THE BIRTH OF THE BLUES
Three-Part Mixed, accompanied, with optional guitar, bass and drums

Words by B.G. DeSYLVA and LEW BROWN
Music by RAY HENDERSON
Arranged by CARL STROMMEN

Performance time: 3:45
Slowly and freely (ad lib. tempo)

Oh they say some people long ago

Oh Oo Oo,

Slowly and freely (ad lib. tempo)

Drums tacet until meas. 17

PIANO
(Guitar, Bass)*

unis.

were searching for a different tune; one that they could

long ago

* Guitar: Play ad lib. from chord symbols in piano part.
Bass: Double bottom notes in left hand of piano part, adjusting octaves as necessary.

© 1926 WARNER BROS. INC. (Renewed)
Rights for the Extended Renewal Term in the United States Controlled by
WARNER BROS. INC., RAY HENDERSON MUSIC and STEPHEN BALLENTINE MUSIC
This Arrangement © 1996 WARNER BROS. INC., RAY HENDERSON MUSIC and STEPHEN BALLENTINE MUSIC
All Rights Reserved

C119674
can, as they can. They only had the rhythm can, as they can.

G7  Ab7  G9  N.C.

so, the rhythm so they started swaying to and fro.

They didn’t know just what to use. That is how the
began, really began.

blues really began.

They heard the

began, really began.

6

G7  A♭7  G9  N.C.

17 Easy, relaxed swing \( \frac{4}{4} \) = 76-80

breeze in the trees singing weird melodies

17 Easy, relaxed swing \( \frac{4}{4} \) = 76-80

and they made that the start of the

D7/F♯  G  Am7  A♯dim7  G/B