sayin' "Clew up your fore tl'gan'sl, boys
She's takin' in the spray"
Chorus
4. Now seein' we're off to the south'ard, boys
To Frisco we was bound.
Old Paddy he called for a length of rope
And he layed it on the ground
And we all stepped over and back again
And he says to me "That's fine!
Now when they ask ye if ye've been to sea
You can say you've crossed the line".
Chorus
5. Now there's only one thing for you to do
Before you sail away.
That's to step around the table
Where the bullock's horn there lay
And when they ask was you ever at sea
You can say ten times round the Horn
And bejesus you're a sailor since
The day that you was born"

Last Chorus:

Put on yer dungaree jacket,
And walk out lookin' yer best,
And tell 'em that you're an old sailor man
That's come from Paddy West's.

The story is that Paddy West was a real character who ran a boarding house in Liverpool where he "trained" non-sailors to look like seasoned deckhands since sailors with experiences like crossing the line (equator)" or sailing "three times 'round the horn" were paid more than nonskilled hands.

The tune is "Tramps And Hawkers".

It was recorded by Ewan MacColl and A L Lloyd, Lou Killen, the Clancy Brothers and others. The first verse and chorus sung by a pub crowd was included on Tom Rush's album

Wrong End of the Rainbow.